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General Board to Develop Economic Action Policies

Job Layoffs, Aid Claims Greet 1975

By James M. Shevis

The New Year got off to a bleak start for millions of American workers as job layoffs mounted throughout the recession-struck economy.

The severity of the growing unemployment was reflected in a rising flood of initial claims for jobless insurance benefits filed at employment security offices across the country. In the latest reporting period—the week ended Dec. 21—the Labor Dept. said 677,800 initial claims were filed. The week before, 637,700 new claims were taken.

Altogether, during the week ended Dec. 14, there were 3,372,300 persons actually receiving unemployment insurance benefits, the Labor Dept. said. The figure represented an increase of 246,000 over the previous week as all but five states posted higher volumes.

The jobless rate for those covered by unemployment insurance jumped from 4.8 to 5.2 percent. A year earlier, the rate was 2.9 percent when the volume was 1,821,400.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Dept. said its composite index of leading indicators—of which new claims are one—fell by 1.5 percent in November, the fourth consecutive monthly decline in the measurement. The index is a barometer of the state of the economy.

The four-month decline in the index was the largest in 15 years, and was due chiefly to industrial production cutbacks and shorter workweeks, the Commerce Dept. said.

Of the eight leading indicators in the index, six pointed downward in November while only two showed gains. James L. Pate, Assistant Commerce Secretary for Economic Affairs, said the drop "clearly reflects the decline in economic activity and, in particular, weakness in the employment situation."

New layoffs were reported in nearly every major industry, including aluminum, textiles, steel and appliances. The auto industry again was rocked as the Ford Motor Co. announced that nearly 60,000 more of its workers will be added to the ranks of the unemployed this month.

The new layoffs, prompted by slumping sales and growing inventories, will bring the total number of workers laid off by Ford, General Motors and Chrysler to about 292,000.

(Continued on Page 3)

JOBLESS BENEFITS APPLICANTS by the thousands formed this line stretching nearly two blocks outside the state office building in Baltimore two days before Christmas. The scene bespoke the mounting unemployment across the nation as the economy continued its slump.

Meeting on Recession Set Jan. 23

Top officers of all AFL-CIO affiliates have been summoned to a meeting of the federation's General Board to adopt a program "to stabilize the economy and put America back to work."

The enlarged meeting of the General Board will be held Jan. 23 in Washington, D.C. The General Board consists of the 35 members of the AFL-CIO Executive Council and the president or other principal officer of each of the 110 affiliated unions and seven trade and industrial departments.

The call sent out by AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland also invited each affiliate to send an additional officer to the meeting and each state federation to be represented by its principal officer.

"The General Board meeting will deal with the state of the economy," Meany and Kirkland said. "It will hear detailed reports on the problems of workers in all sectors of the economy, consider proposals by the Executive Council for legislation to deal with the economic disaster threatening America, and adopt an AFL-CIO program of action. . . ."

A worsened economy and the convening of a new Congress formed the backdrop to the call for a special meeting of the AFL-CIO's leadership.

"It is clear that massive, immediate government action is imperative," the call declared, at a time when:

- "Recession is rapidly turning into depression.
- "Unemployment is mounting daily.
- "The construction industry is

(Continued on Page 8)

Steepest Drop on Record:

Real Earnings Down 6.2 Percent in Year

Real spendable earnings of the average American worker took their steepest year-to-year drop on record last November, as retail prices surged 12.1 percent above a year earlier, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The November decline of 1.7 percent in real wages—take-home pay adjusted for inflation— was the sharpest one-month drop since BLS began compiling the monthly figures in 1964. The latest decline reduced the average worker's buying power 6.2 percent below the year-earlier level.

The year-to-year drop in real spendable earnings was the sharpest on record, surpassing the previous record 5.4 percent decline in the 12-month period ended last April.

A married worker with three dependents was left with real spendable weekly earnings of $88.55, expressed in 1967 dollars, in November, BLS noted.

This was $1.49 less than the month before, $5.84 less than a year earlier and $2.77 below the level for the year 1965. November was the 21st month in a row in which real spendable earnings were below their year-earlier level.

Meanwhile, inflation continued unabated in November. Retail prices rose another nine-tenths of 1 percent over the month, pushing the government's consumer price index to 154.3 percent of its 1967 average.

The year-to-year increase of 12.1 percent in the index was the largest since September 1947 when the CPI showed a 12.6 percent rise from the year before.

Soaring food prices, along with hefty increases for a wide variety of other consumer goods and services, led to the November CPI rise. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the nine-tenths of 1 percent increase was the same as the October rise.

(Continued on Page 8)

Ford Vetoes Union-Backed Oil Cargo Bill

By David L. Perlman

President Ford vetoed a job-creating oil cargo bill that labor supported and signed into law a foreign trade bill that the AFL-CIO warned will lead to further destruction of American jobs.

He also used his pocket-veto prerogative to kill a strip-mining bill opposed by the coal industry but supported both by the coal miners and groups concerned with the environment. Adjournment of Congress gave the President the option of vetoeing bills passed in the final days of the session without the possibility of Congress overriding the veto.

The oil cargo bill, a major

(Continued on Page 7)

High Court Rejects Attack on Union Shop

The Supreme Court refused to consider a claim by two conservative news commentators that a union shop agreement requiring them to become members of the Television & Radio Artists violated constitutional guarantees of free speech.

Denial of Supreme Court review made final a decision handed down last spring by a three-judge appellate court that found that the union shop serves a "substantial public interest" and in the case before it did not violate the constitutional rights of William F. Buckley, the columnist and magazine editor, and M. Stanton Evans, editor of the Indianapolis News.

By the same 7-2 vote, the Supreme Court also refused to hear a similar appeal by radio commentator Fulton Lewis III from an adverse decision by a New York state appellate court.

Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Justice William O. Douglas were in the minority in wanting the Supreme Court to review the two cases. Douglas, in his dissent, said the court should consider more fully the question of whether a requirement that broadcasters pay dues might infringe on First Amendment rights.

A federal district judge had initially upheld Buckley and Evans in their challenge of AFTRA's

(Continued on Page 8)

Goldfinger Ties Mess To Formula Economists

San Francisco—America's most prestigious economists must share the blame for the nation's economic mess, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger declared.

He contrasted the pragmatic and flexible approach that has made collective bargaining so effective in solving problems with an over-reliance by most economists on textbook theories and computer printouts.

Goldfinger handed out flunking marks to the economics establishment in the course of his presidential address to the Industrial Relations Research Association. He served as head of the organization of labor, management and university professionals during the past year.

Reliance on formulas and theories has kept the American economy on a recession-inflation course that was clearly obvious, Goldfinger said.

He aimed his attack most sharply at "the campus- and foundation-dominated economics establishment

(Continued on Page 8)

'74 Election Gets Barkan 'Year' Award

Boston—COPE Director Alexander Barkan received the 1974 Man of the Year award from Service Employees Local 285 at a dinner in his honor here.

The award, presented annually by the local, cited Barkan for his role in directing COPE's successful effort in the 1974 congressional and state elections. He was introduced by SEIU Legislative Director Richard Murphy, who represented the international and read a telegram from AFL-CIO President George Meany joining in the "well-deserved tribute."

"In my book," Meany's wire said, "Al Barkan has done a magnificent job in constantly building and strengthening labor's political arm.

"In election after election, COPE has proved its ability and sharpened its nuts-and-bolts activity. It is no exaggeration to say that COPE is far and away the best political operation in America. And a big share of the credit for that record is due to Al Barkan and his ability to mobilize labor people to do a job that benefits all their fellow workers."

The award was presented on behalf of the SEIU city employes' local by President Thomas Kennedy and Sec.-Treas. Matthew McGrath. Among scores of public officials at the dinner were Boston Mayor Kevin White, a past recipient of the award, and Lt.-Gov.-elect Thomas P. O'Neill, III.

MAN OF THE YEAR for Service Employees Local 285 in Boston was COPE Director Alexander Barkan, right, who was cited for his role in labor's effective political effort in last November's elections. Barkan was introduced at the award dinner by SEIU Legislative Director Richard Murphy.

Mrs. Dubinsky Dies In New York at 80

New York — Emma Dubinsky, the wife of David Dubinsky, died at her home at the age of 80. She and her husband, the president-emeritus of the Ladies' Garment Workers and former AFL-CIO vice president, had been married for more than 60 years.

Mrs. Dubinsky is survived also by her daughter, Jean Appleton, a sister and a granddaughter.

Tax Loopholes Hit as Subsidy For Business

Tax loopholes have enabled some of the biggest U.S. corporations to pay little or no tax on huge profits, according to a congressional study.

Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D-Ohio) said that in the 1973 tax year, 10 corporations with total profits of $976 million paid no federal corporate income tax.

He said another 20 corporations, with profits totalling more than $5.28 billion, paid an effective federal corporate tax rate of between 1 percent and 10 percent.

These companies have done nothing illegal, Vanik noted. They have simply taken advantage — quite effectively — of the multitude of tax subsidies which have been enacted over the years.

Vanik said the study by the staff of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation "again dramatically proves that the federal tax subsidies provided to giant corporations significantly reduce or even eliminate" their tax obligations.

He warned that "across-the-board industry tax breaks will only add to the list of profitable corporate tax freeloaders."

The taxes not paid by big companies, Vanik said, are being paid by individual taxpayers and small businessmen. He termed tax reform the "priority" issue for the new Congress.

J. P. Stevens 'Bugging' Costs Firm $50,000

Charlotte, N.C.—J. P. Stevens & Co. has paid $50,000 in damages to the Textile Workers Union of America and the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. to settle a 1973 wiretapping suit brought against the firm by the two labor organizations.

The settlement was announced by TWUA President Sol Stetin and IUD Organizing Director Nicholas Zonarich who described it as "another victory in our efforts to achieve industrial democracy for the men and women who work for J. P. Stevens."

The suit followed an FBI agent's discovery two years ago that a Wallace, S.C., motel room rented by two union organizers during an organizing campaign among Stevens workers in that area had been "bugged."

Two Stevens officials were found guilty on charges of illegal wiretapping in December 1973. An appeals court subsequently set aside the verdict.

Stetin and Zonarich said the labor organizations would not keep the money Stevens paid to settle the case. Instead, the $50,000 would be divided among 22 Stevens workers in the Wallace area who were discharged by the company for union activity, they said. Litigation costs would first be deducted.

Harold McIver of Charlotte, coordinator of IUD activities in the Carolinas, noted that more than $1.3 million now has been collected by TWUA and the IUD in behalf of some 300 workers illegally discriminated against during 11 years of union activity at Stevens.

The 22 workers who will share the settlement were fired by Stevens for questioning company statements at a "captive audience" meeting prior to a National Labor Relations Board election scheduled in September 1973, McIver said. Their case is pending before the NLRB in Washington.

McIver also noted that TWUA has filed a petition for an election at two other Stevens plants in North Carolina and expects balloting to take place by late February.

The union already is certified as the bargaining agent at eight Stevens plants, seven in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., and another in Statesboro, Ga.

Aluminum Plants Apply COL Boost

Pittsburgh—A cost-of-living adjustment of 16 cents an hour was added to the wages of 30,000 members of the Steelworkers employed by three major aluminum companies effective last Dec. 1.

The USWA members received wage adjustments earlier last year totalling 27 cents an hour under terms of the union's 1974 settlement with the Aluminum Co. of America, Reynolds Metals Co. and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp.

The USWA escalator clause provides for a 1-cent an hour increase for each three-tenths of 1 percent rise in the government's consumer price index.

3.4 Million Workers Affected:

Top Court Blocks FLSA Coverage

Chief Justice Warren E. Burger has temporarily blocked enforcement of a federal wage-hour law amendment extending coverage to additional groups of public employes, including fire fighters and police officers.

The full Supreme Court will decide later this month whether to extend Burger's order pending further court consideration of a suit by city and state governments challenging the constitutionality of the added coverage.

A three-judge federal court initially dismissed the constitutional challenge brought by the League of Cities and the National Governors Conference. The judges said they were bound by a 7-2 decision of the Supreme Court in 1968 that affirmed the right of Congress to extend wage-hour coverage to groups of public employes. But the district court panel, while refusing to block the Labor Dept. from enforcing the extension of coverage enacted last year, suggested that the Supreme Court might want to consider narrowing the scope of its 1968 ruling.

The Fire Fighters, whose members had been scheduled to receive limited overtime pay coverage for the first time on Jan. 1, 1975, announced earlier that the union will take part in any court battle necessary to uphold the law.

If the Supreme Court hears the case, IAFF President William H. McClennan said, the union will file a friend of the court brief supporting the law's constitutionality.

Congress provided a special overtime provision for fire fighters and law enforcement officers, which allows considerable flexibility in scheduling hours of work. Initially, the only obligation is to pay time and one-half after 60 hours in a seven-day period or after 240 hours in a 28-day work period. The ceiling on straight-time hours would gradually drop in future years.

The court challenge affects directly 3.4 million public employes who were brought under the Fair Labor Standards Act, effective last May, at a $1.90 an hour wage floor which had been scheduled to rise to $2 on Jan. 1. The 634,000 fire fighters and police officers in this group had been covered for wages in May, but not for hours. In 1966 nearly 3 million public workers were covered, mostly in hospitals and in non-teaching jobs in school systems.

Labor Dept. lawyers said that if the law is upheld any workers underpaid during the period in which enforcement was barred would be entitled to retroactive pay. Before the court intervention, the department had initiated action to compel the city of Cape Girardeau, Mo., to pay the minimum wage—then $1.90 an hour—to its fire fighters.

Court Bars Bid to Block Labor Mural

Chicago — Judge Richard B. Austin has ruled that city officials of Blue Island, Ill., must permit the completion of the Mexican-American outdoor labor mural they had blocked.

Judge Austin held city officials in violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution for attempting to restrict the expression of ideas. Mayor Richard Withers and the Blue Island City Council had blocked completion of the work on the grounds that it violated a city zoning ordinance limiting advertising signs.

The mural was commissioned by the Illinois Labor History Society to tell the story of the transition of Mexican-American workers into employment in local industries and professions.

The team of artists is headed by Ray Patlan, Chicago's leading Mexican-American muralist.

President Leslie Orear of the Labor History Society said completion of the mural will be delayed until spring because of the weather.

New Health Security Bill Mapped As Major Goal in 94th Congress

A new national health security bill embodying one of organized labor's major legislative objectives will be introduced in the 94th Congress with the strong endorsement of the Committee for National Health Insurance.

Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, chairman of the committee, announced plans for the legislation to be introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.). AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland is vice chairman of the CNHI.

The new health security bill would cover every resident of the United States for all hospital and physicians' services, as well as other specified health care needs such as eyeglasses, hearing aids and dental services for children and eventually for everyone. There would be no means tests, no work earnings tests, no deductibles, no co-insurance, no cut-offs and no fine print.

Woodcock listed the following improvements in the lew legislation:

- Grants would be given to local non-profit agencies to develop and provide social care services to benefit the aged and chronically ill. The Health Security Board which would administer the program is directed to make grants as rapidly as it is satsified that applicants can provide the services and assure some measure of non-federal financing.
- The ceiling on payroll and individual taxes would be raised from $15,000 to $20,000.
- Catastrophic illness protection would specifically be recognized in the preamble.
- Optometrists and podiatrists would be recognized as "physicians" when functioning within board regulations, and they could write prescriptions if permitted by state law.
- Free-standing alcohol, drug abuse, family planning, and rehabilitation centers would be recognized as coming under the program.
- An amendment on employment rights in health care institutions would be incorporated.

Otherwise, the Health Security bill which has been before the Congress since mid-1970 would remain essentially unchanged.

If health security is enacted, no American would ever again have to pay a doctor's bill or hospital bill. Payment in full would be made through a health security trust fund, with federal general revenues providing half of the necessary financing and the other half acquired as follows:

- One percent tax on individual earned or unearned income up to $20,000 per year, or a maximum on the individual of $200 per year.
- Three and one-half percent tax on employers' payrolls, which would be largely offest by the elimination of premium payments for private health insurance.
- Two and one-half percent tax on the self-employed, up to $20,000 income.

Whether working, laid-off, not working or retired, all residents of the U.S. would be entitled to the benefits as a matter of right.

Covers 15,000:

Greyhound Workers Okay National Pact

Phoenix, Ariz.—The Amalgamated Transit Union has overwhelmingly ratified a new three-year contract with Greyhound Bus Lines covering 15,000 ATU members across the country.

Most of those covered by the agreement, about 11,000, are over-the-road drivers. Others include baggage handlers, hostesses, ticket agents, mechanics and office workers.

The pact, which will provide more than $30 million in wage increases and fringe benefit improvements over the life of the agreement, was approved by a ratio of nearly 3 to 1. In mail balloting tabulated Dec. 20, members voted 9,241 to 3,167 to accept the new contract.

The settlement is the first national contract the union has negotiated with the carrier, the nation's largest intercity bus company. In the past, separate contracts for ATU's Greyhound members in the eastern and western halves of the country were negotiated.

The agreement followed a six-day strike against Greyhound that shut down the carrier's operations from coast to coast last November.

Under the terms of the pact, over-the-road drivers will receive an increase of 5.5 mills for each mile driven, retroactive to Nov. 1, 1974. Additional increases of 4 and 3 mills per mile will become effective on Nov. 1, 1975, and Nov. 1, 1976, respectively, for a total increase of 1.25 cents per mile over the term of the contract.

Under the old agreement, drivers west of the Rocky Mountains received 21.8 cents a mile. Those in the East got 21.6 cents a mile.

Hourly-rated operators, as opposed to over-the-road drivers who generally are paid according to the number of miles they log, will receive an increase of 31 cents an hour over three years.

Mechanics' pay will rise by 91 cents an hour over the life of the agreement, while wage increases totaling 71 cents an hour will be spread over a three-year period for station, maintenance, hostess and steward, and office employes.

In addition, the company agreed to continue the cost-of-living escalator cluase contained in the old agreement. It also agreed to contribute $5 more per month to the union's national health and welfare plan, effective Nov. 1, 1975, and another $5 a month, effective Nov. 1, 1976.

HRDI Elects Alan Kistler As President

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, has been elected president of the federation's Human Resources Development Institute. He succeeds Julius F. Rothman, who died Dec. 13.

Announcement of Kistler's election Dec. 20 was made by AFL-CIO President George Meany, chairman of HRDI's 12-member board of trustees. Kistler will also continue as director of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

HRDI was established by the AFL-CIO in 1968 to expand organized labor's participation in manpower programs for unskilled, disadvantaged and minority-group workers. As president, Kistler will be in overall charge of AFL-CIO participation in a number of government-sponsored programs under the Labor Dept.'s Manpower Administration, including veterans assistance, Job Corps, on-the-job training and Apprenticeship Outreach.

Kistler, 54, has been active in the labor movement since 1939. He has been a member of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees and the Pittsburgh Newspaper Guild and business agent of a Chicago local union now affiiliated with the State, County & Municipal Employees. After receiving an M.A. degree from the University of Chicago, he joined Steelworkers Local 1147 and is still a member.

Kistler joined the CIO organizing staff in 1952. He became assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization in 1962 and was appointed director of the new Dept. of Organization & Field Services in February 1974.

Minimum Wage Step-Up Becomes Effective Jan. 1

The minimum wage for all workers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act was increased on Jan. 1, 1975— the effective date of the second step of the wage-hour amendments enacted last spring.

Those whose jobs had been covered by a $2 minimum wage had their pay floor raised to $2.10. Most workers are in this category—persons in jobs that had been covered by the wage-hour law before 1966. A year from now, on Jan. 1, 1976, their minimum will rise to $2.30 an hour.

Other non-farm workers, whose minimum had been $1.90, went to a $2 minimum. In this group are those covered for the first time in 1966 and persons in jobs brought under the law for the first time last May, including household domestic employes. The $2 rate will apply to many of the traditionally low-paying jobs, including workers in hospitals, restaurants, hotels, retail trade and laundries. Their rate will go to $2.20 next year and to $2.30 in 1977.

Workers on farms covered by the FLSA moved up from a $1.60 minimum to a $1.80 wage floor. It will take them three more annual steps to reach the $2.30 level.

Only workers who are earning less than the minimum rates for their jobs were entitled to a raise as a result of the minimum wage step-up. An estimated 4 million persons had their pay raised when the wage floor was last increased.

SANTA PLAYS THE BASS as members of the Washington, D.C., local of the Musicians entertain Christmas Eve shoppers in the nation's capital. Groups of musicians at a number of downtown shopping intersections added to the Yuletide spirit under the auspices of the Music Performance Trust Funds.

Job Layoffs, Aid Claims Greet 1975

(Continued from Page 1)

"We are no longer in a recession in the auto industry," Auto Workers Vice President Ken Bannon said. "It's depression for the workers, and it's not going to get much better."

Detroit's problems further increased when Mayor Coleman Young announced at least 1,500 city workers face layoffs early in 1975 because of a shortage of operating revenues.

Among the major job cuts are those scheduled by the Celanese Corp., Zenith Radio Corp. and Black & Decker Mfg. Co.

Celanese plans to lay off more than 1,400 workers for six weeks beginning Jan. 4 at two of its fiber plants in Georgia and South Carolina. Black & Decker will lay off 7,500 of its 10,000 U.S. employes, including executives, for a week beginning Jan. 13. And Zenith said it will close a color television plant in Pennsylvania indefinitely, putting 600 workers out of jobs.

Increasingly, the "ripple" effect of the factory layoffs is being felt among executive workers. Labor Dept. figures showed 180,000 middle managers out of work in September. Their jobless rate was 2 percent—the highest monthly rate for this group in 14 years.

Executive layoffs were reported in the electronics, construction, retail, banking, advertising, auto, broadcast and appliance industries.

The Conference Board, a leading economic research organization that measures employment trends among its other activities, predicted the national unemployment rate—at 6.5 percent in November—would increase to 7 percent by January.

The board's monthly survey of 52 major newspapers across the country showed a 9 percent drop in the volume of classified help-wanted advertisements in November, the fourth monthly decline in a row.

The December jobless rate was scheduled to be released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on Jan. 3 as the AFL-CIO News went to press.

Oil Industry Talks Lag As Pact Deadline Nears

Denver—Negotiations between the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and the nation's major oil firms headed toward a contract expiration deadline with little movement by the industry, and indications of a possible walkout.

"No company has made a complete offer and some companies have made no offers at all," OCAW President A. F. Grospiron said. "We have a long way to go in bargaining to reach a settlement without a strike."

The union's 430 contracts with the industry expire on Jan. 7. Negotiations are conducted on a plant-by-plant basis and involve about 60,000 oil workers across the nation.

Grospiron noted counter-offers to the union's proposals have not been of sufficient value to warrant calling a meeting of the OCAW national oil policy bargaining committee. The 12-member committee has the authority to accept or reject any contract offer by an oil company.

Grospiron, as chairman of the committee, is empowered to call a strike to any extent he deems necessary to achieve the union's bargaining goals.

The OCAW is seeking a three-year agreement with hourly pay increases of $1.50 each year. The union also seeks to negotiate its first cost-of-living escalator clause with the industry.

Other goals include a 50-cent-per-hour "catch-up" pay raise to compensate for past living-cost increases, plus improvements in pensions, hospitalization insurance and vacation schedules.

A strike in the oil industry probably would cut refinery production by 30 to 40 percent and result in spot shortages in some parts of the country as current supplies are depleted, Grospiron said.

"We are cognizant of the present energy situation and the public concern," he said. "We will do everything we can to minimize our activities in the public interest consistent with satisfactorily completing our bargaining program."

Noting the refinery labor cost of a gallon of gasoline is only seven-tenths of a cent, Grospiron said the union's bargaining goals could be met without raising prices to the consumer.

Machinists Hit Lockout By McDonnell Douglas

Santa Monica, Calif.—The Machinists charged that the McDonnell Douglas Corp. illegally avoided payment of five days' Christmas holiday leave to some 18,000 workers by shutting down four of its West Coast plants.

The union filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board, in addition to filing grievances under its contracts with the aerospace firm. The denied leave was specified in the union contracts. McDonnell Douglas is the only major company in the aerospace industry with which the union has not reached an agreement in the current round of bargaining.

IAM contracts at the company's plants in southern California expired last Sept. 15, but workers agreed to stay on the job while negotiations on a new contract continued.

The Machinists estimate the holiday lockout cost each of the union's members involved about $228 apiece. The company ordered the lockout the week before Christmas. Plant shutdowns in November cost the same workers two days' Thanksgiving leave pay.

Ivan Lynch, president of IAM District 720 here, said the Christmas lockout was "a true example of this corporation's attitude toward its workers and toward labor relations in general."

Meanwhile, the Machinists reported some progress in negotiations covering about 17,500 McDonnell Douglas employes in St. Louis. The union's contract there expires on Feb. 2.

Architects of Recession

I think we're in a recession now and I think that, unless there's some turn-around, we will certainly be in a depression. I'm not going to predict how far it will go. A depression will bring prices down, that you can be sure of. But, the trouble is that even when prices come down, the people won't have enough money to buy then. We're going to have 8 percent unemployment in my book, maybe even higher.

There doesn't seem to be any move on the part of the government, on the part of the Administration, to turn this around. We have the same people, the same architects of the problem, of the trouble, who are still running the show.

In 1969 in February, we had 3 percent unemployment, we had a 4.3 percent inflation rate and Mr. Nixon and Mr. Arthur Burns decided that that was not good enough, so they were going to take care of things.

So we've had almost six years of this Nixon-Burns policy and Mr. Burns is still running the show. He is the principal adviser to President Ford and everyone around there. It's the same team.

It's their failure because they came out with this tight money, restrictive credit and the things that were going to slow down the economy because it was overheated and things were going to go too fast. And they said they were going to do it without causing more unemployment, but they were going to bring prices down.

Well, they managed to cause a great deal more unemployment and prices keep going up. Now those people are still running the show. And this is one reason that I'm so pessimistic.

The classic inflation is when you have too much money in the hands of the people trying to buy too few products. In other words, you have too small a supply of things to buy and too much money. But this has not been true in this case. This is not the classic inflation. There is not a shortage of goods. People are not breaking their necks trying to buy something that somebody else is going to buy.

We have plenty of things to buy and still the price is going up. I think it's mismanagement of the economy on the part of the Administration.

I'M NOT AN ECONOMIST, and don't pretend to be. I don't think it's fair, for instance, to say to the housewife, "You're complaining about the prices of food in the supermarket. Well, you stop complaining unless you tell us the answer."

The record shows that the Nixon Administration and Dr. Burns are responsible for the dilemma that we are in now, with high prices and mounting unemployment.

WE BELIEVE in freedom of expression, and we believe in workers' freedom. We believe the workers have a right to run their own unions, to make their own contracts and, yes, to make their own mistakes.

We feel that if workers lose their freedom—as they did in Cuba, and in Argentina and Brazil back some years ago—that any place that workers lose their freedom, that's a threat to the maintenance of freedom here in this country.

And we like trade unions and we think we can prove that trade unions have done things for workers. But you can't run a trade union unless you run it in an atmosphere of freedom. And this is why we are so dedicated and spend so much time trying to keep workers in the rest of the world free.

—From AFL-CIO President George Meany's comments in an interview with Dick Cavett on the ABC television network.

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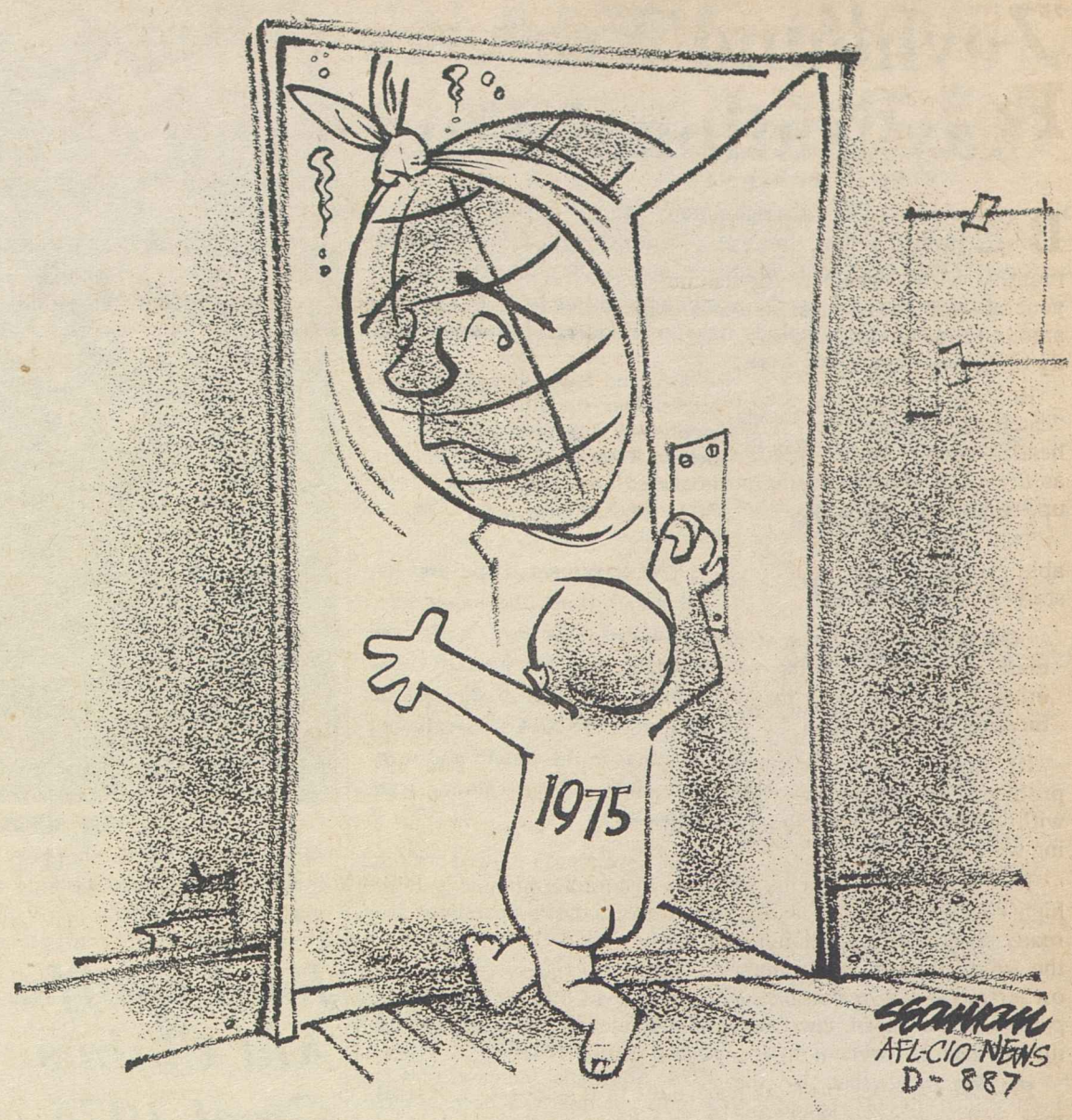

A Word Edgewise:

HEW Learns Civil Rights Act Outlaws Reverse Bias, Too

By John P. Roche

ALTHOUGH THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT of 1964 expressly forbade reverse discrimination—that is, giving a bonus to people who are black, female or members of some minority group—for years the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare has been enforcing precisely this procedure upon colleges and universities under the euphonious rubric of affirmative action.

College and university administrators are not by nature tigers, and the threat to withhold federal funds has in many cases, I suspect, led them to be more Catholic than the Pope. So there has been a great rush to appoint affirmative action coordinators and a desperate search for scholars from minority backgrounds and women (who constitute, ironically, the majority of the population) to fill available slots.

Indeed, to one like myself who spent his time 25 years ago getting newspapers to eliminate racial designations from their "Help Wanted" sections ("Wanted: white woman for position as clerk"), there has been something slightly sickening about the way institutions of higher education have blatantly announced in connection with jobs, "Preference given to women and minority candidates." As the signs in Boston used to read, "No Irish Need Apply"; and the Jews, who have been hard hit by this because of their strong cultural emphasis on education, have about reached the conclusion that in the eyes of HEW the merit system is a Jewish conspiracy.

To take an example from my own knowledge, a university invited a woman graduate student for an interview. When she attended a departmental lunch she noticed a great sigh of relief. Later in conversation with the chairman she asked what the job specifications were, what she was expected to teach. He smiled and said, "As far as we are concerned, you can teach the politics of astrology—what we want is a woman." He was a poor judge of character: She got up, told him in earthy terms precisely what to do with the job, and hitchhiked back to Boston.

Ever since this nonsense got loose in the land, a number of us—led by indomitable Prof. Sidney Hook—have been on the warpath. We have gathered a catalog of horror stories that make the one described above seem like child's play. The basic fact of life here is that you cannot discriminate in favor of, say, women without discriminating against men. Moreover, while women constitute a national majority, there is an inadequate pool of qualified females or minority members to draw from in most fields. To give the ball another push, the best and brightest women, blacks, Chicanos are snapped up by the top universities. Thus the pool available to other schools with HEW breathing down their backs has already been skimmed of its top talent.

Discrimination must be a key aspect of academic life: I have spent a quarter of a century discriminating between bright and dumb students and, more time than I like to recall, sitting on committees discriminating between talented and untalented faculty—both for hiring and tenure purposes. The only principles that should apply are those of the academy: One tries to choose the best person available. Not because he or she is black, yellow, red or polka dot, but because he or she is the most competent in the judgment of his or her peers. The former considerations are as irrelevant as the candidate's politics, religion or personal charm. (I have voted tenure to individuals I cordially disliked and voted against friends.)

FOR QUITE A WHILE the opponents of reverse discrimination felt like voices crying in the wilderness. The Dept. of HEW seemed above the law, and its affirmative action enforcers, power-drunk, went wandering around the nation threatening administrations that did not present the proper demographic profile.

Then suddenly a distinguished congressman, James O'Hara (D-Mich.), took a hand in the game and held hearings of his Special Education Subcommittee of the House Committee on Education & Labor. Sidney Hook and his colleagues there presented a devastating indictment of HEW, one which left the bureaucracy semi-comatose.

Now somehow the word seems to have gotten around. HEW has just issued a new directive stating that universities and colleges may not discriminate against white males, lower standards to attract women and minorities, advertise specially for women or minorities, or establish minority "slots." Congratulations to Rep. O'Hara for getting HEW to read the Civil Rights Act.

How to Buy:

'75 Offers Consumers Hope For 'Readjustment' on Prices

By Sidney Margolius

BATTERED BY A RECORD peacetime inflation of more than 12 percent in the last 12 months, with wages lagging behind, workers in general suffered a loss in real spendable earnings amounting to about 5 percent in 1974 for a family of four. That's a $5 a week cut in real pay.

But 1975 may be a year of readjustment and "catch-up." The cost of living appears to be headed higher, but is unlikely to rise as abruptly as last year. While housing costs are still moving up, some food prices recently have turned down.

This does not mean food will be truly reasonable in 1975. The reductions on some products start from a high level.

On the basis of present price trends, I estimate that average living costs will go up another 6 to 8 percent in 1975 on top of the increase of more than 52 percent since 1967.

It's useful to identify the most persistent cost problems so you know what you have to cope with in 1975, and how some people may be dealing with these expenses.

The four big problems are: (1) continuing high cost of food; (2) a further climb in the already staggering cost of housing and rentals; (3) the wild leap of more than 18 percent in car ownership costs in the last 12 months; (4) the persistent long-term increase in medical costs—up another 12 percent in the past 12 months.

FOOD: Cheaper beef, at least until next summer, will keep your food bills at present levels or even a little below. Meat, poultry and fish usually take 35 percent of your food dollar.

That doesn't mean you can ease up on comparing values or even increase meat use. Selected beef cuts have come down 3 percent this year. But they went up 72 percent since '67.

As well as beef, frozen fish is cheaper. But you can expect to pay more for pork and poultry this year.

The underlying reason for the drop is that producers have been shipping more grass-fed young beef because of high costs of grain feeding. Grass-fed beef is leaner and cheaper and, because more is being shipped at a younger age, is more tender than it usually is. Where it's available in stores, often under such names as "economy" or "thrifty" beef, consumers have been buying it eagerly.

Other big cost cutters recently have been five and six-pound packs of hamburger, offered by some stores as much as 60 percent below usual tags. Soyburger-hamburger with 20-25 percent soy protein is being featured again. Stores usually sell it for 15-20 cents a pound less than regular hamburger, and as little as half the price of so-called ground chuck.

Some staple vegetables, especially potatoes and onions, are cheaper. But the spectacular decline in farm prices of onions, currently reported to be as low as 3 cents a pound, has not been passed on to consumers. Our check in three major cities finds prices 17 to 20 cents a pound, down only 3-4 cents from a year ago.

Several other staples now cost less. Rice and beans have dropped due to big crops. Coffee is cheaper. Sugar is dropping, although tags are still exorbitant. Many sugar-using products are still rising. Some cookies have gone from 33 to 99 cents a pound in less than two years.

Sales of soft drinks already are falling due to the price jump. You now pay at the rate of 65 cents a quart for many soft drinks. In contrast, milk is 40 cents a quart or less in some areas, reconstituted orange juice only 45 cents. You also can reduce sugar use by avoiding presweetened cereals and buying canned fruits in light syrup instead of heavy. The difference usually is about an ounce of sugar, for which you pay a high extra price in any case.

Consumers are shopping more widely to hold down food costs. In 1954, only 59 percent of shoppers visited more than one supermarket in a month, Burgoyne, Inc., a research company, found. By 1963, 75 percent shopped more than one super.

HOUSING: Prices of new houses have gone wild. The median national tag now is $36,900 compared to $28,000 two years ago. Authorities say there's an eight-month supply of unsold dwellings. Tags on older homes have risen substantially, if less dramatically. The median now is tagged $31,870—up 10 percent from a year ago. Moderate-income families have been priced out of even this market. Last year, 54 percent of the used homes sold for under $30,000. Recently, only 46 percent went at those prices.

One helpful event is the recent decline in mortgage interest, although rates still usually are 8-9 percent.

CARS: Consumers are noticeably delaying purchases of new cars. But sales of used cars have boomed. So have their prices—up 24 percent on average in just a year.

The geniuses of Detroit outsmarted themselves by hiking prices an average of about $1,000 in a little over a year, with biggest percentage increases on smaller cars. These typically were raised 15-25 percent while the bigger ones went up 10-15. The result is a big backlog of small models with room for wheeling and dealing in price.

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Major Step Toward Goals:

Public Worker Unity Enhanced By New AFL-CIO Department

THE NEWLY-FORMED AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. will help the labor movement bring into sharper focus the unique problems and needs of labor-management relations in government service.

That view was expressed in a network radio interview by the top elected officers of the new department, President William H. McClennan, who is also president of the Fire Fighters, and Sec.-Treas. Clyde Webber, who heads the American Federation of Government Employees.

Twenty-five national and international unions representing more than 2.25 million federal, state and local government workers are now affiliated with the department.

McClennan said their united and coordinated action will be a major step toward both the legislative and collective bargaining goals of the public employe unions and the workers they represent. Predicting more militancy among government workers, he said "the day of second-class citizenship for public employes is over. . . . They now have some strength and power in the labor movement and they are going to use it."

Webber said the AFGE has made it clear that it intends to press hard for removal of the no-strike restriction in the federal service. He said the growing practice of "contracting out" federal work to the private sector points up the "very curious situation" wherein a worker doing a particular job for a private employer under contract to the federal government has the right to strike, but a federal employe doing the same job is denied that right.

Declaring that the department will zero-in on the conditions of state and local government employes as well as federal workers, Webber pointed out that "some states have good laws and good rights, but others are still living in the jungle, like we were back in the 1950s."

Both McClennan and Webber stressed that collective bargaining in the federal service still hinges on the Executive Order issued by President Kennedy in 1962. They expressed hope that the new Congress will adopt legislation to establish a more effective system.

McClennan and Webber appeared on Labor News Conference and were questioned by Joseph Young of the Washington Star-News and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING organized labor has had its fingers crossed on revenue sharing which formed so prominent a part of ex-President Nixon's "New Federalism."

Many questions were raised when the legislation came before Congress in 1971 and 1972:

- How much oversight would the federal government exercise over the use of the billions of dollars to be handed over to the states and local communities?
- How much danger would there be that the federal funds simply would be used to reduce local and state taxes at the expense of regular, vital services?
- To what extent would federal fair labor standards be observed by the states and local communities in their expenditures?
- How closely would civil rights be observed in such expenditures?
- Would the funds be used for public expenditures to benefit the poor and unemployed or diverted to less urgent public projects?
- And, above all, was there danger that revenue sharing would be used to cripple and even destroy long existing programs of federal aid to the states and communities for specific and urgent national purposes—known as "categorical" programs?

Since those days, the revenue sharing program has been in effect almost three years, operating with a $30 billion trust fund being expended at the rate of $6 billion a year.

How far, for instance, have the states and localities been willing to accept federal labor standards? They have just given their answer and it is highly discouraging. The National League of Cities and the National Governors Conference plus a number of cities and local jurisdictions have just filed suit in federal court protesting the constitutionality of recent amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act that place their employes under federal labor standards. They are particularly protesting the overtime provisions of the act which, they claim, will cost them huge sums.

Yet, the figures themselves show to what extent firemen, policemen and other public service workers, such as snow removal workers, have been exploited through unpaid overtime.

A RECENT REPORT on the program, published by the National Clearinghouse on Revenue Sharing, discusses a number of the questions as to how well revenue sharing is working thus far.

The report, sponsored by the League of Women Voters Education Fund, the National Urban Coalition, the Center for Community Change and the Center for National Policy Review, is worth studying.

Among other things, it finds:

- That absent federal monitoring, oversight of the use of revenue sharing funds by the local citizenry "is not—and cannot" be effective under the program as presently set up.
- That "discrimination" in the use of the funds at the local level "is evident."
- That the use of federal funds to reduce local tax burdens rather than to improve services is growing.
- That use of the funds for social services "is minor" and that federal "categorical" program cuts are beginning to "hurt."

It is this latter development, feared by organized labor when the program was first proposed, that is most disturbing.

At its 1973 convention the AFL-CIO adopted a resolution that accepted general revenue sharing as "a valuable supplement to the revenue sources of state and local jurisdictions," but strongly opposed using it as a "substitute" for federal categorical programs.

"General revenue sharing cannot be used as an excuse to abdicate federal responsibility in dealing with problems of national concern," the resolution said.

THE UNIQUE PROBLEMS of labor-management relations in government service will come into sharp focus through the new AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., Fire Fighters President William H. McClennan, second from left, and Government Employees President Clyde Webber, third from left, said on Labor News Conference. McClennan is president of the new department; Webber is secretary-treasurer. They were questioned by Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Joseph Young of the Washington Star-News. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Economic Crisis Dominant Issue in '74

By John R. Oravec

Inflation continued unabated throughout 1974 even as the economy sank deeper into recession. Workers saw their paychecks shrink as price increases far outdistanced their wage gains. For many, economic problems were magnified by the loss of their jobs as the unemployment rate exploded from 4.9 percent to 6.5 percent over the year. Nearly 6 million Americans were out of work at year-end.

With bank prime interest and home mortgage rates reaching record highs, the housing industry was thrown into a depression. The jobless rate among building trades craftsmen in some areas topped 30 percent. Mass layoffs were felt particularly in the auto industry, and their rippling effects caused setbacks in other industrial sectors. Although many corporations continued to roll up record profits throughout most of 1974, by year-end most of the nation's economic indicators pointed down.

The nation also experienced the first resignation of a President as Richard M. Nixon was driven from office by the Watergate scandal. Nixon denied any involvement in the coverup almost to the very end. Even after admitting to it, he was pardoned by his successor, Gerald R. Ford.

January

The year began on a grim note as far as the economy was concerned. Government statistics pointed to a widening recession and a worsening inflation. The gasoline shortage began to take its toll in jobs as the unemployment rate began a steady climb. Wholesale prices were up 2.2 percent in one month, a preview of sharp increases in consumer prices to follow in later months. President Nixon dug in deeper in his legal battle with the Senate Watergate Committee and refused to release subpoenaed tapes and documents. The Senate also opened an investigation into excessive oil company profits which continued to increase as the fuel shortage grew more critical.

People: Andrew Lewis, president of the Maryland-District of Columbia AFL-CIO, died. George J. Oneto was named president of the Distillery Workers to succeed the late Mort Brandenburg. Alexander J. Rohan resigned as president of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union.

February

The AFL-CIO Executive Council called for the impeachment of President Nixon, declaring that this was the only way the American people could get the truth about Watergate and related scandals. Organized labor also urged Congress to reclaim its constitutional power that had been surrendered to the White House and to take the initiative in developing programs to meet the nation's needs. Nixon declared in his State of the Union message that "there will be no recession," although government reports showed the job toll from the energy crisis continuing to mount and industrial output falling further. The Steelworkers and Aluminum Workers reached an historic settlement with the aluminum industry that included a cost-of-living escalator on pension benefits. A similar three-year contract was won by the USWA in the can industry. Organized labor began to mobilize its COPE operations in the drive to elect a progressive and responsive Congress in November.

People: Charles D. Aquadro retired as president of the Roofers and was succeeded by Sec.-Treas. Roy Johnson. Madeline Matchko was named New England COPE director.

March

The Clothing Workers won a long struggle for union recognition at Farah Manufacturing Co., ending a 21-month strike and boycott that had the full support of the labor movement. Government statistics showed corporate profits for 1973 averaged 27 percent higher than the year before, led by the paper, steel, aerospace and oil industries. AFL-CIO President George Meany urged Congress to allow the Economic Stabilization Act to expire Apr. 30, stressing that the Nixon Administration should not be trusted with further power over the economy because of its record of failures with freezes and phases. Congress approved minimum wage legislation that would raise the wage floor from $1.60 an hour to $2.30 and expand coverage to 7 million additional workers. The Cigar Makers merged with the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, concluding a memorable chapter in American labor history.

People: Alan Kistler was named director and Donald Slaiman deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. William E. Pollard was appointed the federation's civil rights director. Harry A. Tulley became president of the Glass Bottle Blowers, succeeding the late Newton W. Black, and Carl Scarbrough was elected president of the Furniture Workers to succeed the late Fred Fulford.

April

Consumer prices surged 1.1 percent in one month and the real spendable earnings of an average worker dropped 4.7 percent below the previous year. While prices were soaring at an annual rate of 14.5 percent during the first quarter, the nation's real gross national product dropped sharply. The decline at an annual rate of 5.8 percent in the three-month period was the steepest since the 1958 recession. The Steelworkers, employing an experimental negotiating agreement in contract talks with the basic steel industry, reached a settlement three months before the expiration of their old contracts. A nationwide consumer boycott of table grapes and head lettuce won the full endorsement of the AFL-CIO in the Farm Workers' struggle against balky growers and raiding Teamsters. "Errors" in President Nixon's federal income tax returns showed that he owed the government nearly a half-million dollars. Although making $200,000 a year, Nixon made tax payments for two years equivalent to what a worker earning less than $10,000 a year would pay.

People: John F. Griner, an AFL-CIO vice president and former president of the Government Employees, died. Walter F. Diehl succeeded Richard F. Walsh as president of the Theatrical Stage Employes, and Sol Fishko was installed as president of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union.

May

Economic controls expired May 1 as Congress refused to extend additional authority to the President. Under three years of phases and freezes, only wages were kept in check while prices and profits soared, organized labor pointed out. Corporate earnings reports showed after-tax profits in the first quarter averaged 24 percent above the 1973 quarter, with profits for the oil industry up 72 percent. Leading the profits parade were such companies as Standard Oil of California, up 92 percent; Shell, up 52 percent; Gulf, up 76 percent; Occidental, up 746 percent, and Commonwealth, up 450 percent. The AFL-CIO Executive Council called on Congress to plug tax loopholes for the wealthy and to impose an excess profits tax on corporations. The council also accused Nixon of bringing "unprecedented shame and disgrace on the presidency" for his role in the Watergate coverup. The Labor Dept. abandoned a proposal to scrap the city worker consumer price index in favor of an expanded index to cover other occupational groups.

People: Robert A. Georgine was named to succeed Frank Bonadio as president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey received labor's top honor, the AFL-CIO Murrary-Green Award. Joe Morris was elected president of the Canadian Labor Congress, succeeding Donald MacDonald, who retired. William F. Smith of the Machinists was elected president of the Colorado AFL-CIO. Joseph W. Powell succeeded the late Miles C. Stanley as president of the West Virginia AFL-CIO.

June

With consumer prices soaring at an annual clip of more than 12 percent, Meany said that unions must seek larger wage increases and cost-of-living protection for workers. Government statistics showed the average urban family needed an income of about 10 percent more in autumn of 1973 than the year before to maintain a moderate standard of living. A 10-day strike by the Clothing Workers won a new three-year contract in the men's and boy's garment industry providing wage increases of $1 an hour. The Bakery & Confectionery Workers ratified a pattern two-year agreement that included wage hikes of 70 cents an hour. The House and Senate upheld the right of strikers to obtain food stamps for their families. Fighting to avoid impeachment, Nixon continued to combine defiance with delaying tactics by refusing to turn over tapes and documents to the House Judiciary Committee investigating the Watergate scandal.

People: Jay Lovestone, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs, retired. Ernest S. Lee was appointed department director. Henry B. Schechter was named to succeed John E. Evans as director of the federation's Dept. of Urban Affairs. Anton J. Trizna succeeded Draper Doyal as president of the Molders.

July

Congress voted final approval to legislation giving 1.7 million workers in nonprofit hospitals and nursing homes coverage under the federal labor law. Meany charged that Nixon's policy of detente with the Soviet Union was little more than a giveaway of American resources and technology. The Senate Watergate Committee uncovered evidence revealing a scheme to raise campaign contributions for the re-election of Nixon by delaying job safety standards. High interest rates on mortgages were blamed for pricing most Americans out of the housing market. The House Judiciary Committee voted three articles of impeachment, charging Nixon with obstruction of justice, abuse of power and defiance of subpoenas.

People: Glenn E. Watts was elected president of the Communications Workers after Joseph A. Beirne stepped down because of illness. Sandy A. Bevis was installed as president of the Typographical Union to succeed John J. Pilch, who retired. George E. Pierson was elected president of the Stove Workers to replace retiring James M. Roberts. Louis Isaacson, president of the Doll & Toy Workers, died.

August

Richard Milhous Nixon resigned as the President of the United States Aug. 9, three days after admitting "a serious omission" in his previous accounts of the Watergate coverup. Nixon became the first President in U.S. history to resign. Vice President Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as the nation's 38th President and was quickly assured the cooperation of the AFL-CIO by President Meany. Wholesale prices exploded with a 3.7 percent increase in one month while corporate profits in the second quarter were running better than 25 percent above the year-ago period. Workers' purchasing power slipped 5.3 percent over the year with the continuing rise in consumer prices. The federation's Executive Council declared that the Nixon Administration's economic bungling had created the worst of conditions for American workers and that they would need larger wage increase in the battle against inflation. Congress enacted a pension reform bill that was hailed by organized labor as a legislative landmark. The Textile Workers Union of America won its first representation election at J.P. Stevens & Co. after a 10-year struggle.

People: A. Philip Randolph retired from the Executive Council. President C. L. Dellums of the Sleeping Car Porters and President Francis S. Filbey of the Postal Workers were elected to the council.

Deaths: William J. McSorley, Jr., assistant to the president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., and William J. Cour, chairman of the Impartial Jurisdictional Disputes Board.

September

President Ford granted Nixon a full pardon for all federal crimes the former President "committed or may have committed" during his White House term. Ford also gave Nixon title to all presidential papers and tapes, but this action was later rescinded by congressional legislation. Consumers found retail prices climbing 1.3 percent in a single month, the largest one-month rise in a year. The unemployment rate in the nation's poverty areas averaged 6.5 percent—a preview of what the country would be facing overall. Congress handed Ford his first major legislative defeat in refusing to delay a 5.5 percent wage increase for federal workers. In meetings at the White House, leaders of organized labor called on Ford to abandon economic policies of the previous Administration and pledged to cooperate in any future equitable programs.

People: Joseph A. Beirne, an AFL-CIO vice president and former president of the Communications Workers, died. Irving K. Fagan, a veteran labor editor, also died.

October

Organized labor outlined a five-point program at the economic summit conference designed to curb inflation and growing unemployment, stressing that White House policies of the past five and one-half years had failed to correct the nation's economic problems. A package of 31 proposals issued later by President Ford would do nothing to prevent more unemployment or a depression, Meany declared. He called for the election of a Congress that would pull the nation out of its economic tailspin. Consumer prices continued to surge upward, climbing 1.2 percent in one month and further eroding workers' purchasing power. The unemployment rate hit a two and one-half year high of 5.8 percent. Congress overrode Ford's veto of a railroad retirement bill by one-sided margins and passed campaign reform legislation curtailing the influence of big contributors. The Labor Dept. issued a new federal health standard sharply limiting worker exposure to vinyl chloride, a cancer-causing chemical.

People: John Rowland was named secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Transit Union to succeed retiring James J. Hill effective Jan. 1.

Deaths: Paul R. Hutchings, research director of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept., and Henry Zon, a writer and publicist formerly with COPE.

November

Democrats made major gains in elections across the nation as voters turned their backs on policies of the Republican Administration. With a pickup of more than 40 seats the Democrats gained a majority in the House of better than 2 to 1. They also were assured of at least 61 seats in the Senate, even with the New Hampshire election still in question at year-end. In the governors' elections, Democrats added four more seats for a total of 36, in addition to winning control of state legislatures in a number of Republican strongholds. But the economic news continued to be dismal as the nation's unemployment rate climbed to 6 percent and the wholesale price index jumped 2.3 percent in one month. The AFL-CIO warned that the economy was dangerously close to disaster. A Public Employee Dept. within the AFL-CIO was formed by 24 unions representing more than 2 million workers.

People: President Glenn E. Watts of the Communications Workers was elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council. William H. McClennan was elected president of the Public Employee Dept. and Clyde M. Weber was elected secretary-treasurer.

December

The year ended as it had started—with climbing unemployment and double-digit inflation. The nation's jobless rate jumped to 6.5 percent, the highest level since October 1961. Consumer prices were running 12 percent higher than the year before, wiping out wage gains to the point that real spendable earnings were down 6.2 percent over the year. Congress responded to the bleak unemployment situation by approving a package of labor-backed emergency legislation to provide public service jobs, additional unemployment insurance and nearly $5 billion in appropriations to finance the programs. But Congress also ignored the warnings of labor in passing the Administration's foreign trade bill that is expected to increase imports at the cost of American jobs. Nelson Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st Vice President following lengthy confirmation hearings in the Senate and House.

People: Julius F. Rothman, president of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, died. Former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir paid a visit to President Meany. Norman Hill was named executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute to succeed Bayard Rustin, who became president of the organization.

Inflation Impact Argued:

Ford's Pocket Vetoes Kill Oil Cargo, Strip-Mine Bills

(Continued from Page 1)

legislative goal of maritime unions, would have broken a virtual foreign-flag monopoly on oil shipped to the United States.

It would have required that at least 20 percent of oil imported by major U.S. refineries be carried in vessels built and registered in this country and staffed by American crews. The ratio would have risen to 30 percent in 1977.

It would have generated an estimated 10,000 jobs in U.S. shipyards and at sea, but the President contended that the legislation would have "an adverse impact on the United States economy and on our foreign relations."

Although a number of other nations have even stronger requirements governing the use of ships flying their own flags, Ford's memorandum of disapproval expressed concern that "the bill would serve as a precedent for other countries to increase protection of their industries" and would be "directly contrary to the objectives of the trade bill which the Congress has just passed."

Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers and of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept., termed the veto a victory for "Exxon and its satellite foreign-flag operators." He said the campaign for the legislation will be resumed in the new Congress that convenes Jan. 14.

"The arguments that persuaded Congress that the bill was in the country's best interest are still valid," Hall said. The bill that was vetoed was "good for American workers and American consumers."

A statement by Marine Engineers President Jesse M. Calhoon expressed shock and disappointment at Ford's veto of a bill that "would truly have served the national interest and the national security."

The veto served the interests of the oil cartel, he said. And as for Ford's claim that the bill would have been inflationary, Calhoon contended that if it had become law, "the oil companies would have lost profitable tax loopholes derived from foreign tax credits, and the American consumer would have received benefits through potentially lower prices for his gasoline."

The President also used the inflation argument in vetoing the bill requiring mine operators to restore land to its original contours after completing surface mining. The President said the effect would be to reduce the supply of coal and push up prices.

Other bills passed in the final days of the 93rd Congress proved less controversial and were signed into law. These included:

- An emergency public service employment program, along with funds to get it started.
- An improved program of extended unemployment benefits for those who have exhausted their state entitlement during periods of high unemployment such as the nation is now undergoing, plus federally-funded unemployment insurance for millions of persons in jobs not covered by state laws.
- Continuation of anti-poverty programs of the Office of Economic Opportunity for three additional years, even though the OEO itself may go out of existence after Mar. 15. At that time, the President is authorized to submit a reorganization plan shifting an assortment of OEO programs to a separate Community Services Administration within the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.
- A consumer product warranty bill that would set up federal standards for two types of warranties offered by manufacturers—a "full" warranty that would assure that consumers received either a replacement or a refund if a manufacturer could not remedy a deficit, or a clearly labeled "limited" warranty that clearly indicates the restrictions. The Federal Trade Commission was empowered to set regulations governing warranties.
- A foreign aid bill that authorized up to $2.7 billion in economic and military aid, somewhat less than the Administration had asked for this fiscal year.
- Stiffer penalties for price-fixing and other violations of the antitrust laws. The maximum fine is raised from $50,000 to $1 million for a corporation and to $100,000 for individuals, and the maximum prison term is increased from one year to three years.

The way to adjournment of the 93rd Congress was cleared when the House voted 287-128 to confirm the nomination of Nelson A. Rockefeller as the 41st Vice President of the United States. The Senate earlier had approved the nomination by a 90-7 vote.

Rockefeller was the second person to take office under the provisions of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, which deal with a vacancy in the vice presidency. The nomination is made by the President, subject to confirmation by majority vote of both the House and Senate.

Ford was the first person chosen under that procedure, after Spiro Agnew resigned. Ford's succession to the presidency again left the office open.

Labor Studies Center Lists January Schedule

A six-day institute on collective bargaining techniques will highlight a busy January at the new 47-acre campus of the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, Silver Spring, Md.

The institute is conducted for union staff representatives who will study management tactics at the bargaining table, the role of mediation in dispute settlements and engage in mock bargaining sessions. Through the use of videotape, the participants will be able to see themselves in action.

In addition, the center will be host to two groups of building trades representatives, the Steelworkers Education Committee, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organizing & Field Services and the Association of Flight Attendants for conferences and special courses presented with the assistance of the center's staff.

Here is the January schedule:

Collective Bargaining Techniques—An institute to help full-time union staff representatives sharpen their negotiating skills, understand management strategy and prepare for bargaining sessions. New bargaining developments will be reviewed and contract clauses analyzed. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, through Friday, Jan. 10.

Safety Training—A program to help building and construction trades union officers understand the impact of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, state safety programs and the Construction Hazard Control process. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, through Friday, Jan. 17. The program will be repeated beginning at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, through Friday, Jan. 31.

Organizing Conference—Regional Directors of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organizing & Field Services will meet to review progress since the reorganization from Saturday, Jan. 11, through Tuesday, Jan. 14.

Flight Attendants—An institute for local officers of the Association of Flight Attendants, affiliated with the Air Line Pilots, to review the union's policies and procedures and the duties of local officers with special emphasis on grievance processing. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, through Friday, Jan. 24.

Flight Attendants—A training session for five negotiating teams to prepare them for forthcoming negotiations with five major airlines. They will discuss contract goals, the economics of the industry and the so-called Mutual Aid Pact maintained by the airlines as strike insurance for management. From 9 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 15, through Friday, Jan. 17.

Steelworkers—Education Committee of the Steelworkers will meet at the Center from 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, through Thursday, Jan. 30.

One off-campus institute is scheduled for January. A five-day session for building trades business agents will start at 9 a.m. Monday, Jan. 20, and continue through Friday, Jan. 24, at the University of California, Berkeley.

Discussion topics include labor law, occupational safety and health, the new pension reform law, open shop and "double-breasted" contractors, leadership and communication skills and contract economics.

Further information about these and other Labor Studies programs can be obtained by writing Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903.

FIRST RECIPIENT of the John Augustus Award, sponsored by the National Council on Crime & Delinquency, is AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis. Elliot L. Richardson, right, former attorney general, makes the presentation at a reception in New York. Augustus, a member of the Bootmakers & Cordwainers union, initiated the prisoner probation movement in the United States in the 1840s.

Labor Dept. Proposes Multi-Employer Rules

The Labor Dept. has proposed several regulations covering multi-employer pension plans under the new pension reform law.

The proposed rules would regulate reports on the description of pension plans, define multi-employers, postpone reporting and disclosure rules for some plans and exempt some welfare plans from reporting requirements.

Drafted by the Labor Dept.'s Office of Employee Benefits Security, the proposed rules would:

- Require that a "substantial business purpose" be shown to secure permission to establish a multi-employer pension or welfare plan.
- Require pension and welfare plans operated on a non-calendar year basis to submit annual reports 210 days after the end of the plan year, beginning Jan. 1.
- Exempt unfunded welfare plans—in addition to plans funded exclusively through insurance contracts—with fewer than 100 participants from reporting and disclosure requirements. However, each participant and beneficiary must be provided a summary description of the plan.
- Allow pension plans subject to reporting and disclosure requirements to use plan descriptions filed with the Labor Dept. as summary plan descriptions. But the descriptions must meet the standards of clarity, completeness and ease of understanding as prescribed in the law.
- Require plans in existence on Jan. 1, 1975, to file descriptions on Labor Dept. forms by Apr. 30. Plans established after Jan. 1 would have to file a description within 120 days.

The pension reform legislation—the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974—covers about 35 million persons under existing private benefit plans. The law will also cover plans established in the future.

An estimated 1.8 million pension and welfare plans are now in operation in the United States.

The law provides for fiduciary standards, reporting and disclosure requirements, vesting rules, and plan termination insurance from a government corporation.

Senate Slates Hearing On Close N.H. Race

Republican Louis C. Wyman was sworn in as a senator from New Hampshire—but only for three days. It will be up to the Senate itself to determine whether he or Democrat John Durkin will be seated when the 94th Congress convenes Jan. 14.

Wyman was appointed by New Hampshire's Republican governor to the three days remaining in the term of Norris Cotton, who resigned effective New Year's Eve to take advantage of higher pension benefits.

Meanwhile, the Senate's Subcommittee on Elections is preparing to consider the rival claims of Wyman and Durkin in the closest election in the Senate's history.

Wyman had initially been announced as the winner, but an official recount resulted in a 10-vote victory for Durkin. New Hampshire's Secretary of State, a Republican, formally certified him as the winner and so notified the Senate.

But the state's Republican-controlled Ballot Law Commission, after reviewing several hundred contested ballots, declared Wyman the winner by a two-vote margin. Gov. Meldrim Thomson then certified his name to the Senate.

In appointing Wyman to the Cotton vacancy, Thomson initially designated him to serve until he was seated as "senator-elect from the state of New Hampshire." But the Secretary of the Senate refused to accept such wording and the appointment was reworded in accordance with custom.

IATSE Names Chadwick Secretary-Treasurer

Rockford, Ill.—Harold F. Chadwick was elected secretary-treasurer of the Theatrical Stage Employes by the union's executive board at its meeting here.

Chadwick, a member of Local H-63 in New York, has been a vice president of the IATSE since 1966 and a union member since 1941. His term as secretary-treasurer runs until the union's 1976 convention.

Goldfinger to IRRA:

Economists Flunk On Public Issues

(Continued from Page 1)

—with its overwhelming emphasis on aggregate numbers derived from theoretical formula-bound computer responses, rather than observation, analysis and judgment—that has failed to provide the policymakers and the public with anything that approaches adequate analysis, critique and workable remedies."

He noted that leading economists were predicting a huge wave of strikes and a massive wage explosion with the end of controls, neither of which came to pass. And most of "the liberal group of the economics establishment" were calling loudly for an incomes policy, which Goldfinger defined as "a euphemism for one-sided wage controls." But, he said, they had no proposals to effectively control food or energy prices, or such non-wage costs as interest rates and profits.

Goldfinger said academic economists can regain lost prestige by using mathematical skills as tools, not dogma, by discarding sweeping judgments and by putting greater emphasis on the needs of people, on observation and on issues of equity and income distribution.

It was not wages or excessive demand that set off the sharp inflationary spiral, Goldfinger observed, and the government's restrictive policies thus added to inflation instead of dampening it. "Soaring interest rates were directly adding to costs and prices," he said.

The vast sale of wheat to Soviet Russia, a government policy of encouraging increased exports of raw materials in short supply, profiteering by speculators and the energy crisis as a topper all brought about the recession-inflation combination that the labor movement clearly identified months before economists and the government admitted its existence.

Goldfinger said that by contrast the supposedly unscientific nature of collective bargaining has continued to prove its value.

"With its lack of neatness, disregard for perfection and contempt for preconceived textbook formulas," he said, "collective bargaining has continued to reveal its inherent vitality as a dynamic system of problem-solving between the differing interests of labor and management."

Its day-to-day work on the shop floor, he noted, "is performed by tens of thousands of business agents, stewards, committeemen, international union representatives, foremen, superintendents and plant managers—the unsung foot-soldiers who each day and each week work out pragmatic, rather than ideological or even neat solutions, to difficult problems."

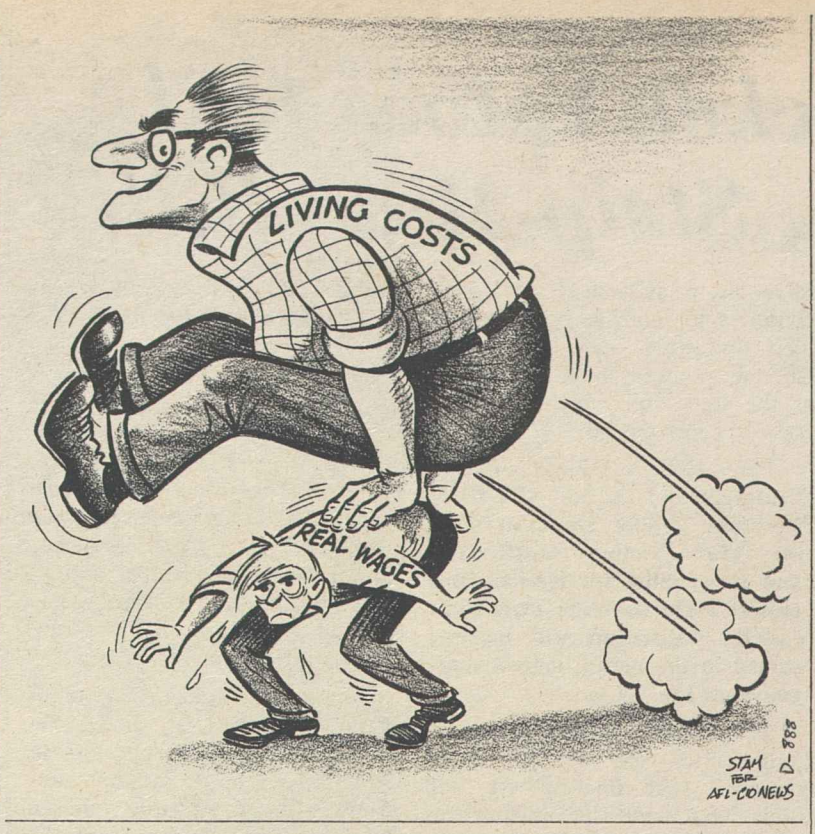
Goldfinger warned, however, that the bargaining process is being strained to the limit by the malfunctioning of the economy. When workers and management are both squeezed, the issues on the bargaining table are harder to resolve, he noted.

Great Lakes Dock Accord Covers 12,000

Buffalo, N.Y.—A tentative agreement has been reached on a new three-year contract covering about 12,000 members of the Longshoremen employed at a dozen Great Lakes ports.

The pact—the first master agreement ever negotiated for Great Lakes longshoremen—is now in the process of ratification by members of the 15 local unions involved in the bargaining. Balloting is scheduled to be completed by Jan. 15.

Patrick J. Sullivan, ILA Great Lakes District secretary-treasurer, said the agreement would raise wages by $1.90 an hour and fringe benefits by 82 cents an hour over the life of the contract. The effective date would be Jan. 1.



Moves by Soviet Bloc Cited as Threat to ILO

San Francisco—America's worker delegate to the International Labor Organization, Bert Seidman, warned that the ILO's continued existence is endangered by a takeover bid of Communist nations and their allies.

Seidman, who is also the AFL-CIO social security director, praised the ILO's contribution to the development of international labor standards that have bettered the conditions of workers throughout the world and have encouraged protective legislation in advanced western nations as well as in the underdeveloped countries.

But he is "not optimistic" about the ILO's future because, Seidman said, too few worker, employer and government representatives from free nations are willing to stand up to "the onslaught of the Communist, Arab and other non-democratic groups."

Seidman addressed the annual meeting of the Industrial Relations Research Association in a program devoted to an assessment of the ILO. The U.S. employer delegate, Charles H. Smith, Jr., board chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, also took part in the program. The session was arranged by the IRRA's outgoing president and program chairman, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger.

Seidman said the death of the ILO would be "a great tragedy" because of its past accomplishments and potential for continued usefulness. "But I do not see how the U.S. could continue in the ILO if it should be completely turned against its fundamental principles of human dignity and social justice."

He charged the ILO with "a lamentable double standard in its efforts to safeguard human rights," closing its eyes to violations in the Communist world.

Increasingly, Seidman noted, ILO sessions have become "forums for virulent political attacks on the United States, Israel and whatever other countries were fashionable 'enemies of progressive forces.'"

While most of the time of the ILO staff is still devoted to "useful and worthwhile" technical activities, Seidman expressed concern that those programs, too, will be "twisted" to political ends.

He told the gathering that he "cannot imagine that the AFL-CIO would continue to support or even participate in the ILO under such circumstances. And I doubt that the U.S. Congress would continue to finance 25 percent of the ILO's budget."

Real Earnings Drop Sharply As CPI Soars

(Continued from Page 1)

Instead of declining as they usually do in November, prices of food purchased in grocery stores increased by 1.1 percent over the month. Prices were higher for nearly everything but beef, fresh fruits and eggs. Sugar prices led the parade.

"Prices for sugar and products for which sugar is an important ingredient continued to rise rapidly and accounted for a substantial part of the November increase in food prices," BLS said.

Pork and poultry prices increased more than they usually do in November while beef prices declined seasonally. Steep price rises also were recorded for fresh vegetables, cereals and bakery products, dairy products and most other types of food.

Higher prices for apparel accounted for about one-fourth of the nonfood commodities index. Rapid price increases were posted for housekeeping supplies, tobacco, floor coverings, appliances, houses and fuel oil.

Prices also rose for furniture, toilet goods, alcoholic beverages, reading materials and used cars, BLS noted. Gasoline prices, while declining for the fourth month in a row, were still 26 percent above year-earlier levels.

Over 60 percent of the increase in the services index was due to higher charges for all types of household services, including rent, BLS said.

General Board Meeting Slated On Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

a disaster area; other segments of the economy are collapsing.

- "Inflation continues to undermine the living standards of all."

Meany and Kirkland stressed that "we in the AFL-CIO have a duty to our members and to the nation to develop, work for and fight for programs that will end these hard times and restore the prosperity destroyed by governmental policies begun in 1969 and continuing today."

The meeting, which will be open to the press, will be held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel. While the size of the group has been enlarged to allow greater participation, only the members of the General Board will have a vote.

Supreme Court Rejects Challenge To Constitutionality of Union Shop

(Continued from Page 1)

union shop clause. But the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned that ruling, declaring that the press and broadcasting industry aren't exempt from valid laws serving public interests.

The appellate court said that to require unions to tolerate free riders "would result not only in flagrant inequity, but might eventually seriously undermine the union's ability to perform its bargaining function."

In dealing with other specifics of the Buckley-Evans case, the court said the issues involved unfair labor practice charges that should be dealt with through the National Labor Relations Board, not the courts.

A special attorney for AFTRA when the case was before the Court of Appeals was the late Alexander M. Bickel, the noted Yale University law professor and constitutional scholar.

In another area, the Supreme Court reversed the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and said an employer does not normally have to bargain with a union that has obtained authorization cards from a majority of workers but has not petitioned for a representation election.

The 5-4 decision said that an employer's obligation to bargain without an election applied only when the employer had committed unfair labor practices that threatened to destroy the union's majority.

Justice Douglas spoke for the majority in this case, which stemmed from a Teamsters dispute with a lumber company. He rejected the contention that it is up to the employer to petition for an election if he is unwilling to accept signed authorization cards as evidence of the union's majority.

The dissent, written by Justice Potter Stewart, chastised the National Labor Relations Board for ignoring the clear intent of Congress that a union can establish its majority and require an employer to bargain "by means other than petitioning for and winning a board-supervised election."

Joining Stewart in his dissent were Justices Byron R. White, Thurgood Marshall and Lewis F. Powell, Jr.

Metal Trades Rebuff Raid at Norfolk Base

Norfolk, Va. — Workers at the Naval Public Works Center here voted by a 2-1 margin to retain the AFL-CIO Federal Employees Metal Trades Council as bargaining representative. The unaffiliated National Association of Government Employees had sought to take over the unit of 1,500 blue-collar workers.

'Runaway' TV Series Hit As Affront to Bicentennial

The United States did, after all, win its independence from Britain. And U.S. entertainment unions don't think that a television series keyed to the nation's bicentennial should be made abroad.

Thus, the California State AFL-CIO Executive Board and the New York local of the American Federation of Television & Radio Artists passed resolutions protesting a plan by the ABC television network to have a series based on Gore Vidal's novel, "Burr," filmed in England and Ireland.

"We condemn the hypocrisy of going abroad to produce programs commemorating the 200th anniversary of American independence," the AFTRA meeting declared.

In Boston, a coalition of film unions symbolically dumped cans of film in the harbor. And Chester L. Migden, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, said labor's protests have had an impact. Migden returned from a meeting in London arranged through the International Federation of Actors with assurances that there will definitely be a "reconsideration" of the initial decision to produce the films abroad.

New Jobless Claims Set Record High

Total For One Week Is 813,600

The full dimensions of the nation's deepening recession emerged more clearly than ever in fresh government statistics showing a record number of Americans applying for unemployment insurance benefits.

For the week ended Dec. 28, a total of 813,600 initial claims for benefits were handled by employment security offices throughout the country, the Labor Dept. reported. That was the highest number of new claims filed in one week since the unemployment insurance program got under way in 1937.

The previous record was 693,000 during the week ended last Dec. 7.

The surge in new claims mirrored further layoffs in the auto, metals, clothing and electric equipment industries. Thirty states reported higher volumes, with New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island leading the list.

A year earlier 461,400 initial claims were filed during the same week.

The number of persons actually drawing unemployment insurance benefits during the week ended Dec. 21 was 3,253,300, the Labor Dept. said. A year earlier, the figure was 1,871,600.

Meanwhile, Alan Greenspan, chairman of President Ford's Council of Economic Advisers, predicted the nation's jobless rate this year would come close to 8 percent. The rate hit 7.1 percent in December, the highest since May 1961.

Appearing before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, Greenspan said the current recession could last longer and run deeper than anticipated. He gave this pessimistic testimony:

"The economic outlook for 1975 is neither pleasant nor reassuring to those who hope for a sudden correction of our problems."

Many labor market areas already are experiencing joblessness reminiscent of the 1930s when the U.S. was in the throes of the Great Depression.

Sharp cutbacks in auto production lifted the jobless rate for the metropolitan Detroit area to 12.4 percent in December. Other areas, particularly where construction is a big prop of the economy, have posted rates of 15 percent or more.

(Continued on Page 7)

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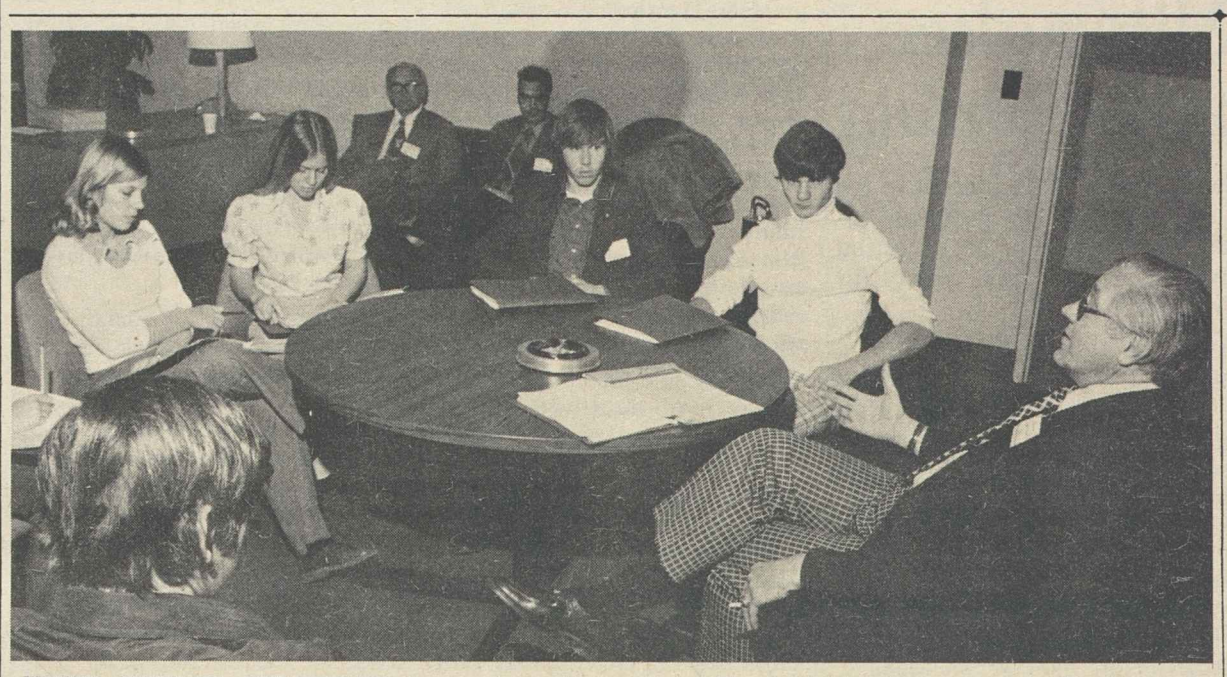
Meany Urges Action Now To Put America to Work



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS learn about the real world of labor relations at the Institute of Industrial Relations sponsored annually by the Milwaukee County Labor Council and the School for Workers of the University of Wisconsin. Labor experts counseled student workshops in the finer points of collective bargaining during mock negotiating sessions. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Says Nation Is Facing Emergency

By James M. Shevis

Action must be taken at once to put America back to work or the current recession will turn into a depression, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned as the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the nation's jobless rate jumped to 7.1 percent in December with more than 6.5 million persons looking for work and unable to find it.

"These figures prove conclusively that economic public enemy no. 1 is recession," Meany declared. "This is an economic emergency for America."

Meany called upon President Ford to implement immediately three long-standing recommendations of the AFL-CIO to stop the sliding economy. Ford is expected to unveil his economic proposals later this month in an annual State of the Union address to Congress, but Meany urged him to take steps before then.

"Six and a half million jobless Americans should not have to wait that long for action," he said.

Last month's unemployment rate was the highest since it was matched in May 1961. The last time the rate exceeded 7.1 percent was in August 1958, when it reached 7.4 percent.

The number of persons who wanted jobs but could not find them in December—6,535,000—was the highest since 1940 when the nation was emerging from the

(Continued on Page 8)

For New Congress:

Jobs, Health, Taxes Top Labor Agenda

Labor looks to the new 94th Congress for "real job-creating legislation" as well as action on health security bills and "substantial" tax reform.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said in a radio interview that a gain of about 40 liberal seats in the House makes all of these goals attainable. And the House changes are reflected also in an enlarged Ways & Means Committee that will no longer be the "burying ground" for much of labor's legislative program.

The liberal tilt of Congress will be partly offset by a White House that has difficulty providing leadership and initiatives, Biemiller cautioned.

Past experience shows, he suggested, that Congress tends to legislate by accepting, rejecting or modifying proposals made by the President. Thus the record of the 94th Congress is not likely to match the accomplishments of the equally liberal 89th Congress that was elected in 1964 with Lyndon Johnson.

While the Ford Administration has now accepted, "fully and completely," the concept of public service employment when joblessness is high, Biemiller stressed the need to create permanent jobs and take steps to pull the economy out of recession.

As an immediate step, he urged, funds already approved by Congress should be released for housing and other public construction.

The $9 billion appropriated but not spent for building sewage disposal plants, Biemiller said, would both create jobs and provide needed facilities. He said that is "the kind of thing" Congress must give attention to as a spur to the economy.

(Continued on Page 8)

No Agreement Reached on Oil Contracts

Denver—Hopes for a settlement between the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and the nation's major oil producers dimmed as the industry failed to come up with an acceptable counter-offer to the union's demands.

"So far, the few offers we've received have all been the same old stuff and the national oil bargaining policy committee has rejected all of them," OCAW President A. F. Grospiron said.

The union's 430 local contracts with the oil companies expired at midnight Jan. 7, but Grospiron extended negotiations by the hour

(Continued on Page 3)

Kirkland Asks Policy Of Oil Self-Sufficiency

The United States should begin to cut back sharply on its oil imports, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said during a nationally televised interview.

The result would be to free the U.S. from the continual threat of blackmail that exists as a consequence of the cartel actions of the Arab oil producers, Kirkland said. In addition, the reverse embargo would overcome the U.S. balance of payments deficit, Kirkland observed in an interview carried by the Public Broadcasting Service.

"It's absolutely vital to begin, as soon as possible, to make sharp cutbacks on our imports of foreign oil," Kirkland declared. "We need to . . . relieve ourselves of that threat of embargo."

He suggested that a cutback of 1.7 million barrels a day, or 700,000 barrels a day more than President Ford called for, "would be tolerable and could be absorbed." He recommended strict allocation of petroleum to the various sectors of the economy to meet shortages resulting from such a reduction in imports.

"It's a form of rationing," Kirkland acknowledged. "But if necessary, if it requires actual rationing to the ultimate consumer, I

(Continued on Page 3)

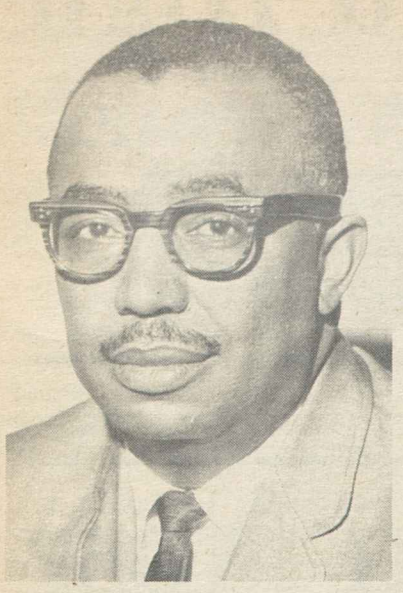
Ford Urged to Reverse Planned Food Stamp Cut

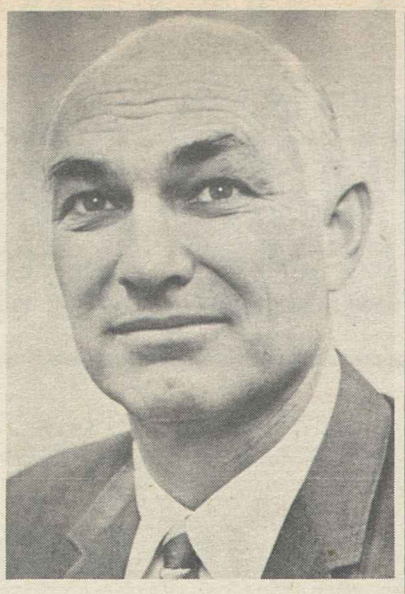
The unemployed and the elderly are the chief victims of the Administration's double-edged cutback in the food stamp program, AFL-CIO President George Meany charged.

Meany called on President Ford to rescind a $325 million budget cut announced by the White House for the food stamp program. And he urged the President to cancel a new Dept. of Agriculture regulation that would require families and individuals receiving food stamps to pay for their allotment with 30 percent of their net income.

This income requirement would cost the needy an additional $215 million a year for their food, Meany wrote Ford.

Its likely effect, he said, will be to "cause millions of people to drop out of the program. This fake economy will hit those who need help most, the unemployed, the very old and the very young."





NEW SECRETARY-TREASURERS of two international unions took office on Jan. 1. At left is Roosevelt Watts of the Transport Workers, succeeding Douglas L. MacMahon, who retired after 40 years of service to the TWU. At right is John Rowland of the Amalgamated Transit Union, replacing James J. Hill, whose retirement culminated 30 years of activity in his union.

Students in Milwaukee Grapple with Bargaining

Milwaukee—More than 80 students from 40 high schools in the greater Milwaukee area grappled recently with the problems involved in collective bargaining at the annual Institute on Industrial Relations cosponsored by the University of Wisconsin School for Workers and the Milwaukee County Labor Council.

By all accounts, including evaluations by the students themselves, the day-long program was highly successful in providing first-hand instruction in the dynamics of collective bargaining.

Instead of hearing speakers or watching films, the students divided into "union" and "management" bargaining teams, and negotiated the terms of a new agreement between the mythical Local 911 of the International Association of Garden Equipment Workers and the equally mythical Looksahed Manufacturing Co. of West Turn, Wis.

The students were organized into five workshops. Each bargaining team was assigned a "consultant" and each workshop was directed by an instructor whose job was to set the stage for the bargaining and keep the negotiations on an even keel.

The negotiating teams dealt with five issues which remained unresolved as the contract neared a midafternoon expiration date. The issues were wages, pensions, work hours, union security and dental insurance.

The object of the mock bargaining exercise was to try to settle the issues before the contract deadline. But each side was instructed to consider its own interests carefully before agreeing to a set of terms imposed by "the other side."

Each workshop was characterized by tough, hard-nosed bargaining and, although only one of them was able to report a full agreement by the 3 p.m. deadline, substantial progress toward an agreement had been reached by the other four workshops.

The workshop instructors and consultants included John Adam of Brewery Workers Local 9; John Stevens of the Wisconsin Federation of Teachers; Ken Clark of the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO; Catherine Conroy of the Communications Workers; Erv Horak of the State, County & Municipal Employees; Hugh Henderson of Steelworkers District 32; Tom Parker of Machinists Lodge 66; Lenore Hahlbeck of Bakery & Confectionery Workers Local 205; Russell Retzack of Operating Engineers Local 139; Paul Blackman of Directly Affiliated Local Union 19806 and Harry Donoian and George Daitsman of the Allied Industrial Workers.

Also serving as instructors and consultants were William Smith, Irving Brotslaw and Norris Tibbetts of the University of Wisconsin School for Workers.

BLS Makes Correction in Price Index

Recomputation of the consumer price index for the April-October 1974 period to correct a government error in the used-car component has resulted in a reduction of between one-tenth and three-tenths of an index point for each month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced.

Whether the correction will result in retroactive pay reductions under those labor contracts with cost-of-living escalator clauses tied to the CPI was uncertain but doubtful.

Many such agreements stipulate there will be no reduction in the event of a downward revision of the CPI. Some companies, too, have expressed the view that the administrative cost of restoring the difference might outweigh the overpayment.

BLS issued the following revised and previously published indexes to show the amount of reduction:

	Revised	Previous
April	143.9	144.0
May	145.5	145.6
June	146.9	147.1
July	148.0	148.3
August	149.9	150.2
September	151.7	151.9
October	153.0	153.2

The previously published index showed a total rise of 9.2 points over the seven-month span. Under the revised index, the total rise was 9.1 points.

Jobless Aid Action Pressed in States

AFL-CIO President George Meany has asked the federation's state central bodies to prod their legislatures to take advantage of the new federal extended unemployment benefits program.

In nearly all states, legislaive action is necessary before workers who have exhausted their state unemployment compensation can obtain extended benefits.

Meany said in his telegram that the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security is prepared to deal with any questions regarding the extended benefit program.

But Agrees System Is Sound:

Social Security Panel Split On Treasury Contribution

At least five of the 13 members of the Social Security Advisory Council will recommend a modest infusion of government funds to keep the program from running a deficit at about the turn of the century.

Rudolph T. Danstedt, an official of the National Council of Senior Citizens, is one of the panel members who prefers this alternative to raising the payroll tax rate. But Danstedt thinks that some recent newspaper accounts of the advisory council's deliberations have given an unduly alarming picture of the funding controversy.

He told the AFL-CIO News that members of the advisory panel, including business and insurance executives who are opposed to a government financial contribution, are in general agreement on the basic soundness of the social security system.

There is no immediate funding problem, Danstedt stressed. Even if no changes were made other than the gradual rise in the taxable wage base provided under present law, the amount paid into the social security fund and the benefits paid out would be approximately in balance. The future deficit, projected for the 21st Century, could be met by an additional 1.75 percent payroll tax on workers and employers by the year 2025, he said.

Danstedt said the council's discussions have dealt with various alternatives to a payroll tax rise of that magnitude.

Some past assumptions of income and obligations have been modified by recent developments—a drop in the nation's birth rate and an inflationary surge in which the formula for automatic benefit increases tied to the consumer price index has created funding problems.

On paper, at any rate, there will be a population imbalance during the first years of the 21st Century as the "baby boom" that followed World War II is reflected in a sharp rise in the number of persons reaching the "normal" retirement age of 65. At the same time, the virtually zero population growth of recent years could mean that relatively fewer persons in the active workforce will be contributing to the social security fund.

But AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman is one authority who doesn't think the imbalance will be as great as some of the projections.

In a recent letter to the Wall Street Journal, Seidman commented:

"Experience has shown that the supply of workers expands to meet the demand.

"Isn't it likely that smaller families will bring more women into the labor force since there will be fewer years when they are caring for small children?

"Aren't many older people, now forced into retirement, likely to continue working? Can't we drive down our excessive unemployment rates to those of most other industrialized nations so that more people will be working and paying into the trust fund?"

All these factors, Seidman suggested, could reduce or largely eliminate projected funding problems.

The advisory council, which will not firm up its recommendations until later this month appears to be leaning towards two proposals to Congress for early action.

One proposal is likely to be for a rise in the taxable wage base, now $14,100. But the extent and timing of the increase to be proposed is still at issue. The liberal minority of the council has suggested a system under which employers would be taxed on their total payroll, with the ceiling on taxable wages applying only to the worker share.

Another expected recommendation is to key future automatic increases in benefits to the rise in wage levels. The current formula is seen as in effect combining wage and price rises.

Also possible is a small rise in the tax rate for 1985 to avoid a higher increase later.

Danstedt considers misleading a headlined report that the advisory council will recommend postponement of the normal retirement age to 68. He said the possibility of pushing back the retirement age during a period when the active workforce will be relatively smaller was merely discussed as one of the options available as a funding alternative in the 21st Century.

The advisory panel dealt only with the basic tax, covering old age, survivors' and disability insurance, not the portion of the payroll tax applied to Medicare.

The AFL-CIO has urged the introduction of general treasury financing into the social security system. The federation's 1973 convention declared that "the best way to relieve the payroll tax burden would be to use general revenues, raised as much as possible by progressive taxation, to partially finance the social security system."

Rail Unions Turn Down Management Proposal

The nation's railroad unions, with their old agreements expired, turned down an offer from the major carriers as inadequate and pressed their proposals for wage and benefit improvements that "fully reflect the needs of the membership."

Meanwhile, the Sheet Metal Workers, which still has not settled on a 1973 agreement with the railroads, announced it would serve notices on a selected list of companies fixing Jan. 24 as a strike date.

About 500,000 workers are affected by the current negotiations, under way since last fall. The unions seek a 20 percent initial wage increase, as of last Jan. 1, and another 15 percent boost on Jan. 1, 1976. They also want a cost-of-living escalator provision, improved benefits in their hospital - surgical - medical program, longer paid vacations and other adjustments.

President C. L. Dennis of the Railway & Airline Clerks charged the carriers' offer, made through the National Railway Labor Conference, was without "a shred of reality."

The unions are bargaining for an agreement to replace an 18-month wage-benefit package that expired last Dec. 31. The Sheet Metal Workers, however, were not a party to that agreement and bargained separately.

J. W. O'Brien, the union's vice president for railroads, said the 4 percent wage increase under the 1973 pact was not enough to provide comparability in pay between sheet metal workers employed by the carriers and those in other industries.

Also, he said, there remains the problem of the "incidental work rule" previously negotiated with the carriers. He charged that the railroads are "widely violating" the rule, assigning more than incidental work in the union's jurisdiction to employes in other crafts.

The union has already exhausted all the procedures required under the Railway Labor Act and became legally free to strike last August. It agreed then to continue bargaining with the proviso that it could call a strike after Jan. 1 on 14 days' notice.

Mrs. Murphy Nominated to Head NLRB

President Ford has announced his intention to appoint Betty Southard Murphy to head the National Labor Relations Board.

Mrs. Murphy, who worked as an NLRB attorney in 1958 and 1959 before going into private law practice, has been Administrator of the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division since last July.

Ford will nominate her for a five-year term, replacing Edward B. Miller, the previous chairman, who returned to his Chicago law firm after expiration of his term in December. Senior Board Member John H. Fanning has been serving as acting chairman since Miller's departure.

A White House announcement said that Ford will designate Mrs. Murphy as chairman of the labor board if she is confirmed by the Senate as a member of the NLRB.

Mrs. Murphy, a Republican, would be the first woman to serve on the NLRB. From 1959 to 1974, she was a partner in a Washington law firm, and an NLRB biography described her as "one of the few lawyers in the United States who represented both international unions and employers."

She and her husband, Dr. Cornelius F. Murphy, have two children, aged 5 and 6.

BETTY S. MURPHY

Response to Energy Crisis:

Oil Self-Sufficiency Sought by Kirkland

(Continued from Page 1)

would not shrink from that." Fuel allocations are far preferable to living under a threat of blackmail implicit in the possibility of another embargo by the oil-producing nations, he said.

Kirkland said he was expressing his "personal view" but that the AFL-CIO would address itself to the energy crisis during the Jan. 23 meeting of the federation's General Board in Washington. Specific proposals to alleviate the situation would be made at that time, he said.

Other matters to come before the General Board meeting will deal with the country's deepening recession, high unemployment and the continuing inflationary pressures in the economy.

"We're going to have an all-day discussion of the facts with a view toward developing and obtaining the strongest possible support for a program of emergency action that we can call to the attention of Congress," Kirkland said on the PBS interview, Washington Straight Talk.

The nation's economy currently is in a state of "free fall," he said, with unemployment rising sharply. Noting that the national jobless rate in December was 7.1 percent, he said it is probably closer to 7.5 percent today.

"I would expect that we will be hitting 8 percent sooner than most people think at the present rate," Kirkland added. "No one has a crystal ball, but it's quite conceivable that it could go as high as 9 by summer."

Among the recommendations the AFL-CIO likely will urge upon Congress to halt the recession, Kirkland said, are the following:

- Emergency aid to the housing industry, which has been in "desperate straits for the past year or two and was in a state of extreme recession long before it hit the automobile industry."
- An emergency tax cut "of substantial proportions to give a quick infusion of purchasing power into the economy to offset some of the sharp decline in real income and purchasing power that our members and the public generally have suffered."
- Allocation of credit to areas of the economy that are critical, such as housing and public works.

While priority attention must be given to the problem of recession, "the problem of double-digit inflation still exists and has to be dealt with," Kirkland observed.

The primary sources of high inflation over the past year or so have been the monopoly price of oil imposed by the Arab oil-producing nations and the extremely high interest rates caused by policies of the Federal Reserve under its chairman, Arthur Burns, Kirkland said.

He pointed out that organized labor has exercised considerable restraint in seeking wage increases, declaring that "the process of restraint is the process of collective bargaining." He noted, too, that many unions are in the midst of long-term collective bargaining contracts that extend well into the future.

"That's the most stable element in the economy," he said.

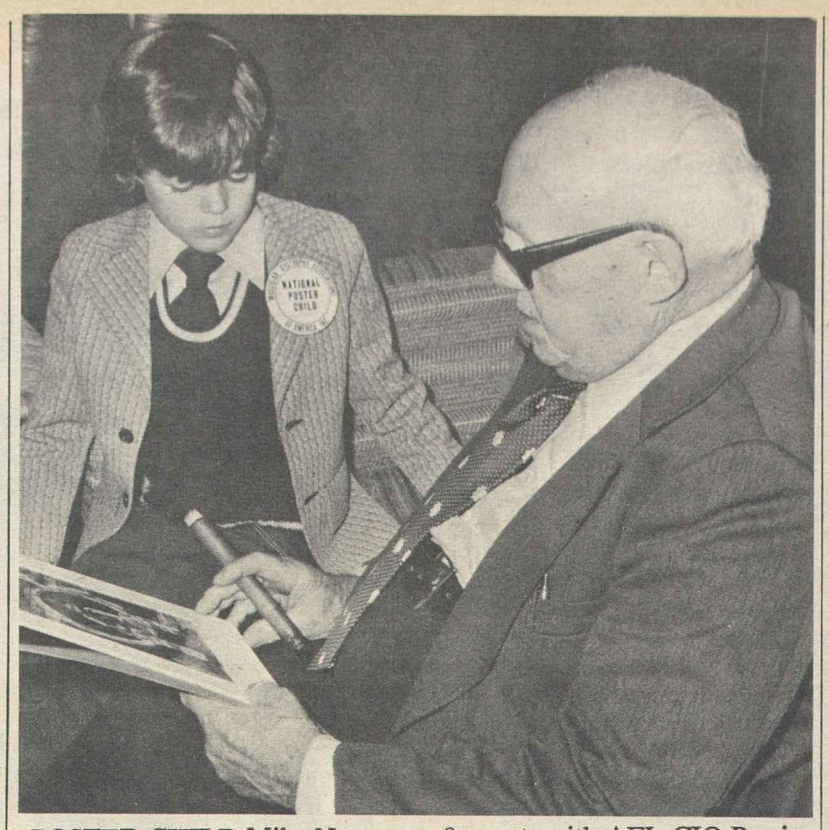
State-County Wins 2 Major Illinois Units

Springfield, Ill. — The State, County & Municipal Employees won a second victory in Illinois as non-professional state mental health workers voted by a 74 percent margin to be represented by the AFL-CIO union.

AFSCME received 5,920 votes in the new 8,000-person statewide bargaining unit, topping the Illinois State Employees Association, which received 1,165 votes. There were 138 votes for no union, 776 challenged ballots, and 50 voided ballots.

The victory followed a 1,438-to-40 vote victory for AFSCME in an election for bargaining rights for some 2,500 security workers in the Illinois Dept. of Corrections.

Illinois AFSCME petitioned for bargaining elections for 26,700 workers after Gov. Daniel Walker issued an executive order giving state employes the right to collective bargaining.



POSTER CHILD Mike Newsome, 8, meets with AFL-CIO President George Meany in promoting the Muscular Dystrophy Associations' campaign. Mike's father, Goebel Newsome, is a member of Steelworkers Local 6828 and his mother, Judy, is a former member of the Tobacco Workers. They live in Campbellsville, Ky.

Union Set to Strike As Oil Talks Falter

(Continued from Page 1)

through the evening of Jan. 9. As the AFL-CIO News went to press, a strike deadline was near.

Grospiron told newsmen initial strike action could be industrywide, against one company or against several companies. But he said, "I think we would have a nationwide strike within short order."

Unauthorized walkouts at Texaco and Gulf refineries in Texas and at a Chevron facility in California occurred hours after the contracts expired. Struck plants at Port Arthur and Port Neches, both in Texas, and at El Segundo, Calif. Some 7,500 OCAW workers were involved.

Earlier, the union's 12-member policy committee reduced its demands for a $1.50 hourly raise in each year of a three-year contract to $1.20. The oil workers also seek an additional "catch-up" pay increase in the first year, a first cost-of-living escalator agreement with the industry, plus improvements in a number of fringe-benefit areas.

Negotiations are conducted with the industry on a plant-by-plant basis and affect about 60,000 workers. Any agreement must be approved by the union's policy committee here before going to the membership for ratification.

Among the companies bargaining with the union are Mobil, Cities Service, Texaco, Phillips, Continental, Atlantic-Richfield, Shell, British Petroleum, American Petrofina, Standard Oil of California, Ashland, and Standard Oil of Indiana.

Service Pact Gives 20,000 $50 Increase

New York — A new three-year contract signed by the Service Employees provides wage increases totaling $50 a week, inflation protection and improved fringe benefits for 20,000 members of SEIU Local 32-B employed at more than 2,000 commercial buildings here.

Agreement came 36 hours before a strike deadline set by the local. Effective Jan. 1, the first-year basic wage increase is $20 a week, or 50 cents an hour. Two additional weekly wage increases of $15 each will go into effect in 1976 and 1977.

An additional $2 a week differential will be paid starters, handymen and porter foremen effective Jan. 1, 1976.

SEIU Local 32-B President Arthur B. Harckman, who termed the contract the "best ever" negotiated with the New York Realty Advisory Board, said the first-year increases of 12 percent bring weekly wages of porters to $198.12.

The cost-of-living clause will provide for inflation adjustments of 3 cents an hour for every 1 percent increase in the government's consumer price index over 12 percent between November 1974 and November 1975. In January 1977, an additional hourly adjustment of 3 cents will kick in if the CPI increases more than 10 percent between the preceding Novembers.

The contract also provides for improvements in paid holidays, sick leave, vacations and medical benefits, the SEIU reported. Employers will also contribute 75 cents per member each quarter to the local's welfare fund for job retraining and upgrading programs.

Firemen & Oilers Head W.E. Fredenberger Dies

William E. Fredenberger, president of the Firemen & Oilers since 1965, died at his home in North Beach, Md., Jan. 6. He was 60.

Fredenberger, a native of Kentucky, helped establish Local 320 of the Firemen & Oilers in the mid-1930s in Louisville. He later served as business manager and secretary-treasurer of the local, which was built into one of the largest in the union.

In the late 1930s, Fredenberger became an international representative and served as the union's auditor before being appointed a vice president in 1947.

Fredenberger was elected secretary-treasurer in 1961 and was named president of the union by the executive board to succeed Anthony E. Matz in 1965. He was re-elected at subsequent union conventions.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said in a message to his wife, Joanne, that Fredenberger earned wide respect and affection throughout the labor movement during his 40 years of services to the union.

"He was an inspiring leader, a true gentleman and a valued friend," Meany and Kirkland said.

Fredenberger also had been president of the Firemen & Oilers Kentucky state branch, a vice president of the Kentucky Federation of Labor and served on the Louisville Labor-Management Commission.

Survivors include his wife and two sons. Services and interment will be in Louisville.

Ex-Staff Member Vincent Quinn Dies

New York — Vincent K. Quinn, a retired AFL-CIO regional representative, died Dec. 31. He was 71.

Quinn had been vice president of Insurance Workers Local 1706 in New York before joining the CIO organizing staff in 1952. He served the mid-Atlantic States area, working primarily with white-collar workers, and continued on the regional staff of the AFL-CIO following merger.

He retired as a member of the federation's field staff in 1968.

Kirkland Sees Presidential Panel Conducting Full, Fair Probe of CIA

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland will approach a presidential assignment to investigate the Central Intelligence Agency with a strong "bias" in favor of the constitutional right of Amercians to be free from "unlawful search and seizure."

He has no "preconceived notions" as to whether the CIA did engage in illegal domestic activities. That's what the eight-member commission appointed by President Ford has to find out, Kirkland indicated.

Kirkland stressed in a television interview that he will not be a party to any "whitewash" of the CIA. And from personal knowledge of several of the other members of the presidential commission, he has confidence in their "integrity and independence," he said.

Kirkland's appointment to the commission had been announced shortly before he was to have been interviewed on a Public Broadcasting Service program dealing with the economic crisis. The opening segment of the questioning dealt with the makeup of the commission, which is headed by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, and whether it is "stacked" with defenders of the CIA.

Also on the commission are John T. Connor, Secretary of Commerce in the Johnson Administration and chairman of the Allied Chemical Corp.; C. Douglas Dillon, investment banker who served as Secretary of the Treasury under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson; Erwin N. Griswold, former solicitor general; retired Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer; former California Gov. Ronald Reagan. and Edgar F. Shannon, Jr., former president of the University of Virginia and a critic of U.S. military intervention in Southeast Asia.

Kirkland refused to comment on allegations against the CIA before determining what the facts actually were, but declared: "I want no part of any domestic secret police operations in this country."

He said the AFL-CIO's international activities have not received funds from the CIA. The only government funds have come through open contracts with the Agency for International Development to administer various aid programs.

Furthermore, Kirkland said, he "certainly would" oppose any CIA funding for labor activities.

He said that in his service on other government commissions, "I've never hesitated to dissent and to express my own point of view," even when he was the lone dissenter.

Kirkland told interviewer Paul Duke that if it were necessary, "I would certainly have no hesitation about doing it again."

Jobless Rate Tops 6% in 55 Areas

The addition of Phoenix, Ariz., and Waterbury, Conn., to the Labor Dept.'s list of major labor areas with "substantial unemployment" raised the total to a 32-month high of 55 in December, the government announced.

Substantial unemployment means the area has a jobless rate of 6 percent or more, which is expected to continue for at least two more months. A year ago the number of areas so classified was 33.

The Phoenix area jobless rate last month reached 7.6 percent. In Waterbury, the rate rose to 7.4 percent. The rise in joblessness in both labor markets was due largely to layoffs in the metals and electrical equipment industries, the Labor Dept. said.

Of Time and Jobs

WHEN REPORTERS asked Presidential Press Sec. Ron Nessen about actions the Administration could take to get Americans back to work, he told them that a Thomas Jefferson quotation is becoming popular among presidential aides. That quotation, Nessen said, is from a 1792 Jefferson letter to President George Washington.

"Delay," wrote Jefferson, "is preferable to error."

If given the opportunity to reply, the more than six and one-half million Americans the Labor Dept. counted as unemployed in December might prefer another Jefferson quotation, this one from a 1787 letter in which he wrote:

"Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today."

Indeed, there is much the President could do today to stimulate the economy. In fact, the President could have acted on Oct. 8, when instead he declared that inflation, not recession, was Public Enemy No. 1.

President Ford could have acted on Nov. 1, when unemployment climbed to 6 percent. But he didn't.

He could have acted on Dec. 6, when unemployment hit 6.5 percent. But he didn't.

He could have acted on Jan. 3, when unemployment jumped to 7.1 percent. Again, President Ford didn't.

THERE IS NO MYSTERY about the actions President Ford could have taken. AFL-CIO President George Meany has enumerated them time and again. Specifically, the President could:

● Immediately release a substantial portion of the $13 billion impounded by presidential order that could construct needed public works. Sewer projects, highways, public construction of all types are ready to get under way; the only thing they lack is the federal funds Congress authorized and appropriated but the President held up.

● Immediately reactivate housing programs, already authorized and funded by Congress, to build low- and moderate-income housing. The housing industry is in a depression; 15 percent of all construction workers are without jobs; hundreds of thousands of low- and middle-income American families cannot find housing they can afford. The programs are law, the funds appropriated. All that is lacking is presidential direction.

● Immediately use his powers under the Credit Control Act of 1969 by directing the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates and allocate credit to socially useful programs. Again, the law is on the books. The President's authority is clear, and the problem is clear. He can act now.

These three actions, by themselves, will not turn the economy around after six years of mismanagement by Arthur Burns and Richard Nixon. But they are a start, and each could be done today, not put off until tomorrow.

In commenting on the latest unemployment figures, Meany said:

"The President has told the Americans he will reveal his course of action on Jan. 20 in his State of the Union message to the Congress.

"Six and a half million jobless Americans should not have to wait that long for action."

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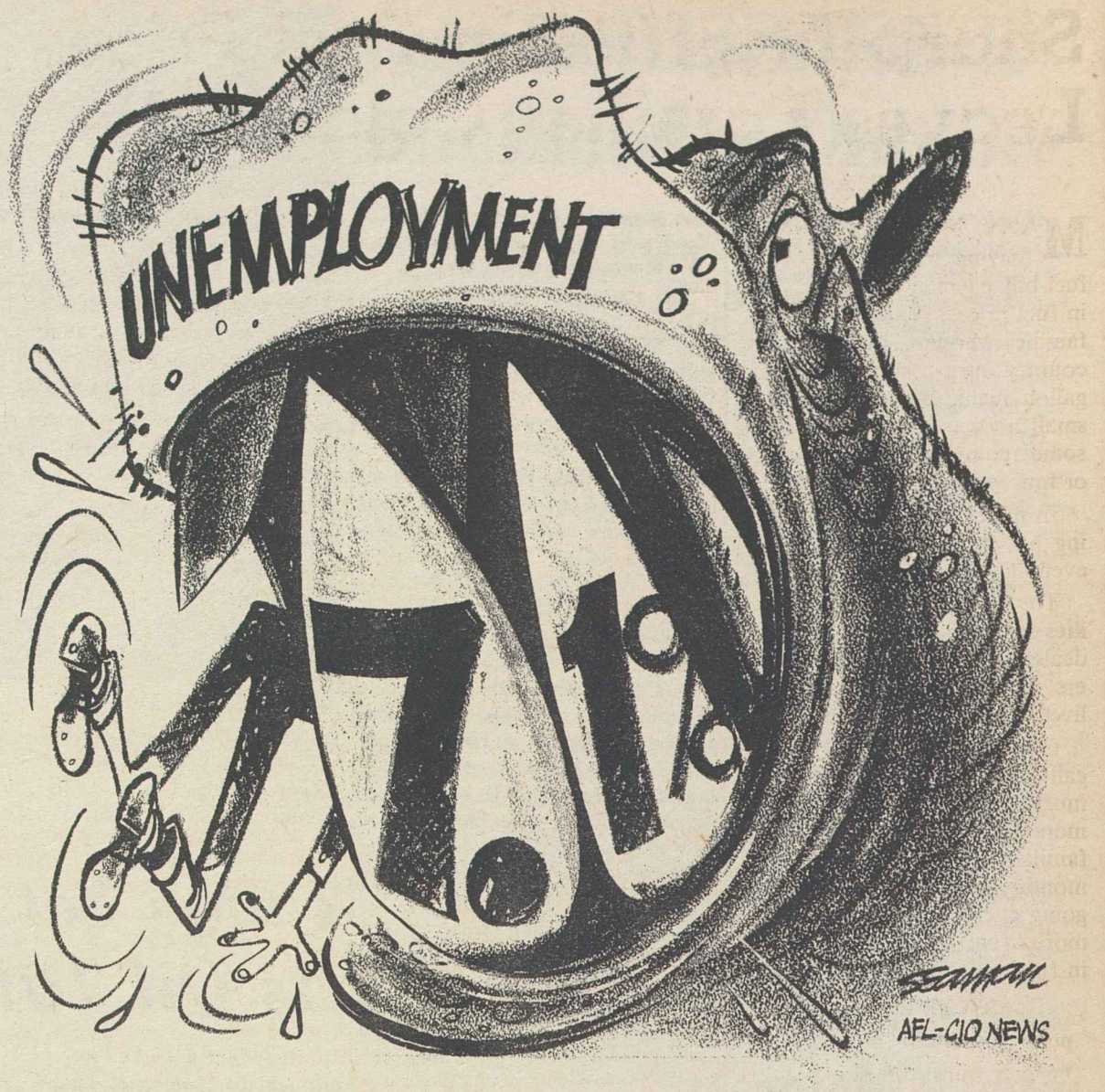
Showing Its Teeth



A Word Edgewise:

25th Amendment Follows View Of Nation's Founding Fathers

By John P. Roche

WHILE VICE PRESIDENT Rockefeller was undegoing the rites of passage, a number of pundits and politicians were registering their disappointment with the 25th Amendment, the provision of the Constitution that set up the technique for replacing a missing Vice President. What triggered this flow of criticism was, of course, the extremely odd fact that, since President Ford entered the vice presidency via the 25th Amendment and then inherited the presidency, we now have two top executives who were not elected by the population.

Perhaps because I suspect the odds against this happening again are virtually astronomical, I have been unable to work up much indignation. However, suggestions for change have ranged all the way from abolition of the vice presidency to the establishment of parliamentary government (which is the substance of Sen. Edward Kennedy's proposal that the President resign on a two-thirds vote of censure).

At the time the 25th Amendment was proposed I supported it in substance, though I saw no reason to make an amendment out of it. In my judgment, Congress had the authority to stipulate Presidential succession without cluttering the Constitution up with another amendment. I still think it is about as good a technique as any.

Or maybe I should say it is the best of the many proposed alternatives. Those who want to call a special election, for example, have to face the logistical problems involved: nomination presumably with primaries, campaign, and final decision. If this could be managed in less than a year, I should be teaching astrophysics. Meanwhile, who keeps the store? The same objective runs against the proposal to abolish the vice presidency outright. There has to be somebody playing safety, someone whom the President will trust and certainly from the same political party.

The Kennedy proposal is in effect a conversion of present impeachment proceedings into an openly political prosecution. In essence this is what the congressional Republicans tried to institute in 1868 when President Andrew Johnson (a "War Democrat") was impeached on a straight partisan indictment. He escaped conviction by a whisker, with the man who would have succeeded him, Sen. Ben Wade, president pro tem of the Senate, cheerfully voting for himself. In retrospect, this use of the impeachment power has been frowned upon. Hence the effort to prove that President Nixon had committed specific "high crimes and misdemeanors" at the time of his impeachment proceedings.

In short, I can't get worked up about the 25th Amendment, but I do find myself immensely amused by the great divination sessions that some scholars have sponsored. Apparently you can't simply say, "The 25th is a lousy idea." You have to say, "The Framers of the Constitution would have considered the 25th a lousy idea." I don't feel bound by what the framers thought; indeed, I suspect that remarkable generation would look with some contempt upon descendants who tried to impose the conventional wisdom of 1787 upon the United States of 1974. On the other hand, I didn't start the game—at the risk of boring you with a little history—it is perfectly clear that the 25th is thoroughly in the tradition of 1787. This, I repeat, does not make it either "good" or "bad."

THE FOUNDERS of this Republic had one abiding conviction: that executive power was the greatest menace to free government. Thus, in the state governments established after independence, the uniform pattern was not the separation of powers, but legislative supremacy. Only in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York was the governor popularly elected; elsewhere he was chosen by the legislature. Only in Massachusetts did he have the veto power as we know it. The government under the Articles of Confederation did not even provide for a Chief Executive.

When the delegates to the Constitutional Convention set down to their labors, the first proposal (drafted by James Madison) provided for a legislative supremacist government: lower house elected by the people, upper house chosen by the lower house, and President elected by joint session of the legislature.

Only at the very end was the legislative election of the President replaced by the Electoral College with the House choosing the President if no electroral majority appeared. Delegate George Mason asserted that 19 times in 20 the House would have the job. In short, the 25th is authentic, if archaic, doctrine: Divination is no substitute for research.

How to Buy:

Sharp Increase in Fuel Prices Leaves Families Cold, Broke

By Sidney Margolius

MANY MODERATE-INCOME families are having trouble this winter keeping up with fuel-bill payments because of the latest increases in fuel prices. A survey by this writer reveals that families who heat by oil in the colder parts of the country must now pay as much as 38-40 cents a gallon including sales taxes. Deliveries for even small homes now often run as much as $90 with some requiring deliveries as often as every three or four weeks.

In many cases fuel for a year's heating including hot water now comes to $400 or $500 and even more.

The result, oil companies report, is more families lagging behind in payments this year. Some dealers are dropping even moderately-slow payers immediately, refusing to make the next delivery until the previous bill is paid.

One dealer told me he finds some families now call up before a delivery is due to find out how much it may come to, so they can scrape up the money ahead of time. Another dealer says more families are trying to arrange payments on a monthly budget plan. An increasing number are going on 12-month payment plans rather than the more usual 10-month plan which omits payments in July and August.

Hardest hit are families in older homes with poor insulation and old converted furnaces "which burn oil like mad" one dealer said. Often these are rented homes which don't even have storm windows. Some deliverers are avoiding renters altogether or refusing to let them owe for even two deliveries.

Families living in multiple-dwelling buildings are being affected as landlords raise rents to cover high heating costs. Authorities in some large cities say apartment-house fuel oil has gone from 11 cents a gallon to as much as 40 cents.

In all, the price of No. 2 fuel oil for home use has approximately doubled in the past two years. But even families in milder climates who may heat by electricity or gas are paying bigger bills.

Nationwide, electricity and gas have gone up 25 percent although much more in the East.

Failing any effective government program to halt the fuel oil gouge, the only ways families can protect themselves even a little are:

1. Maintain strict economy, keeping temperatures at 68 degrees or even less, and even at this late date taking any possible steps to insulate and weatherproof. Also keep in mind that heating water is your second biggest heating expense.

2. If you can't keep up payments, get on the oil company's budget plan if no additional finance charges are required, rather than pay interest on a loan to pay the fuel bills.

3. In case of dire need, don't hesitate to ask the local welfare office for emergency help for fuel payments. Even last year some families ordinarily self-supporting had to get such help to keep homes heated.

EVEN IN MIDWINTER you can still make a house more weatherproof. A common heat leak is loose-fitting windows and door frames. These can be caulked and weather-stripped. Storm windows can save 50 percent of heat lost through windows. But even if you rent and the landlord won't supply storm windows, you can contrive fixed storm windows you don't need to open by stapling or tacking clear vinyl film onto narrow wood or fiber strips, or by covering the window with the vinyl and then framing with the strips.

Since heat rises, it's also important to insulate attics. If your attic is not floored you can insulate with blanket or loose fill. Also check heat losses in basements which may affect rooms above.

Standard rating methods can help you compare various insulations, advises Cecil Wheary, extension specialist at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Effectiveness usually is specified as the resistance to the flow of heat, generally designated by the letter "R". The higher the "R" the better the insulating quality.

Most manufacturers have adopted the "R" rating and stamp it on their products. For example, a three-inch batt of one insulation might have an R10 rating, while a three-inch batt of another type might have an R12 rating. On the other hand a two-inch rigid foam material might have an R10 rating.

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30,000 Jobs at Stake:

Survival of Pan Am Airways Hinges on Fair U.S. Treatment

THE JOBS of more than 30,000 airline industry workers hinge on new fairness and equity in the U.S. government's treatment of the nation's largest international air carrier, Pan American World Airways.

That warning was sounded by President William Gill of the Flight Engineers and Richard Phenneger, president of the union's Pan Am chapter, on the network radio interview, Labor News Conference.

The two union officials said that route assignments and other regulations have been used as tools in political negotiations with other countries, regardless of the economic impact on the airline.

Stressing that Pan Am is the only U.S.-based airline with total overseas operations, Gill said that other carriers flying international routes also have domestic service, where the industry is in "pretty good financial shape." He said that while the domestic industry rolled up record profits this last year the international carriers' losses exceeded all expectations. He said the fuel crisis was a major factor, with spiraling prices sending Pan Am's fuel costs up $200 million.

Phenneger said that neither merger of Pan Am with Trans World Airlines as suggested by "one segment of the bureaucracy," nor the proposed financial assistance from Iran in return for technical assistance from Pan Am would effectively meet the problem. He said that merger or consolidation of service would produce the situation where "the world's most travelled nation, the United States, ends up with one carrier competing alone against all the internationals."

Gill said the Pan Am problem has been building since 1969, and has already resulted in the loss of 10,000 jobs over the last year and one-half. He said that among the most "glaring inequities" in the government's treatment of Pan Am has been the "route structures" awarded by the Civil Aeronautics Board, which has resulted in the company losing the share of the market it had prior to 1969.

Gill and Phenneger said that the Air Line Pilots Association, the Transport Workers and the Teamsters, who also represent Pan Am employes, have joined with the Flight Engineers in the effort to save the company from going under.

Questioning them on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview were Michael Posner of the Reuters News Agency and Murray Seeger of the Los Angeles Times. The program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Full Measure of Quality!

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

UNTIL RECENTLY the attention of the nation was largely cemented on the brutal increase in the cost of living that was bringing tragedy into so many lives.

But now there is growing recognition that unemployment has become an even more important problem, with joblessness reaching the staggering rate of 7.1 percent in December.

Even so, there is still a tendency to give inflation top billing, with television and radio spots proclaiming: "Inflation Is Our Number One Enemy."

For millions of American workers this is no longer true. As much as inflation remains a burden, jobs have become the overwhelming concern. This is nothing new for the American labor movement, which has been persistently calling attention to the worsening job situation for many months.

The rest of the nation is now waking up to the jobs crisis, and insistent demands are being made to get the economy back on its feet.

The cause of this sudden shift of emphasis from inflation to unemployment is obvious. We have had double-digit inflation for nearly a year. The President made a great show of his determination to fight inflation at the time of his summit conferences, which failed to live up to their advance billing. And he still places his greatest emphasis on inflation, which is far from solved.

All the time, recession and its accompanying unemployment were getting worse, but were almost ignored except by organized labor.

PRESIDENT FORD hasn't gone as far as President Hoover, who was constantly seeing prosperity "around the corner." But he has gone pretty far. His latest contribution is his expectation of an economic upturn for the latter part of 1975. He gives little indication, however, of tackling the loss of jobs with the same zeal he has publicly applied to inflation.

A recent report of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress showed a far keener awareness of the job crisis than the Administration. It warned that today's jobless trend may well bring an 8 percent rate before a downturn can be expected in late 1975. The committee is holding out for a target of less than 3 percent with a 4 percent level "an appropriate interim policy goal."

"It is of the utmost importance that the government make clear its determination to restore full employment and state clearly the time period over which this is likely to be achieved," the report says, adding: "Because of the high levels of unemployment and poverty apt to persist during the remainder of this decade, special urgency attaches to the enactment of an adequate program of income maintenance."

The report recommends a tax cut of between $10 billion and $12 billion, mostly for low- and middle-income workers, to get the economy rolling again. The President is under increasing pressure for a similar move from other quarters, too.

Yet, the picture is still blurred, and there are few indications that the President is really aware of the need to shift emphasis from prices to jobs, something that the rest of the country has pretty well realized.

On Jan. 14, the new 94th Congress will come into being. Shortly thereafter the President will make his State of the Union address and give his recommendations for meeting today's economic crisis.

With a possible 8 percent rate of unemployment looming ahead, the nation cannot afford any more half-hearted measures to meet the crisis.

NEW FAIRNESS AND EQUITY in the U.S. government's treatment of Pan American World Airways is the key to saving the jobs of 30,000 workers at the nation's number-one overseas airline, Flight Engineers President William Gill, second from left, and the union's Pan Am chapter president Richard Phenneger, third from left, said, on Labor News Conference. Questioning them were Michael Posner, left, of the Reuters News Agency and Murray Seeger of the Los Angeles Times. The AFL-CIO produced program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Unions Show Majority In Public Sector

More than half of all state and local government employes are members of unions or of associations that function as unions, a Census Bureau report indicated.

The information on union membership, as of October 1972, was sought in questionnaires sent to governmental units as part of the Census of Governments that is held every five years. This was the first time that the state and local governments were asked about relations with unions.

On the basis of replies, with some independent verification, the Census Bureau came up with a figure of 4.3 million members of employe organizations—about 50.4 percent of the total workforce.

Data was asked only on organizations "which had as a primary purpose the improvement of wages, hours and conditions of employment for its membership." That would cover some groups that began as professional associations and evolved into bargaining agents.

A Census Bureau spokesman conceded that some of the responses may have confused the concept of workers represented by union membership figures the questionnaire sought.

The report found local fire departments most fully organized, with 77 percent membership, followed by teachers with nearly 70 percent organized.

The greatest degree of union membership among public employes was in the Northeast, with 66 percent. The figure for the West was 60 percent, followed by 46 percent in the North Central states and 38 percent in the South.

During the 12 months prior to October 1972, there were 381 work stoppages, of which 152 involved schools.

While pay was the key issue in most of the work stoppages, the longest strikes were over the issue of union recognition.

NEW CHARTER is presented to officials of a Puerto Rican performers and technicians union by President Frederick O'Neal of the Associated Actors & Artistes. From left are Orlando Lopez, joint secretary-general, and William Valentin, secretary-general, of the newly chartered group, O'Neal and Director Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. The group had functioned as an independent union in Puerto Rico for a number of years.

Appeals Court Delays Vinyl Chloride Curbs

New York—A new government standard that would have reduced worker exposure to vinyl chloride effective Jan. 1 is being held up by an order of a federal appeals court.

A special three-judge panel of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals granted the stay to allow more time for a study of an appeal by the plastics industry in its attempt to block implementation of the standard.

The standard, which would limit exposure to the cancer-causing gas to 1 part vinyl chloride to 1 million parts air (1 ppm), is being challenged by the Society for the Plastics Industry, Inc. and eight vinyl chloride producers.

The Labor Dept. in October ordered the reduced exposure level from the current limit of 50 ppm, but delayed the effective date of the reduction to give employers time to gear up for the change.

When the plastics industry sought to block the implementation of the standard, the AFL-CIO and the federation's Industrial Union Dept. joined the Labor Dept. as intervenors in the case, even though organized labor had called for even stricter vinyl chloride controls.

The Labor Dept.'s Occupational Safety & Health Administration promulgated the standard because of a number of rare fatal liver cancer cases among workers who had been exposed to the vinyl chloride on the job.

An estimated 6,500 workers are employed at plants that produce vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride plastic in the United States. Nearly 700,000 workers are employed in fabricating plants where there are more excessive concentrations of the gas.

Besides the Society for the Plastics Industry, the firms involved in the suit are Air Products & Chemicals, Inc., Dow Chemical, Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., B. F. Goodrich Co., Hooker Chemical Co., a subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum Corp., Tenneco, Inc., Union Carbide Corp. and Uniroyal, Inc.

NLRB Keeps Jurisdiction Over Schools

The National Labor Relations Board will continue to assert jurisdiction over private schools that meet appropriate dollar volume of business standards.

Three months ago, the NLRB asked for comment on a proposed rule under which it would have declined to accept cases involving the operations of private secondary, elementary and preschool institutions. The board announced that after carefully considering the 39 responses it received, it has decided not to adopt the proposed rule.

The AFL-CIO, one of the respondents, argued that there was "absolutely no justification" for excluding private schools, whether operated by religious or secular groups, from coverage of the National Labor Relations Act.

Employes of private educational institutions "want and need protection of the right to organize," the federation declared.

The NLRB's jurisdiction applies to both profit and non-profit schools that have at least $1 million annual gross revenue.

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New Stamp Honors Role Of Bargaining

A new commemorative stamp honoring the role of collective bargaining as a social force in stabilizing labor-management relations will go on sale Mar. 13 at all U.S. post offices, the Postal Service announced.

The 10-cent, four-color stamp will bear the legend: "Collective Bargaining—Out of Conflict . . . Accord."

In announcing the stamp's publication, USPS pointed out that collective bargaining is "almost as old as the United States."

The first recorded instance of collective bargaining, USPS noted, was in 1799 when the Philadelphia Cordwainers — an old-fashioned name for shoemakers—refused a wage cut and were locked out. Subsequently, representatives of both sides met to resolve their differences.

In 1973 Survey:

Job Injuries Rise But Deaths Decline

Work-related injuries and illness edged up in 1973 over the preceding year while on-the-job fatalities declined slightly, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said in a report on the second full-year survey of workers covered by the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

Eleven of every 100 workers were affected by occupational injuries or illness during the year, compared with 10.9 per 100 in 1972.

Although the number of recordable cases increased 5 percent over the year—from 5.65 to 5.92 million—fatalities dropped 7 percent to an estimated 5,200.

The BLS survey excluded workers in railroads, mining and the government sector, which are not covered by the federal safety act.

Contract construction continued to lead all industry sectors as the most hazard-prone occupations. Yet although the injury and illness rate increased 4.2 percent over the year in construction jobs, the number of deaths dropped from 1,500 in 1972 to 1,000 in 1973.

Still, nearly every one in five construction workers was hit by injury or illness during the year. The incidence rate for lost workday cases also increased in manufacturing by 7.1 percent over the year, and was also up slightly in transportation and public utilities.

Lost workday cases declined 3.6 percent in wholesale and retail trade, but remained about the same over the year in the service industry and in finance, insurance and real estate.

Even though lost workday cases accounted for only 30 percent of all recordable cases, BLS noted that 28.4 million workdays were lost during 1973 to injuries and job-related illness. This is equivalent to about 114,000 employe-years of work.

Manufacturing, which includes about one-third of the private workforce covered by the safety act, lost 13.2 million workdays to injury and illness.

About 15 of every 100 workers in manufacturing experienced occupational injury or illness. This compares with 19.8 in construction, 10.5 in transportation and public utilities, 8.6 in wholesale and retail trade, 6.3 in services, and 2.4 in finance, insurance and real estate.

Construction workers accounted for 625,000 recordable cases. This is about 10 percent of the total cases recorded for the entire private sector, although the industry represents only 6 percent of the workforce.

Among agricultural workers, BLS recorded 66,000 injuries and illnesses, of which 40 percent resulted in lost worktime.

Preliminary data from the Mine Enforcement & Safety Administration of the Interior Dept. showed that the incidence rate in 1973 was 12.5 cases per every 100 workers. However, the rate in coal mining was 19.1, compared to 12.8 for oil and gas extraction and 7.8 for metal and nonmetal mining. There were 300 fatalities recorded in coal and other mining activities during the year.

The Federal Railroad Administration of the Transportation Dept. reported 200 fatalities in the railroad industry during 1973 resulting from 52,000 injury and illness cases. The incidence rate was 8.7 per 100 workers.

For workers covered by the federal safety act, the average number of days lost because of injury or illness increased from 14 to 15 in 1973.

BLS said the five target industries selected for special emphasis of OSHA programs all showed a decline in injuries over the year.

IUE Election Victory Again Upheld As Indianapolis Strike Continues

Indianapolis, Ind.—Workers at the Regency Electronics Corp. here, who have waged a 10-year battle for union recognition and a three-month strike against the firing of union supporters, won a new round before the National Labor Relations Board.

In a case that has bounced back and forth between the NLRB and the courts, a three-member panel of the labor board unanimously affirmed that the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (IUE) had won a representation election in 1972.

The company has refused to recognize and bargain with the union, and this is the second time the NLRB has rejected management's objections to the election.

Initially, after the board turned down the company's protest, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the labor board in a review of the case. But about that time, the Supreme Court handed down a decision—known as the Savair case—invalidating an election in which a union's promise to waive initiation fees was seen as an improper inducement to get workers to sign authorization cards. The appellate court then sent the Regency case back to the NLRB for reconsideration.

Administrative Law Judge Joel A. Harmatz listened to new arguments on the basis of the Supreme Court decision, but found that the IUE had not used a promise to waive initiation fees in any improper manner.

The NLRB panel of members, John H. Fanning, Howard Jenkins, Jr., and John A. Penello, agreed and again ordered the company to recognize and bargain with the union.

IUE District 8 President Bill Wright called on management to comply and begin bargaining, but the company instead said it will appeal the NLRB's latest decision to the courts.

Meanwhile, the more than 300 employes, most of whom are women, continue to maintain a strong picket line. Their unfair labor practices strike was precipitated by the firing of Local President Alice McVay and Chief Steward Ruby Cowles, both 20-year employes, a few days after they testified at the NLRB hearing. The union has filed new unfair labor practice charges on these and 13 firings since the strike began.

Regency has used strikebreakers and has advertised for others, the IUE said, in an effort to maintain production of its radio scanners, CB (citizens band) equipment, walkie-talkies and police radios.

Other unions are backing the strikers. The Marion County, Ind., AFL-CIO Council adopted a resolution of support; the Auto Workers and Teamsters are assisting.

IUE began the organizing campaign in 1965 at the invitation of a group of Regency employes. It took five years of litigation before the first election was held, which IUE lost. A second election was thrown out by the NLRB because of Regency misconduct. IUE won the third election, 133 votes to 112.

Over the ten years, the IUE said, Regency has employed discharges, intimidation, company unionism and other illegal tactics in an attempt to keep out the union.

Early in the campaign, the company fired 29 union supporters, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia directed Regency to offer them reinstatement and pay them $65,000 in lost wages.

IUE President Paul Jennings praised the "tremendous courage and determination" of the strikers. "Regency," he said, "is a cynical and vicious company using endless legal proceedings to beat its employes over the head. These tactics can delay, but cannot prevent, the inevitable."

Up to 40 Percent:

Union Card's Value In Higher Pay Cited

Union membership is worth up to 40 percent in higher wages, according to a study in the current issue of Monthly Labor Review published by the Labor Dept.

Organized craftsmen, based on a review made in May 1973, showed the highest differential between union and non-union workers. The difference was "about 20 to 25 percent more per hour than the earnings of workers who had similar characteristics, but were not members of unions," the study found.

"For white and black men in the transportation equipment operative occupations, the union-non-union differentials were around 40 percent," said the study as reported by Paul M. Ryscavage, an economist with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Furthermore," the report continued, "the effect of unionism for women in clerical, operative and service jobs ranged from 20 to 25 percent" in favor of union workers.

The findings varied considerably for age, education, region and occupation. However, with these characteristics held constant, the "union effect was estimated to be about 12 percent for all workers."

For white men of similar characteristics, it was estimated to be about 8 percent. Among black men it was estimated to be about 27 percent. Among women, the effect was estimated to be 19 percent in higher wages for black women and 22 percent for white women.

For white union men in the white-collar area, the differential ran as high as 26 percent while differentials were even higher in the non-farm laborer and transportation occupations. They went as high as 34 percent for non-farm laborers and 38 percent for transportation operators. In the service occupations, the differential was about 16 percent higher for a union worker as compared with a non-union worker.

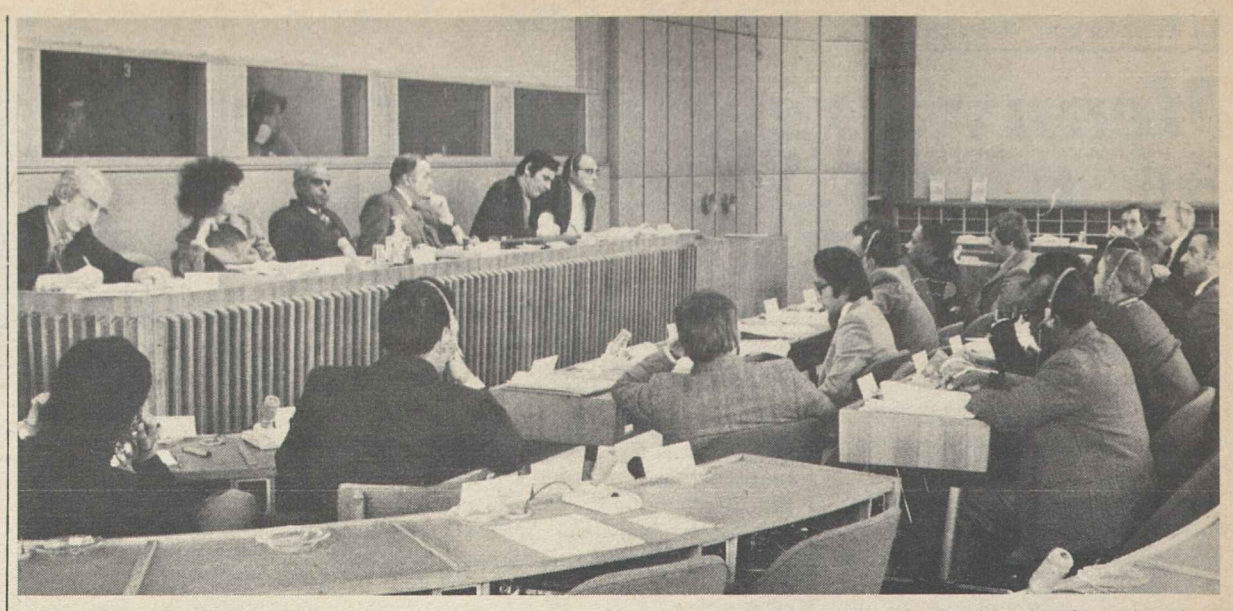
"Union differentials were about the same for white and black women in most of the occupations in which they are concentrated," the study showed. "The differential in the clerical occupations was around 20 percent for both. In operative and service occupations, however, the white union member earned 37 percent more an hour than her non-union counterpart, while among black professional women no differential existed.

"Among all workers the largest geographic differentials were found in the South Central states (from 18 to 20 percent), East North Central states (22 percent) and Mountain states (18 percent)."

"Regardless of region," the study declared, "black men experienced larger union-non-union earnings differentials than white men. Differentials were particularly high for blacks in the South Central, South Atlantic and Pacific Coast states undoubtedly reflecting the low hourly earnings received by non-union workers."

Atlanta Unionist Heads Area Transit Authority

Atlanta—The president of the Atlanta AFL-CIO Labor Council, John E. Wright, has been elected chairman of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority.



SYMPOSIUM on economic education for union members, held at Geneva, Switzerland, under the sponsorship of the International Labor Organization, had participants from 17 nations. The U.S. representative was AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis.

ILO Forum Asks Studies In Economics

Geneva—Worker education programs should give union members and leaders a basic understanding of economics, representatives of 17 nations agreed at an International Labor Organization symposium here.

The participants, including AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis, saw economics education as a necessity in both industrialized and developing nations.

There was general agreement, Davis said, that the role of labor is treated inadequately in school programs throughout the world and that the extent of economics education below the college level does not provide the tools that union representatives need at the bargaining table.

Issues discussed at the symposium included the need for worker understanding of monetary policies, inflation, the role of multinational corporations and employment data.

Davis said the emphasis was on economics education as a tool, rather than an end in itself. And considerable attention was given to teaching techniques, including the training of union educators and the development of study guides.

Symposium participants generally agreed on three target groups for economic education programs:

- Shop stewards and other elected or appointed local union representatives.
- Union officers at all levels.
- Young staff members of unions.

Participants agreed that the studies should be problem-oriented, to help union representatives deal with practical problems rather than to train professional economists.

And while conditions vary in different countries, participants stressed that the primary responsibility for trade union training in economics should be with the labor movement itself.

The ILO could play a role by strenghtening its economic research and making the results available to trade union educators, the participants suggested.

Inventory System Helps Firms Shelter Profits

Hundreds of American corporations, embarrassed by huge profit gains over the past few years, are switching to an inventory accounting practice that serves to hold down profits—on paper—while actually providing a tax break.

Until about the last half of 1974, most companies accounted for their inventories on a "first-in, first-out" basis. Under this system the earliest cost of materials bought by a company for resale or for further processing and sale are the first to be deducted from its gross income for tax purposes. The FIFO accounting method thus more closely reflects actual costs and profits.

Now, companies increasingly are turning to a "last-in, first-out" accounting method, a practice they find more to their advantage. Under LIFO, the charge against gross income is based on the assumption that the last goods in move out first, and as a result the latest prices for such materials are deducted first.

By switching to LIFO when prices are rising, a company inflates its reported costs, thus lowering reported profits, Arnold Cantor, an AFL-CIO economist, points out. Lower profits mean lower taxes, with the result the firm's cash flow is increased.

LIFO actually permits corporations to mask their real profits, Cantor observes. In addition, the FIFO-LIFO bookkeeping gimmickry reduces federal tax receipts. The revenue loss to the U.S. Treasury in 1974 is estimated at some $4 billion and, depending on how many more companies switch to LIFO, it could run higher, Cantor notes.

DuPont offers an illustration of how business is using LIFO to its advantage. The firm announced last August its intention to adopt the accounting method for 1974.

Using LIFO, DuPont will show a reported increase in costs of $77 million for the first two quarters of 1974, with the result that reported before-tax profits will be $77 million lower. Since the corporate income tax rate is 48 percent, the company's tax liability will be reduced by $37 million—48 percent of $77 million.

"Thus, as a result of this bookkeeping change, the company will show lower profits," Cantor notes. "Yet, in actuality, its income will have increased by $37 million, the amount of its reduction in taxes."

Clothing Quotas Asked On Colombian Imports

Immediate controls on imports of men's and boys' clothing from Colombia are needed to halt further deterioration of the nation's clothing industry, the Clothing Workers and the Clothing Manufacturers Association warned. The rise in imports from Colombia was blamed for increased closings and worker layoffs.

The ACWA and the manufacturers issued the warning at a meeting with Commerce Dept. officials and members of the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Union and employer representatives called on the federal government to invoke Article 3 of the International Textile Agreement to limit the amount of tailored clothing imports from Colombia.

If such controls are not imposed, the ACWA and the CMA told William Eberle, the Commerce Dept.'s special trade representative, the U.S. clothing industry will continue to be seriously disrupted.

In October 1974, Colombia was the largest foreign supplier of suit coats and jackets in the U.S. market, the ACWA pointed out, noting that a larger volume of suits were imported from Colombia in that month than from Japan or Hong Kong.

The meetings of ACWA and CMA representatives with government officials commenced after the union's nationwide demonstration Nov. 11 protesting the rising flood of imports that have resulted in numerous plant shutdowns and widespread layoffs.

In the first 11 months of 1974, 52 clothing manufacturers that employed more than 3,500 workers were forced to shut down production.

The ACWA also pointed out in its demonstrations that suits from Korea, where workers are paid as little as 11 cents an hour, were selling for $165 in the United States. Suits produced in Colombia, where the wage scale is 25 cents an hour, sold for $155 here, the union said.

W. E. Lewis Dies, Retired Organizer

Kansas City—William E. Lewis, a union organizer since the early 1940s, died at North Kansas City Hospital Jan. 1. Lewis, 65, had retired from the AFL-CIO organizing staff last May.

Lewis was a founder of a local of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union in Kansas City in 1937 and joined the RWDSU staff three years later. He became an organizer with the CIO in 1943. He continued on the AFL-CIO organizing staff following merger, operating in the South and the Midwest.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred, and two daughters. Services were held in Kansas City Jan. 4.

Musicians Move To New Offices

New York — The Musicians moved their headquarters to a new location here with the offices of the president and secretary-treasurer situated in the same building for the first time.

The new address of the AFM headquarters is 1500 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10036. The new telephone number is (212) 869-1330.

New Jobless Claims Highest Ever Recorded

(Continued from Page 1)

As domestic auto makers scheduled massive layoffs for this month, the industry reported 1974 sales totaled 7,448,921, a 23 percent drop from the record 9.7 million of a year earlier. The Chrysler Corp., in an attempt to stimulate sales, announced a rebate system that will save buyers of certain new models from $200 to $400.

Other reports adding to the gloomy outlook for the economy:

- Business investment in new plants and equipment this year is expected to decline in real terms, according to an annual forecast by the Commerce Dept.

The 1975 estimate of $117.1 billion represents a 4.5 percent increase in value over last year, but inflation — expected to average between 8 and 10 percent — will more than offset the increased dollar value.

The department also reported last year's business investment totaled $111.92 billion, or 12 percent more than in 1973. However, inflation also accounted for most if not all of this increase.

"The 1974 capital expenditures figure, therefore, represents little if any real growth in investment, and the 1975 projection strongly suggests a decline in real growth," the department said.

- The amount of consumer installment indebtedness declined by a record $402 million in November, the Federal Reserve Board reported. The drop was the first since November 1970 and the largest decrease on record. The downturn reflected consumer reluctance to contract debt during a period of uncertainty over the economy.
- Bankruptcy petitions are running 29 percent above a year earlier. The Administrative Office of the United States Courts reported the number of petitions averaged 19,305 a month during the first five months of fiscal year 1975, compared to a monthly average of 14,912 in the same period in fiscal 1974.

URW Names Peake To Fair Practices Post

Akron, O.—E. James Peake, Jr., has been named fair practices director of the Rubber Workers succeeding James E. Turner, who retired.

As Recession Deepens:

Meany Urges Action Now To Put America to Work

(Continued from Page 1)

Great Depression. The jobless that year totaled an estimated 8,120,000, and the unemployment rate was 14.6 percent of the labor force, BLS said. The figures are seasonally adjusted.

The number of unemployed workers rose by 560,000 in December, pushing the jobless rate up six-tenths of 1 percent rise over the previous month. The month-to-month climb in the rate was the largest increase since October 1960 when it also was six-tenths of 1 percent.

The rate is almost certain to go higher. BLS conducted its survey of joblessness during the first week of December and since then substantial layoffs have been announced in nearly every major industry.

White House Press Sec. Ron Nessen told reporters President Ford expects joblessness to continue to rise over "the next couple of months. The President has heard estimates of 8 percent." The highest level since World War II was 7.9 percent in 1949.

The AFL-CIO has summoned top officers of its affiliated unions to a Jan. 23 meeting of the General Board to deal with the state of the economy and adopt an action program to put the nation's unemployed back to work.

Meanwhile, Meany said in his statement on the December jobless figures, President Ford could and should:

- Release a substantial portion of $13 billion of presidentially impounded funds for government construction of needed public works.
- Reactivate long-frozen subsidized housing programs for low- and moderate-income workers.
- Direct the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates and allocate credit to socially useful programs, a power granted the President under the 1960 Credit Control Act.

Much of last month's increase in unemployment resulted from job layoffs rather than voluntary quit or persons re-entering the labor force or seeking their first job. The number of unemployed who lost their last job during the survey period rose by 360,000 to 3.2 million, BLS noted.

Since December 1973, total joblessness has increased by more than 2 million. After dropping to a three and one-half year low of 4.6 percent in October 1973, the unemployment rate has increased by 2.5 percentage points.

"A small part of this increase took place during the 'energy crisis' period last winter," BLS observed, "but the bulk has occurred during the last four months." From August through December, the jobless rate rose 1.7 percentage points.

Virtually every worker group was affected by the increase in the nation's unemployment rate last month. Heads of households and full-time workers — the family breadwinners — saw their rates climb by six-tenths of 1 percent each to all-time highs of 4.5 and 6.8 percent, respectively.

The unemployment rate for adult men rose from 4.6 percent in November to 5.1 percent in December, while joblessness among adult women climbed from 6.6 to 7.2 percent. The rate for married men rose from 3.3 to 3.7 percent over the month.

Teenage unemployment rose a full percentage point to 18.3 percent from November to December. The jobless rate for workers covered by state unemployment insurance programs increased from 4.3 to 4.7 percent.

The rate for black workers rose 1.1 percent from November to December, and stood at 12.8 percent—exactly double the rate for whites.

"The job market for blue-collar workers continued to deteriorate—their rate moving from 8.2 to 9.4 percent—as did the situation for manufacturing and construction workers among the major industry categories," BLS noted.

The manufacturing jobless rate, at 8.6 percent last month, was double the year-earlier figure. The rise in factory unemployment was paced by heavy layoffs in the auto industry. The construction industry's 15 percent unemployment rate was the highest level since 1961.

While blue-collar workers were hit hardest by joblessness in December, white-collar workers experienced a rise of four-tenths of 1 percent in their rate.

At 4.1 percent, the rate was the highest recorded for this group since occupational statistics were first recorded on a monthly basis in 1958, BLS noted. The bulk of the white-collar increase occurred among sales workers and managers.

In addition to the increase in total joblessness, there was a surge in the number of persons working part time because they were unable to find full-time employment, BLS noted. Their number increased 141,000 to 3,354,000 from November to December.

The number of persons holding jobs in December declined for the third straight month. Total employment fell by 550,000 to 85.2 million.

15% Rate Shocks Building Trades

The 15 percent unemployment rate in the construction industry last month is "a shocking figure," President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. declared.

The highest rate for the industry since 1961, it is really only an average, "since it runs 50 percent or more in many crafts in numerous communities," Georgine noted.

"It is our fervent hope it will shock the federal government—especially the administration of President Ford—into doing something meaningful right now," he said.

EPA Contests Labor Dept.'s Noise Standard

Organized labor's protest of the Labor Dept.'s proposed noise standard in workplaces is being reinforced by a challenge from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The AFL-CIO had called for an on-the-job noise limit of 85 decibels — the level recommended by EPA — to protect workers from hearing loss and other hazards leading to accidents.

But the Labor Dept.'s Occupational Safety & Health Administration in October proposed a noise standard of 90 decibels, which is about 75 percent louder than the lower level.

In issuing the challenge under the federal Noise Control Act, EPA said OSHA's noise rule would not protect "the public health and welfare to the extent required and feasible." EPA recommends the allowable noise level be reduced to 85 decibels over three years.

When OSHA announced the proposed 90-decibel standard, it said there was not sufficient data to support a reduction to the lower noise level sought by unions.

In disputing the proposal, union safety experts charged that OSHA was more concerned with employer costs than protecting the health of workers.

1-4-75

Reception

Job, Health, Tax Bills Head Labor's Agenda

(Continued from Page 1)

Biemiller said the liberal gains in the congressional elections indicate that health insurance legislation enacted in the 94th Congress will be an improvement over the "slipshod" bill that might have been approved last year and that tax reform will be more comprehensive than the "little pip-squeak reform bill" that died in the 93rd Congress.

He noted that last year a voter registration bill that passed the Senate after a filibuster died in the House when a rule allowing the bill to come to the floor was beaten by six votes.

"I can't imagine that kind of legislation losing in the House in this new Congress," Biemiller said.

In the Senate, he suggested, a consumer agency bill killed by a filibuster last year, now "stands a very good chance of passage."

While the 94th Congress is not "veto-proof" since voting does not follow party lines, the makeup of the new Congress is more likely to produce the two-thirds majority needed to override vetoes. Because of that, Biemiller suggested, there are likely to be fewer vetoes.

Biemiller said he expects the Democratic leadership, particularly in the House, to be more active and try to take up the slack resulting from lack of presidential leadership.

He noted talk of an omnibus bill to deal with the economic crisis. But Biemiller, a former congressman, pointed out that the committee system of the House isn't set up to handle such an omnibus approach. Thus interest rates, which labor considers a key economic problem, fall into the jurisdiction of the House Banking Committee while taxes are dealt with by the Ways & Means Committee.

In terms of personal relationships, Biemiller agreed that the Ford White House is "more open" and that labor can "reach the President, and we intend to continue doing that."

But in terms of presidential action thus far to deal with the economic crisis, "we're not at all happy."

While awaiting the President's State of the Union message, the AFL-CIO is "skeptical" about the likelihood of a changed approach. The Administration's proposals will be dealt with at the AFL-CIO's enlarged General Board meeting a few days after the President's address to Congress, Biemiller said.

JOB-CREATING PROGRAMS top labor's agenda for the new Congress, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said in a radio interview over the Mutual network. He was questioned by Neil MacNeil, left, of Time magazine and Murray Seeger of the Los Angeles Times.

GOP Takes House Seat In Louisiana

Baton Rouge, La.—Republican W. Henson Moore III was elected to the House from Louisiana's 6th Congressional District in a rerun of last November's disputed election.

Moore polled 74,804 votes to 63,351 for Democrat Jeff LaCaze. Labor had backed LaCaze who defeated the ultra-conservative incumbent, John Rarick, in the Democratic primary.

Moore's 44-vote lead in the Nov. 5 election was thrown out because a malfunctioning voting machine failed to register votes cast for LaCaze. After several rounds of court battles, the entire election was rerun on Jan. 7.

The outcome left the makeup of the House in the new 94th Congress at 291 Democrats and 144 Republicans.

In New Hampshire, the state Supreme Court said it had no power to order a rerun of the senatorial election that ended in a virtual dead heat between Republican Louis Wyman and Democrat John Durkin. A recount gave Durkin a 10-vote victory; a state ballot commission countered by declaring Wyman the winner by two votes. The final decision is up to the Senate.

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Ford Program Won't Solve Recession, Cure Inflation

NATION'S TOP TRUCKER, Calvin Lane, talks shop with AFL-CIO President George Meany during a Washington visit with his wife Dorothy. Lane, a member of Directly Affiliated Local Union 366 in Golden, Colo., was selected the Driver of the Year by the American Trucking Association. He has not had a single preventable accident in more than 29 years of driving. Lane is a driver for the transportation division of Coors Brewery.

Meany Says It's Unsupportable, Cites Inequitable Tax Proposals

By David L. Perlman

President Ford's economic program won't end the recession and get America back to work, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned. He said Congress should reject Ford's proposals because they would add to inflation without effectively stimulating the economy or generating jobs.

Ford "largely ignored the unanimous recommendations of his Labor-Management Advisory Committee" for a tax cut to build the purchasing power of low- and middle-income groups, Meany said.

Instead, the President's "clearly inequitable" income tax proposals would provide a "one-shot tax rebate" that would give the biggest benefits to the most affluent. And Meany charged that most families would pay more in price increases tied to the proposed oil tax than they would receive from the permanent tax cut sought by Ford.

He noted that the labor-management committee, on which he served along with leading business executives, decided against a cut in the corporate tax rate and instead adopted a compromise proposal for an increase in the investment tax credit. Ford's response was to propose both forms of tax aid to business.

The concept of a tax cut to provide purchasing power needed to stimulate economic recovery had widespread support—within Congress as well as among union and management leaders. But major differences emerged over the nature of the tax cut—and whether it alone would be sufficient to pull the nation out of a worsening recession.

A House Democratic task force made a stab at arriving at a common program, but refrained from filling in key details in deference to committee jurisdictions and a desire for unanimity.

Meany noted that labor's program will be fleshed out Jan. 23 when the AFL-CIO General Board meets "to recommend emergency measures that can, should and must be taken immediately to restore stability to the economy and get Americans back to work."

Democrats

The House Democratic leadership outlined an "action program" to revive the economy, but left to congressional committees the job of filling in many of the details.

Speaker Carl Albert said he expected the Ways & Means Committee to bring an emergency tax cut bill to the House floor within 60 days. He set a 90-day deadline for other major economic legislation.

The leadership program was developed by a 10-member task force that generally stated the problem forcefully and more mildly suggested some possible courses of action to the committees holding legislative jurisdiction.

Thus, it affirmed that "the quickest way to generate the added purchasing power needed to counter the current recession and to ease the burden of those most damaged by inflation is through tax relief for low- and middle-income families."

The report did not recommend the size of such a tax cut and it listed a wide variety of methods of accomplishing a tax reduction.

It added that the revenue loss "should be recouped to the extent possible by closing the loopholes that now enable large corporations and wealthy individuals to pay little or no taxes."

Its interest rate statement was somewhat more specific, urging both action by the Federal Reserve Board to bring down interest rates and a program of credit allocation to housing and other job-creating, needed programs.

(Continued on Page 11)

Committee

A unanimous labor-management advisory committee told President Ford that the biggest share of tax relief should go to families with low- and middle-level incomes.

It proposed a two-part package of tax reductions "to turn the direction of the economy around" by increasing buying power and stimulating business recovery.

The prestige of the committee members and the fact that normally they are on opposite sides of the table added to the impact of an agreement reflecting "a special need for a sense of community and working together in the national interest at this time."

From the labor side were AFL-CIO President George

(Continued on Page 11)

Ford

President Ford asked Congress for a complex mixture of tax cuts and tax increases in order "to bolster business and industry and to create new jobs."

Ford acknowledged that the State of the Union is "not good" with millions unemployed and prices "too high."

His solution is to raise prices further through a stiff fuel tax, lower both individual and corporation income taxes, and put a tight lid on government spending. Ford asked Congress to limit cost-of-living increases required by law for government workers and retirees, and for millions receiving social security or railroad retirement benefits.

(Continued on Page 11)

1.1 Million Jobs Erased Over Two-Month Span

By Rex Hardesty

New government figures for the end of 1974 reveal that the nation lost a devastating total of 1.1 million jobs in just two months.

As a result, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported, total U.S. employment in December 1974 was actually below what it was in December 1973—wiping out an entire year of the economic growth necessary to sustain an expanding population.

The BLS had previously reported that the nation's unemployment rate had hit 7.1 percent in December, a 13-year high. But the drop in overall employment gives a new dimension of the depth of the recession, since total U.S. employment can continue to go up even when the jobless percentage is rising.

But the total employment was 77.7 million in December, a drop of 675,000 from November. That followed on the heels of a 465,000 drop in the previous month for the two-month total of 1.1 million. In December 1973, total employment was 77.9 million, or 200,000 higher.

Declines in employment were most severe in manufacturing industries, which lost a two-month total of 804,000 jobs from October

(Continued on Page 2)

Breakthrough Pacts Won at 4 Oil Firms

Denver — Four major oil producers have agreed to settlements with the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers on new contracts that provide basic wage increases of nearly 27 percent over two years.

The breakthrough agreements in this year's nationwide bargaining cover more than 21,500 OCAW members employed by Gulf Oil Co., Atlantic Richfield Co., American Oil Co. and Texaco.

Meanwhile, the union has struck the Beaumont, Tex., refinery of Mobil Oil Co. and has served strike notices on other selected Mobil installations across the country.

(Continued on Page 3)

House Democrats Vote New Era on Chairmen

House Democrats voted to replace two veteran committee chairmen in a major break with a once-rigid seniority tradition. A secret ballot vote of the Democratic caucus rejected the renomination of F. Edward Hebert of Louisiana as chairman of the Armed Services Committee and W. R. Poage as chairman of the Agriculture Committee. Both actions were taken by close votes.

Committee chairmen are formally elected by the House, but the unvarying custom has been routine approval of the choices made by the majority party.

Under recently rewritten caucus rules, committee chairmen are initially nominated by the House Democratic steering committee and then presented to the full Democratic caucus for an up or down vote. If a Steering Committee choice is rejected, the panel then submits a new name for consideration. But if this happens, additional nominations can be made from the floor.

Thus, the Steering Committee will propose alternatives to the full

(Continued on Page 12)

Oilers Name McNamara as New President

Louisville, Ky. — John J. McNamara was elected president of the Firemen & Oilers at a special meeting of the union's executive board here. He fills the unexpired term of the late William E. Fredenberger, who died Jan. 6.

Board members also elected George J. Francisco, a vice president, to succeed McNamara as secretary-treasurer.

McNamara has been a member of the Firemen & Oilers since 1934 and served as a local business representative in the Boston area for 26 years.

He was appointed a vice president in 1950 and continued in that post until his election as secretary-treasurer in 1965. He was re-elected at union conventions in 1966 and 1971.

McNamara's father was a former president of the international and his brother had been a business representative for 32 years.

Francisco, a member of the union for 34 years, held a number of key posts with Local 520 in Harmon, N.Y., and also served as president of the union's New York state branch.

He was appointed to the executive board in 1967 and re-elected a vice president at the union's 1971 convention.

NLRB Reports Busiest Year On Record

The National Labor Relations Board handled a record 42,373 cases in the fiscal year ended last June. Most of the cases stemmed from charges of unfair labor practices.

The caseload included 1,296 more cases than in fiscal 1973, the agency's previous record year.

Of the total, 27,726 cases involved charges that employers or unions, or both, had committed unfair practices in violation of the National Labor Relations Act. This was 4.7 percent more than the 26,487 such cases processed a year earlier.

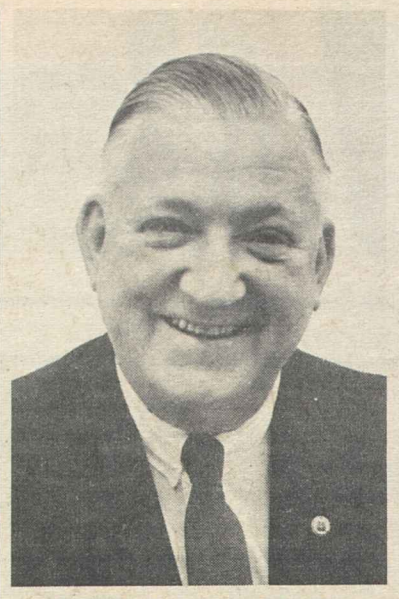
Petitions for employe secret-ballot representation elections totaled 14,082, up slightly from 14,032 the year before. The remainder of the caseload included union-shop de-authorization petitions, amendments to certification petitions and unit clarification petitions.

Through its 31 regional offices, the NLRB distributed $8,445,840 in back pay to 7,041 employes found to have been discriminated against in violation of the federal labor law, the agency noted in its 39th annual report. Of 4,778 workers who were illegally discharged and offered reinstatement, 2,828 accepted.

The board closed 41,100 cases during the year, with a record number of 27,106 stemming from unfair practice charges.

Most of the closings occurred at the regional office level through voluntary settlements or adjustments by the parties involved, voluntary withdrawals or administrative dismissals.

A total of 8,976 conclusive elections of all types were conducted by the NLRB during the fiscal year. In those elections where workers decided whether to have a labor organization as a bargaining representative, unions won in 4,273 proceedings, or 51 percent, the board reported.



JOHN J. McNAMARA

GEORGE J. FRANCISCO

Meany Cites Slaughter Of Vietnamese Unionists

AFL-CIO President George Meany said that a refusal by the United States to extend further aid to South Vietnam "would undoubtedly stop the fighting but most certainly not stop killing."

Meany's statement came in a letter to President Ford, congressional leaders of both parties and key members of the Armed Services and Foreign Relations committees of Congress. Meany included in his letter a cable he had received from Tran Quoc Buu, president of the Vietnamese Confederation of Labor (CVT).

Buu cabled Meany that two CVT province leaders "and thousands of members of our rubber plantation workers' union, all civilians, (were) slaughtered by Communists, who were backed by Russian tanks, artillery and limitless ammunition" during the fall of Phuoc Binh.

Buu said that if the "Communists are allowed to dominate (the) country . . . there is no place for anti-Communists to go in South Vietnam but to (a) firing squad."

The text of Meany's letter:

The following telegram was received this morning from the President of the South Vietnam's free trade union movement, Mr. Tran Quoc Buu:

"Dear President Meany:

"South Vietnam's free trade union movement has taken another hard blow. Phuoc Binh's fall and resulting Communist capture of Phuoc Long province is disappointing military setback and another flagrant violation of Paris agreement.

"More important than a military loss for we lost two more CVT province leaders and thousands of members of our rubber plantation workers' union, all civilians, slaughtered by Communists who were backed by Russian tanks, artillery and limitless ammunition. I ask you to kindly tell your countrymen that without sufficient ammunition and supplies our brave soldiers cannot hope to hold back the bloodthirsty Communist horde. CVT will be first casualty if Communists are allowed to dominate country. This will be our destiny based on experience of 1954 when all union brothers in the north were jailed or disappeared after Communist takeover. We cannot escape to the south as in 1954. There is no place for anti-Communists to go in South Vietnam but to firing squad. Please tell your people that our only hope is for American government to provide us the necessary support for without it the world Communist conspiracy will add one more satellite to its orbit. Tran Quoc Buu."

I am sending this for your information as, within the last few days, a responsible leader in the Congress was quoted as saying that the refusal to extend further American aid to South Vietnam would certainly bring an end to the fighting and the killing.

It is obvious from the wire from the leader of the South Vietnam free labor movement that such refusal would undoubtedly stop the fighting but most certainly not stop the killing.

IBEW Official Paul Menger Dies

Paul H. Menger, director of manufacturing operations for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, died Jan. 11 at Northern Virginia Doctors Hospital. He was 55.

Menger had been a member of the IBEW since 1940 and held a number of key offices in Local 1127 in Richmond, Ind., following service in World War II. He was named an international representative in 1948 and appointed to head the manufacturing operations department in 1955.

He also served as a member of the U.S. worker delegation to the International Labor Organization. Survivors include one son and one daughter.

Growth Wiped Out:

Total Employment Drops Over Year

(Continued from Page 1)

to December. Continuing a year-long decline, construction jobs were off another 50,000 in December, a total loss of 305,000 jobs from the same month the year before.

Retail trade lost 135,000 jobs, but overall employment in the service-producing sector was up 1.3 million for the year—a figure which was more than offset by the 1.5 million job loss in manufacturing.

In another survey, covering the final quarter of 1974, the Labor Dept. also found a "sharp increase" in the number of discouraged workers, defined by the bureau as workers who want a job but have given up hunting because they don't think they can find one.

That figure rose to 850,000, up from 592,000 in the third quarter.

The total job loss between quarters was put at only one-half million on a quarterly basis, reflecting the sharply declining economy in December, the final month of the quarter being reported. Thus the tailspin in employment at the end of the quarter indicates a worsening picture to carry into the first quarter of 1974.

The employment situation in December 1974 also showed a drop in the average workweek, including a dip below 40 hours in manufacturing for the second straight month, while average weekly earnings for production or nonsupervisory workers in nonfarm employment increased 1.2 percent for the month, up 6.9 percent over December 1973.

The make-up of the year-end decline in manufacturing jobs showed about an equal amount of loss between the durable and nondurable industries.

The 335,000 jobs lost in durable goods manufacturing between November and December was led by drops of 70,000 jobs in electrical equipment, 65,000 in transportation equipment, 55,000 in primary metals and 50,000 in fabricated metals.

In nondurable goods, the loss was led by 55,000 in apparel, with rubber and plastics, textiles and chemicals also suffering losses termed "sizable" by the Labor Dept.

The quarter-to-quarter comparison of labor force developments showed a 4 percent unemployment rate among heads of household, up from 2.8 percent the previous year and 3.2 percent in the previous quarter.

For female heads of household—traditionally among the lowest-paid workers in the nation—the unemployment rate was 6.8 percent, up from 5 percent the previous quarter.

Other figures showed jobless rates of:

- 11.8 percent for all blacks, compared to 8.6 percent the year before and a current 5.9 percent rate for whites.
- 8.2 percent for those of Spanish origin.
- 36.6 percent for Negro teenagers and 15.2 percent for white teenagers.
- 13.1 percent for the youngest category (20-24) of veterans, compared to 9.5 percent for young non-veterans.

Safety Council's R. M. Wilkins Dies

Chicago—Robert M. Wilkins, secretary of the National Safety Council's Labor Conference and manager of the NSC labor department, died Jan. 5 after a long bout with cancer.

Wilkins, 51, had been a member of the Machinists and the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers. Before he joined the NSC in 1958, Wilkins was a safety and process engineer and a tool and die maker. He headed the safety council's labor department since 1962.

Entertainment Unions Set Guidelines On Bicentennial Cultural Exchanges

American entertainment unions have reached agreement on a program to provide a multinational cultural exchange of theatrical and musical events for the 1975-76 bicentennial celebration.

Guidelines for the staffing and production of the events in the United States and in foreign countries were worked out in discussions with the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees and the World Theater Festival.

The agreement was announced by Hal C. Davis, chairman of the council's Arts, Entertainment & Media Industries Committee, following discussions with Alexander H. Cohen, producer of the festival.

Davis said the understanding was developed over the council's concern that the economic interests of American performers and cultural groups should not be impaired by the indiscriminate importation of foreign artists and troupes.

"We are confident that if these guidelines are observed," Davis said, "new and meaningful employment opportunities will be opened to American theater companies while the American public will be assured of opportunities to experience truly unique and distinguished presentations of the world's finest foreign-language theater."

A key provision of the understanding is the arrangement for eight-week tours of five top American resident theater companies in foreign countries, Davis noted.

American troupes making the foreign tours will be the Arena Stage of Washington, D.C., American Conservatory Theater of San Francisco, the Negro Ensemble Co. of New York, the Tyrone Guthrie Theater of Minneapolis and the New Phoenix Repertory Co. of New York. Appearances are scheduled for Edinburgh, London, Paris, Oslo, Belgrade, Tel Aviv and Rome.

While the U.S. companies are on their foreign tours, distinguished groups from other countries will perform in American cities during the bicentennial celebration.

The agreement also provides for a domestic touring schedule for the five American companies.

Other highlights:

- No more than 12 foreign troupes performing in English and foreign languages will be involved. To assure that English-speaking foreign companies will not deprive American companies of employment, the size and length of engagements of U.S. companies on foreign tours will match those of foreign groups touring the United States.
- No public funds will be solicited or used for the appearance of any foreign group.
- Foreign companies will not be permitted to monopolize the use of American stages for extended periods, jeopardizing appearances of domestic groups. Foreign engagements will be limited to five weeks in any theater or hall.
- Unions maintain their right to negotiate and administer collective bargaining agreements conforming to their own policies.

Participating in the discussions in addition to Davis, who is the president of the Musicians, were representatives of Actors' Equity, Theatrical Stage Employes, Television & Radio Artists and the Musical Artists.

The World Theater Festival is expected to cost about $5 million, with contributions coming from the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and donors.

Michigan Is First:

State Jobless Rates Near Double Digits

Michigan has stepped over the threshhold and California and New Jersey are feared to be near a new milestone in the nation's economic disaster—double-digit unemployment.

With one of every three blue-collar workers in Detroit now estimated to be on layoff of some type, the state of Michigan reported an 11.2 percent jobless rate for December.

Double-digit inflation has been going on for months, with the December consumer price index expected to show calendar year 1974 with a cost-of-living increase rate in excess of 12 percent.

But until the massive layoffs of late 1974 in the automobile industry started to show in the Michigan jobless rate, no state had crossed into double-digit unemployment.

The figures aren't in for New Jersey for December, but its unemployment rate stood at 9.5 percent in November, leaving the possibility of joining Michigan in double figures before the end of 1974.

California's unemployment rate stood at 9 percent in December, and according to a United Press International survey of states, California officials are pessimistic about what the next month's figures will show.

Workers in Illinois and Texas have fared the best. In November, Texas had an unemployment rate of 4.8 percent and the Illinois figure was 5.4 percent, both under the 7.1 percent rate the nation hit in December.

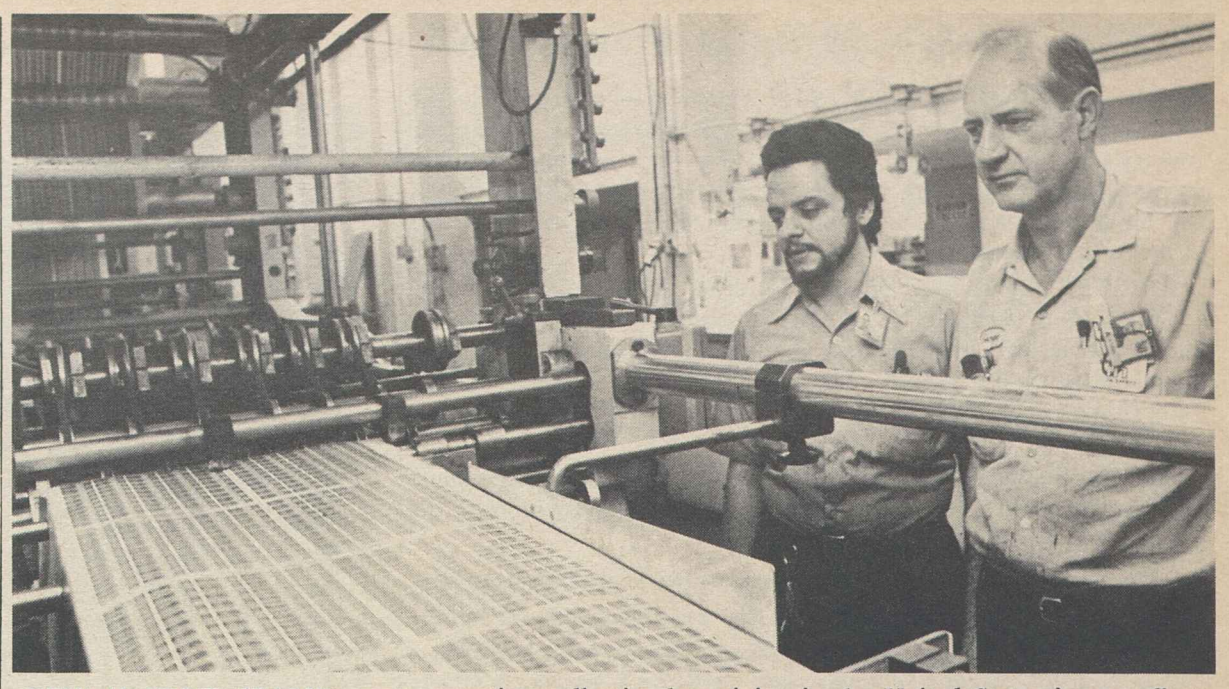
Two of the other largest industrial states, New York and Ohio, fell in between, better off than the national average but well above the Texas and Illinois rates. New York's jobless rate was 6.8 percent in November while Ohio, which has the second largest concentration of auto manufacturers, jumped from 6.1 percent unemployed in November to 6.8 percent in December.

The big three of auto manufacturing, Chrysler, Ford and General Motors, began their first full week of 1975 production with 244,000 of their normal 669,000 assembly workers laid off.

Other than the auto industry, the biggest layoffs were coming in copper mining, and news of recession level unemployment in Canada was keeping abreast of the United States—where 1.1 million jobs were lost in the last two months of 1974 and government figures showed a civilian labor force in December of less than December 1973.

Production of copper was scheduled to be cut back by about 9 percent by the Phelps Dodge Corp. at its four major western mines, and Bethlehem Copper announced plans for staged layoffs at its Canadian mines.

In other cutbacks and layoffs, the GAF Corp. said it had laid off or put on short-time about 2,700 workers, or 23 percent of its total production workers; operating companies of American Telephone & Telegraph in New Jersey and New England were reporting further layoffs, and the Chicopee Manufacturing Co. said it was closing its Manchester, N.H., cotton-textile plant, terminating 450 workers.



NEW 10-CENT STAMP commemorating collective bargaining in the United States is run off at the Bureau of Engraving & Printing. Monitoring the press run of 150 million copies of the stamp are members of Machinists Local 2135 Robert Calvert, left, and George Schmerbeck. The stamp will go on sale at post offices in a few months.

NLRB Issues Bargaining Order To Western Union Subsidiaries

A company cannot decentralize its operations into separate units in an attempt to replace union workers with non-union employes and then refuse to deal with the recognized bargaining agent of the parent firm's staff.

Western Union Corp. got that message from a National Labor Relations Board administrative law judge, who found the company guilty of unfair labor practices and ordered it to bargain with the Telegraph Workers.

Even though Western Union was split up into six different firms, NLRB Law Judge Marion C. Ladwig ruled that the company is still "a single integrated enterprise and a single employer for the purposes of collective bargaining."

Western Union began its restructuring operation in 1970 by transferring many of its functions to newly incorporated non-union companies. But all along, it continued to operate as a single integrated entity, the NLRB decision noted.

Western Union not only failed to notify the Telegraph Workers in advance about its fragmentation operation, Ladwig said, "but it concealed from the union the plans to operate the new companies on a non-union basis until after the 1971 collective bargaining negotiations."

It all started with the Western Union Telegraph Co., which the Telegraph Workers had organized in 1945, except for the New York division that is represented by a different union.

But after 1970, came the Western Union Corp., a holding company that eventually took over the telegraph company and operated it as a subsidiary. Other companies that emerged in the corporate fragmentation were the Western Union Realty Corp., Western Union Data Services Co., Inc., Teleprocessing Industries, Inc., and Gift America, Inc.

As the new corporations became functional, non-bargaining unit personnel were transferred to the firms. But the telegraph company continued to provide the necessary facilities, services and bargaining unit workers to carry on the operations.

The NLRB findings noted that many of the inter-company contractual arrangements were on a verbal basis and that even after arrangements were put in writing, they were often back-dated—months after the services had begun.

The Telegraph Workers soon became aware that its members were being replaced by non-union workers who were employed in jobs normally held by union members.

But when the union sought to bargain for all units in the 1973 contract negotiations, Western Union refused, declaring that the subsidiary firms were "separate and distinct" companies.

Since the Western Union reorganization began, it's estimated that the number of workers represented by the union had dropped to about 12,000—about half of the original representation.

Ladwig concluded that the issue in the case is not whether the fragmentation of the company was necessary or good for business practice, but whether the overall certified bargaining unit remained intact.

Despite the various reasons cited by the company for "corporate restructuring," Ladwig said that NLRB findings established there is an interrelation of operations, centralized control of labor relations, common management, common ownership and financial control of the six companies.

He concluded that Western Union's refusal to recognize the Telegraph Workers as the collective bargaining representative for the employes of the six companies is a violation of federal labor law.

Grape, Lettuce Boycott Given Worldwide Focus

A solid front of support for the Farm Workers is being built with an expanding international consumer boycott of non-UFW California grapes and lettuce.

AFL-CIO President George Meany alerted labor officials of the Scandinavian countries of the need for additional support of the UFW grape and lettuce boycott.

In a message to trade union officials in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, Meany said the AFL-CIO would appreciate an expression of solidarity with the UFW through the observance of the consumer boycott.

Meany was assured by the Nordic trade union council that a study had been conducted to determine the most effective approach in supporting the UFW effort.

The worldwide focus of the boycott was given additional impetus by a resolution adopted by the executive board of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

All affiliates of the ICFTU were urged to organize boycotts in their home countries during January and February and to take "any further action that may be appropriate in their national circumstances."

The added emphasis of the boycott in European countries stems from the expectation that growers will attempt to unload surplus grapes and lettuce left unsold in the United States and Canada because of the effectiveness of the AFL-CIO consumer boycott, which also has the support of the Auto Workers and the Canadian Labor Congress.

UFW President Cesar Chavez informed the ICFTU that the growers had 7.9 million boxes of grapes in cold storage in 1974, compared to 4.6 million the year before when there was no boycott.

Chavez warned that there is increasing danger the growers will dump the unsold grapes on the European market.

In addition to the ICFTU action, the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural & Allied Workers pledged efforts to reinforce the UFW struggle for survival against the growers and Teamsters.

Spouse of Auxiliaries Director Dies at 64

Donald K. Porter, husband of Novella Porter, executive director of the AFL-CIO National Auxiliaries, died at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington after a short illness. He was 64.

Porter retired in 1969 after 40 years as a journeyman electrician in the Washington area. In addition to Mrs. Porter he is survived by a son and daughter and four grandchildren.

Four Major Oil Firms Reach Pattern Accords

(Continued from Page 1)

Local OCAW units were also preparing to strike facilities of Ashland Oil Co., Standard Oil of Ohio and the Union Oil Co.

However, negotiations were continuing with several other major producers and a number of smaller oil firms. All of the union's 430 local contracts covering 60,000 workers expired Jan. 7.

Gulf Oil was the first of the major producers to reach accord with the union. The Gulf settlement came Jan. 10 and was described by OCAW President A. F. Grospiron as a "good, heavy package" that would become the "minimum standard" for other companies.

The Arco agreement came late Jan. 14, a few hours after an earlier company proposal had been rejected by OCAW negotiators because it did not meet the standard of the Gulf pattern.

Agreement was reached with Amoco and Texaco Jan. 16. The union said the Arco, Amoco and Texaco agreements meet or exceed the minimum standards of the Gulf contract in wages and fringe benefits.

Under the newly-negotiated agreements, OCAW members receive an immediate increase of 75 cents an hour plus a 4 percent raise in July. An additional 8 percent increase will go into effect next January.

Inflation protection is also provided in the second year of the contract through a wage reopener clause, which will become effective after the government's consumer price index rises 5 percent above the Jan. 1, 1976, level. If no agreement is reached on wages, the union will be free to strike.

Average wages will increase under the two-year formula from $5.83 an hour under the old contracts to $7.39 an hour effective next January, the union said.

The new agreements also reduce the effective retirement age from 62 to 60 without a reduction in benefits. But a 5 percent reduction in benefits will be applied for each year below age 60.

The pension benefits formula will be based on the three highest consecutive years paid in the last 10 years before retirement, compared to the five highest years of the last 10 under the old agreements.

The new minimum pension benefits will be $10 per month for every year of service.

The four firms agreed to increase contributions to medical insurance for families by $15 a month—$7.50 effective immediately and a similar amount next January. Contributions for individual members will increase $2.50 now and $2.50 next year for a total of $5.

A 10th paid holiday, still to be determined, is included in the benefits package.

The 94th's Bright Promise

THE OPENING OF THE 94th Congress—some call it the bicentennial Congress because it will be meeting during the country's 200th celebration of its founding—is a moment of bright promise. For the first time in a decade the House of Representatives will have a more liberal complexion and the Senate will continue to move in a liberal direction.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller says the 1974 elections produced a net shift of about 40 members "to the liberal persuasion" in the House along with an improvement in the liberal thrust of the Senate. The result may be the passage in the 94th Congress of labor-backed legislation that fell short by a few votes in the 93rd.

And the liberal margins may be helpful both in overriding some of President Ford's promised vetoes as well as possibly limiting the number coming from the White House.

The question still remains, however, "how liberal" will be the final record of the 94th Congress. The result depends on many variables, including the leadership that emerges from the Congress and the quality of leadership offered by President Ford and the White House.

The type of confrontation coupled with indifferent leadership that marked the relationship between former President Nixon and the last Congress will obviously fall far short of the sort of cooperation and accommodation needed to pull the country out of the current recession, to put America back to work at decent jobs for decent wages.

THERE IS A LONG AGENDA of unfinished business carried over from the 93rd Congress, and while the improved liberal complexion of the new Congress may help bring decisive action on job creation programs, tax reform and national health insurance, among other issues, the role of the White House and its generally conservative approach to policy problems pose a major hurdle.

How the Congress acquits itself will reflect in large part the influence of the new members elected in 1974, an election that was marked by a number of departures from conventional political wisdom and faith.

The elections disclosed, for example, that coattails apparently vanished as a factor, and ticket-splitting and sophisticated voter selectivity reached "epidemic proportions." It demonstrated also that a small vote, once thought to be routinely conservative, was more often than not a liberal vote in 1974.

The 1974 elections, because of the Watergate climate that dominated the period, brought out the largest field of superior liberal candidates in memory, mostly Democrats, resulting in part in the new liberal flavor of the House.

The Class of 1974, writes COPE Research Director Mary Goddard Zon, "will include some of the most attractive and best prepared new congressmen in recent history."

This is the moment of bright promise then that marks the opening of the 94th Congress. And all of that promise, along with the grueling, dedicated work of shaping necessary legislation to turn the country around will be needed in the next two years.

There is no better way for this Congress to truly become a bicentennial Congress.

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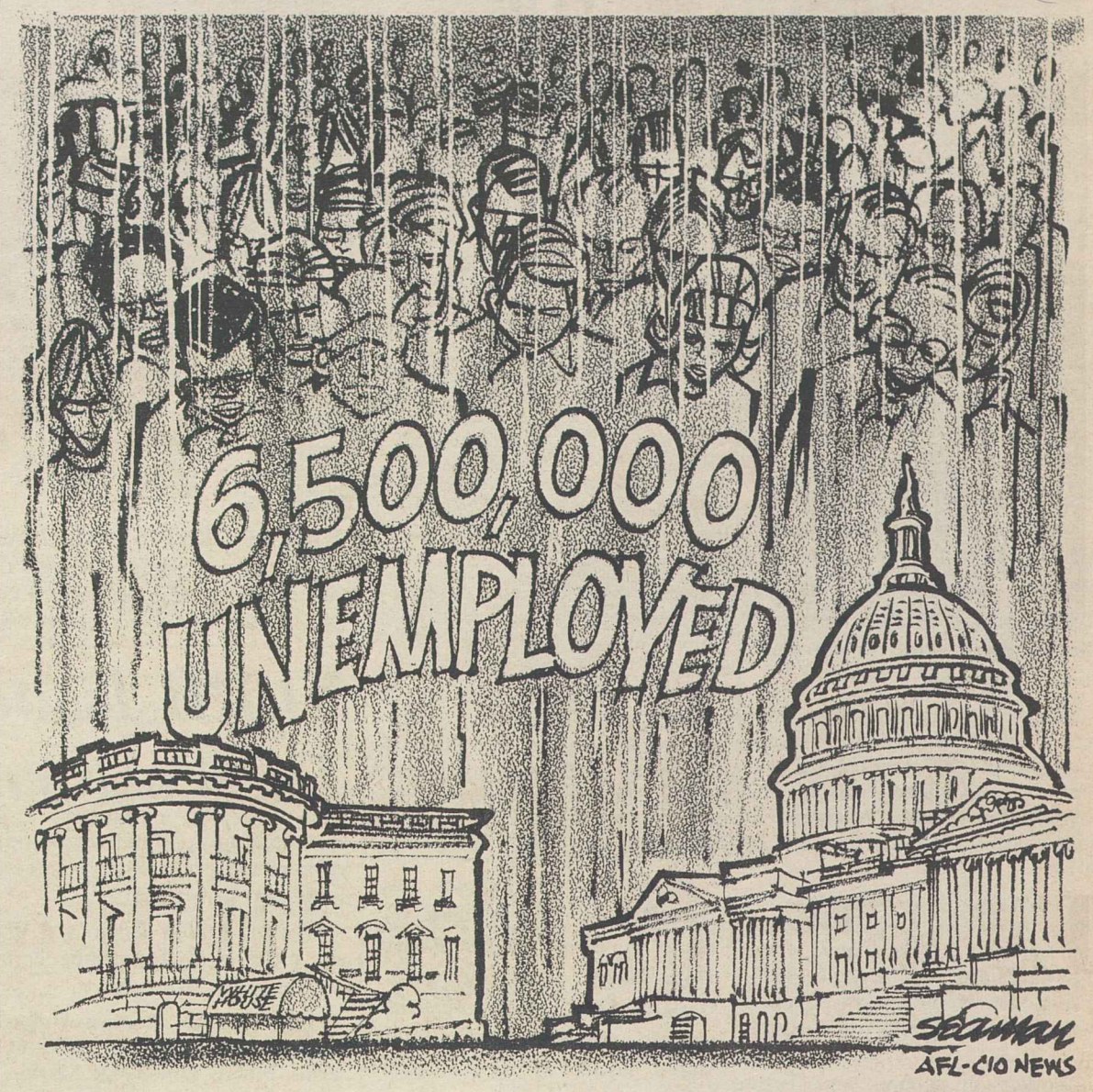
The Watch on the Potomac



A Word Edgewise:

Revival of Gunboat Diplomacy Pops Up in Mideast War Talk

By John P. Roche

RIGHT NOW Washington seems to be full of tigers eager and willing to use force to protect "western civilization" from the Arab oil cartel. As I suggested here, I don't think any of these fire-eaters have bothered to look at a map or to assess the extent to which our conventional war capacity has been run down since the "arsenal of democracy" was turned into the "military-industrial complex." All this loose talk makes me decidedly nervous: It reminds me too much of the national mood about Southeast Asia in the early and middle 1960s. There is also the same correlation between militancy and distance from the shooting.

Back in the winter of 1964-65, for example, the Army Chief of Staff and the Commandant of the Marine Corps took a very dim view of prospects in Vietnam. Indeed, they were telling every friendly journalist—notably Hanson Baldwin of the Times—that Vietnam would involve a million American soldiers. These were the men whose troops would be out there in the bush.

But this pessimism was frowned on, and fortuitously the Air Force and the Navy were out there front and center with their plan for a cut-rate war. Working in tandem with enthusiastic civilians in the Dept. of Defense, State and the White House (whom we skeptics dubbed the "Air Marshals"), they convinced the President that airpower could "punish" Hanoi into behaving nicely towards Saigon. I think they honestly believed that the minute U.S. planes buzzed North Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh would come running out with a white flag.

Similarly, discussions today seem to assume the full cooperation of a potential enemy. Our whole NATO strategy (to the extent that we have one) is founded on Soviet cooperation (or "rationality" as the game planners put it). The scenario runs roughly as follows: 1) the Warsaw Pact powers attack with overwhelming conventional strength; 2) NATO, faced with defeat, utilizes very small and well-targeted nuclear weapons to indicate to the Soviets that we are serious; 3) the Soviets recognize that we are serious and call off the invasion.

This is delightfully "rational," but suppose those nasty irrational Russians take a different tack: Instead of going to the conference table to negotiate, they let go with their tactical nukes—which are big, poorly targeted, and dirty. Rather than carefully destroying tank parks or airfields, they turn most of the cities of Western Europe into radioactive ashes. Then what do we do? Will we be "rational" and, realizing that the Soviets are serious, go to the negotiating table? Or would we launch a central nuclear war? (That is, loose the ICBMs and other strategic nuclear systems on the Soviet heartland.)

The reason I raise this appalling question is my conviction that there can be no such thing as "limited" nuclear war unless you work out in advance with the enemy all the rules to be followed (and provide them with small, "clean," nuclear warheads). To state the proposition is to negate it—while in a war game you can program the enemy, in a war he plays his own hand.

THE SCENARIOS that are now being discussed in Georgetown circles have the same ring of unreality. The underlying assumption is that Moscow would sit idly by as our armed forces occupy Libya, the Persian Gulf, or Saudi Arabia. Presumably the Politburo has a shared concern for the survival of "western civilization." I believe the contrary: that Moscow would see such insane adventurism as the perfect pretext for consolidating its power in the Middle East and Gulf region.

The first obvious item on the agenda would be the extermination of Israel while our mobile forces were off on some oily diversion. Lord knows, we had trouble enough last time getting emergency supplies to Israel—indeed, we had trouble finding the stuff to send without drawing down our own stocks. If we were engaged ourselves in military operations, our needs would take precedence.

I have avoided the moral question for the simple reason that this revival of gunboat diplomacy is worse than immoral; it is stupid. Maybe I run pessimistic, but I am prepared flatly to predict that any military safari in search of oil would in the long run cost more than laying out $11 a barrel to the Arabs. So let's stop the silly talk and start digging coal.

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... St. Louis

Layoffs Plunge Michigan Into Despair

Detroit — Michigan is well on its way to becoming the nation's number one unemployment disaster area unless quick government action is taken to bolster the economy.

Figures released early this month by the Michigan Employment Security Commission showed there were 430,300 jobless workers in the state during December, amounting to 11.2 percent of the work force.

And those figures don't tell the whole story. They were based on computations made through Dec. 13. Since that time layoffs have steadily mounted, mainly in auto and auto supplier plants, but also extending into nearly every portion of the state's economy.

At his Jan. 7 announcement of the December jobless figures, Employment Security Director S. Martin Taylor reported that "every week for the past four weeks, we have had over 50,000 new applicants for unemployment benefits."

The December unemployment rate, according to Taylor, is the highest for Michigan since MESC began keeping comparable records in 1956. It is more than double the December 1973 rate of 5.4 percent.

Things are worst in the state's auto producing centers. The six-county area of Metropolitan Detroit had a jobless rate of 12.4 percent for December. The number of unemployed rose from 174,700 in November to 229,300, an increase of 54,600 in one month.

Flint, where the workforce at the huge Buick plant has dropped by more than 50 percent in the past year, is estimated to have at least a 12 percent unemployment rate. Saginaw, Muskegon and other, smaller Michigan cities dominated by the auto industry, also have higher jobless rates than the state as a whole.

The so-called ripple effect of auto layoffs has swamped the construction industry.

Unionists in the building trades estimate that 25 percent of their members are out of work.

Pete McManus, business agent for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 17 in Detroit, observed: "We were wiped out the day before Christmas."

That was when, according to McManus, private contractors shut down construction jobs, leaving Local 17 with only 20 members working out of 800 who had been employed by the contractors.

The Jobs Crisis

McManus is bitter at what the slump has done to the union's program to train new journeymen.

"Last year they said the country needed 10,000 more linemen to maintain our energy needs. Our local graduated 150 journeymen linemen. Now every one of them is out of work, and I don't expect to see many of them ever return to the trade even if times get better.

"We're going to pay for this in the future," McManus concluded.

Retail stores throughout the state are beginning to cut payrolls as sales decline. Two of Michigan's biggest retailers, J. L. Hudson and Sears Roebuck, both have pink-slipped employes.

Food stores, too, are contributing to the economic decline. Horace Brown, president of the 23,000-member Retail Clerks Local 876, says that while supermarkets have had few layoffs, working hours have been cut from 5 to 7 percent "and that means our members are earning less."

Brown feels that supermarkets "panicked." So far, grocery sales have not dropped, he says. "Food is the last place people cut back, but store owners began reducing hours when the auto layoffs first began."

Ironically, the layoffs have helped Local 876 in its organizing drive at J. L. Hudson and the remaining unorganized Sears stores. Workers at the non-union stores, seeing their supposed job security threatened, have been signing up in the union at an unprecedented rate.

Jobs in the public sector, traditionally considered "safe," have not been exempt from the Michigan slump.

The city of Detroit, already suffering from declining revenues, laid off 1,500 workers shortly after the first of the year. Those furloughed ranged from sanitation workers and zoo attendants to attorneys.

Walter Oliver, president of Council 55 of the State, County & Municipal Employees, which represents city, county, township and school workers outside the Detroit area, reports that layoffs have hit his union membership "everywhere from Ann Arbor to the Upper Peninsula."

The cutbacks, Oliver says, have been in every type of employment classification and at every level of government, affecting hospital facilities, road commissions, schools and municipal governments.

The only place where the job market has shown an upturn is at the Michigan Employment Security Commission.

More than 1,000 additional workers have been hired to service the growing number of unemployed, with another 400 due to be added during this month.

MESC has also opened 24 additional offices throughout the state, but even with these in operation the lines of claimants are long, often extending out into the streets.

Thousands of workers, many off work since the energy "crisis" a year ago, had exhausted all their unemployment benefits by the time the Federal Supplemental Benefits program went into effect in Michigan this month. This program can provide up to 13 additional weeks of benefits, and claims offices were jammed the week it went into operation.

No one really knows yet how deep the suffering of Michigan's jobless goes. Unemployment compensation and supplemental unemployment benefits (SUB) have enabled many laid-off workers and their families at least to keep their heads above water. Younger workers, many of them ineligible for full compensation benefits or SUB payments, are worse off.

There is genuine alarm in the state as to what will happen if the job situation does not improve. SUB funds are reported to be dangerously low and benefit exhaustions are certain to rise.

The articles that appear on this and the following three pages attempt to clothe the cold government statistics with facts on how the nation's surging unemployment is affecting its people.

The statistics alone are enough to prove that America is in trouble. But behind them lie thousands of stories of human tragedy, family disruptions and economically stricken communities.

The reports on these pages, gathered from various regions of the country, are linked by a common and ominous theme—the mood of fear and desperation that is quietly but steadily building in America as the jobless rolls grow.

Jobless Rate 'Tip of Iceberg'

Official Labor Dept. reports counting more than 6.5 million American workers as unemployed in December, 7.1 percent of the labor force, are really only "the tip of the iceberg," according to AFL-CIO Economist Markley Roberts.

Roberts noted the following disturbing facts underlying recent unemployment statistics:

- A 62 percent increase in the past 12 months in the number of household heads officially counted as unemployed. In December, 2,379,000 heads of households were jobless.
- A 68 percent increase during the same period in the number of married men counted unemployed in December—nearly 1.5 million as compared with 872,000 in December 1973.
- A 77 percent increase in the number of workers unemployed 15 weeks and over from December 1973 to December 1974.

The Labor Dept. also reported that 845,000 workers were "discouraged" in the fourth quarter of 1974—an increase of 250,000 over the third quarter. "Discouraged workers" are those who want a job but have stopped looking because they think work is not available.

This bloc of "hidden unemployed" doesn't show up in the department's monthly releases because to be counted as unemployed a worker has to be seeking work.

Roberts estimated the true number of "hidden unemployed" at nearly double the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimate—or about 1.5 million workers.

Even sticking with official figures, Roberts pointed out that more than 10.7 million people have job problems in America —6.5 million unemployed, 850,000 "hidden unemployed" and 3.35 million working part-time for economic reasons.

"With recent layoffs since the December unemployment figures were collected and with the understating of the number of discouraged workers, I estimate 12 million people with serious job problems," Roberts said.

"This suggests a 13 percent 'real' unemployment rate—or one of every eight workers unemployed or underemployed."

Roberts said the two-month rise of 1 million unemployed for November and December is "unmatched, extraordinary" in post World War II years.

Unemployment among blacks and other minorities, he continued, is also higher than at any time since the post-World War II years—12.8 percent in December — and inner-city unemployment is even higher.

He also noted that only 22 percent of the industries surveyed by BLS are hiring today. A year ago 75 percent were hiring.

When President Ford announced his "WIN" program in October, Roberts concluded, there were 86.5 million civilian jobs in the United States. In December, the number of jobs had dropped by 1,335,000.

Jobless Disaster Threatens California

Job Lines Growing Longer As Slump Batters Chicago

Chicago — Widespread unemployment hit Chicago before Christmas like a bitter winter storm.

Newly laid-off workers express a mood of resignation verging on despair as they stand in long, slow-moving lines to file claims for benefits at the state unemployment compensation office, just south of the loop.

A 52-year-old machine operator in a muffler plant with 11 years seniority said, "We knew it was coming. We'd been on four days for several weeks. They called us all together around 3:30 Monday and said, 'That's it.'" We asked them how long and they said they didn't know. They shut the whole plant down indefinitely."

He will get about $60 a week unemployment. "It's not enough to live on hardly, but we'll have to make out somehow."

A 26-year-old woman who packed carburetors said, "I think we're close to a depression."

A 65-year-old woman standing nearby said, "They won't hire you if you are 65. I've been everywhere, I already used up my 26 weeks. First you get 26 weeks of unemployment compensation, then if you work for awhile you can come back and get another 13 weeks. I'm on the 13 weeks. I am still looking for work every day. Somehow I'll make it."

"The lines are longer every week," said a 40-year-old factory worker, among 400 laid off at his plant. "I've been to seven places already today (it was 11 a.m.) and it's the same everywhere: 'We just filled it,' 'Nothing open,' 'Not hiring.'"

A 26-year-old bank teller echoed: "There's nothing open. I looked and looked. I borrow from my mother to get by. Unemployment's not enough."

A 38-year-old shipping clerk with six children said, "They give you a little bit more (in unemployment compensation benefits) for each child. But only up to four children. For the 5th and 6th, there's nothing added. What's the matter? Aren't they supposed to eat too?" He had visited 40 places in three days looking for work.

A 30-year-old nursing home attendant said, "If you got kids, you're in trouble." He was among 40 employes laid off "indefinitely" because of a business slowdown and cost cutting drive.

Many city workers said there were jobs in the suburbs. But in the unemployment office in suburban Maywood, west of the city, the lines were just as long and the worry just as piercing.

A jobless Sheet Metal Worker with four teenage children, who will get the maximum in weekly benefits, $105, said, "More than half of my local is out of work right now. We'll just have to get by somehow."

Further along in line a 20-year-old baker said, "It's incredible. There are never layoffs in a cookie factory at this time of year. It's our busiest time. It's never happened. But sugar's up 200 percent in price, sales are down. They're cutting back. Everybody's laying off. There's nowhere to go. That's why I'm here standing in line."

"It's horrible for me," said a 53-year-old TV technician. He was among thousands of workers in a major TV manufacturing plant who were given short-term layoffs with a promise of another two-week shutdown later.

Theresa Hawkins and Gloria Christopher are two young women who work at the State of Illinois Unemployment Compensation Office. They work on the counters, handling the claims, questions and problems of thousands of unemployed Chicagoans that come to their office each week.

"It's really rough right now and the lines are four times as long as they were two months ago," Gloria said. "Most people have three to four kids and the money's just not enough.

"So they are depresed, worried, angry, and sometimes they take it out on me. I try to be helpful, to see they understand and get what's coming to them."

Theresa Hawkins observed: "They resent having to stand in line, having to wait two weeks or more for their benefits. They say, 'It's my money. Why do I have to stand in line for what's already mine?'

"There is more tension now. This time of year I think, I would feel just despair.

"And you know the first thing someone does when they're laid-off? They look for another job. They don't come here the first day—maybe after a week or two of looking. By the time they get here, they see there are no jobs and they know they might be in for a long time of it.

"Sometimes when I get to work in the morning, the line is clear out the door and around the corner. I just feel like getting back on the bus."

15% Unemployment Rate Estimated to Grip State

Los Angeles—California, the nation's most populous state, is the victim of the worst ravages of the nation's economic plight.

Long considered the "brightest land of opportunity" California—and Los Angeles, its biggest city, specifically—is teetering on the brink of disaster.

Reason: people—lots of them. Twenty million, plus.

"If the truth were known, our total unemployment figure would be about 15 percent."

That came from an official of the state's unemployment insurance agency. He asked not to be identified.

Officially recorded statistics on the jobless rate, as well as unemployment insurance claims, as of Dec. 31, were detailed by Larry Neron, Los Angeles County section chief for state insurance benefits in the California Employment Development Dept.

According to Neron, the state's jobless rate has bobbed between 8.7 percent and 9 percent since the last day of 1974.

That translates into some 780,600 persons without jobs. In Los Angeles County, the elusive percentage was 8.4 on Dec. 31, or 250,500 unemployed.

However, as of the same date, only some 385,000 persons were recorded as having applied for, and received, jobless benefits throughout the state—a maximum of $90 per week.

There is no great mystery surrounding this disparity in the figures. Many persons had exhausted benefits, but more importantly, many still haven't begun taking advantage of the special unemployment assistance program which became effective Jan. 6.

This is a 13-week extension of benefits which includes previously non-covered groups, such as farm workers, domestics and government employes, part of a federal assistance program which recently became law.

Once those persons eligible under this plan begin filing for benefits "official" jobless figures are expected to climb rapidly toward the million mark in the "Golden State."

State agencies have tended to play the numbers game so prevalent on the national scene—percentages of this and that compared with that and this related to a comparable period. . . .

Now there's some straight talk.

"The (work) situation ranges from bad to horrible," said Calvin Emery, business manager of Plumbers Local 78 in Los Angeles.

"High rise jobs are dead. There are just no new starts of plans on the boards because of tight money. Ditto for apartment house construction."

Emery said unemployment in his local of several thousand in construction is quickly approaching 25 percent.

"We got a lot of people on unemployment benefits who never used it before. And a good many have taken traveler cards to seek work elsewhere—wherever that is."

Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., in his inaugural address labeled unemployment the state's No. 1 problem, and his first official act was to issue an executive order

The Jobs Crisis

requiring every state agency to actively seek all available federal dollars that can be turned into jobs for Californians.

Building tradesmen take little heart, however. New housing in California during the first 11 months of 1974 dropped to 120,000 units—38 percent below the 194,917 units constructed during the same period of 1973.

While the auto industry has withered here, as in all other parts of the nation, aerospace has maintained a good level of employment. But while the big plants are holding the line, they are doing it with their longtime skilled hands.

Few, if any "help wanted" signs are out at Lockheed, McDonnell Douglas and the like.

But unskilled jobs, primarily non-union, are going begging, according to George Garland, Los Angeles manpower representative for the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute.

And hit hardest are the young blacks and chicanos. Those who have lost good-paying unskilled jobs haven't been able to duplicate them.

"There are a lot of jobs out there for $2.50 and $3 an hour," Garland said. "But there are few takers because they can make as much or more collecting unemployment."

"The sad thing is that the minorities' workforce doesn't have the experienced people available for some semi-skilled and skilled jobs."

Garland says this is compounded by a lack of private or public transportation for those few who are available for some of those jobs.

"Usually a guy who needs a job also needs a car to get to and from the job, and he doesn't have the money to get the car."

40% of Cleveland Crafts Out of Work

Cleveland—"Talk never put a plumber to work." This is how Frank J. McHale, secretary-treasurer of the 1,375-member Plumbers Local 55 of Cleveland described plans of politicians and developers here that would begin providing employment to his hard-hit members.

"Most of the plans for construction is just talk as far as I can see, and that won't put my men to work."

The Plumbers are among the hardest hit by the building depression in greater Cleveland.

McHale said approximately 40 percent of his members are unemployed. Many have run out of unemployment compensation, yet many are now ineligible for food stamps.

Daily as many as 100 men crowd into the union hall to wait for a callup job that never seems to come.

"We used to have more come down, but now the telephones ring off the hook as they call in," McHale said. "They don't have the gas money to come down so they call. It's terrible."

McHale is the business agent who must act as social worker, friend, adviser and sometimes more. He tries to help the most desperate cases to get them some relief.

McHale said he would not talk about the personal problems of his members because they are given in confidence.

But, he said many of his members have turned to other jobs in industry, stores or most anywhere they can go to keep their families fed and the payments made on their homes.

Many travel outside Cleveland to other cities seeking work. This causes great financial and social problems as two residences must be maintained and the father is away from the home.

Charles R. Pinzone, executive secretary of the Cleveland Building & Construction Trades Council, estimates nearly 40 percent of the city's 35,070 craftsmen are out of work.

Peter Liske, an unemployed Carpenter, has had to dig into his savings to pay for illness that has plagued both him and his family. Illness has prohibited him from working at a trade he has been with for nearly four decades.

But Liske said he is lucky because he has some savings from the good years when construction was booming.

"It's the young worker that is really suffering from this terrible recession," Liske said. "They are just getting started and have the children to feed and raise. They are the ones who really are hurting. And it's hard to get them to talk about it, I know, but I want to tell about it because it needs to be told. The young workers in the building trades are the hope of the future in construction and if they are discouraged and leave, who will build the houses and factories and skyscrapers in the future? They need to be given help, and by help I mean good, honest work. They are willing to do their best."

A Cleveland Ironworker said he has traveled to St. Louis and Atlanta for work. "I've gotten a little work and then it's gone," he commented.

"I can't understand how the government will let all these skilled workers just rust away," said a perplexed Bricklayer.

"And the spring construction season is just a few months off and it doesn't look like it is going to improve," said McHale.

Families Soften Full Impact of Job Loss

San Francisco—Leo Gillikan and Tom Ulisse stand in front of the Seafarers' union hall on Mission St. here and discuss how they get by without a job.

Gillikan has not worked since July and says "things look bad." In 32 years as a member of the union, this is the first time he has gone that long without working.

"Ford wouldn't sign the oil bill," he says. "There are 33 oil tankers laid up here."

His wife is working, and he is dipping into his life savings. What will he do when his unemployment insurance runs out? "I've never been in that kind of a predicament before," he answers.

Ulisse sold his car and an insurance policy. His wife's earnings as a printer provide the bulk of their income. He gets $95 a week in unemployment benefits.

"For most of the people making it all these months, somebody's working in the family," Ulisse says.

Ulisse worked only 37 days in 1974 and he notes that a member needs 90 days in a year to keep union benefits coming. "If I had to go to the hospital, I'd have no benefits," he explains.

"You just start liquidating your assets and hope things change," Ulisse says. A chief steward, he has been a member of the Seafarers for 29 of his 50 years.

The union's San Francisco port agent, Steve Troy, confirms the Ford pocket veto of the oil cargo bill "definitely affected us." The bill requiring 30 percent of oil imports to be carried in U.S. vessels would have meant " a hell of a lot of jobs."

San Francisco's suffering maritime industry is one reason the city's unemployment rate stayed over 9 percent for most of 1974.

Higher unemployment and recession have also taken a big toll in the city's culinary industry. Agnes Barnhill, secretary-treasurer of Cooks Local 44, says business at famed Fisherman's Wharf is off 75 percent from last year at this time.

The Jobs Crisis

"They've just started laying off," she says. "Long-time members are having trouble finding a job." This is due both to the state of the economy and the fact that "if people do eat out, they're going to McDonald's," even in this strong union town.

With business down, it is almost impossible to place older cooks. A handful of members come down to the union office at 9 a.m., but there has been one job posted in two days.

Henry Wai last worked a year and a half ago. This is his first time without a job in eight years as a member of Local 44. In three months his unemployment benefits run out. "I've got no ideas" for what to do after that, he says.

Wai has a family to support. His wife works part-time. "You just slow down the expense," says Wai, 63. His last job was at Fishermans Wharf.

Tony Uglesic, 45, came down to the hall to check if there were any jobs. The $76 a week he gets on unemployment is not enough. "I've got to keep going on what I get. It's pretty tight, but what are you going to do?" he asks.

The picture is not that gloomy in all unions. Stanley Jensen, directing business representative of Machinists District 115 says the union has been "very fortunate" so far.

The Machinists' situation in the San Francisco Bay area, Jensen said, is "Scattered layoffs but nothing massive." Hardest-hit are auto mechanics in two counties north of San Francisco. "A lot of plants have laid off 4-5 percent of the crew," Jensen said. He guessed about 4-5 percent of the lodge is out of work this year compared to last year's "virtually full employment."

John Watts, secretary of the Carpenters District Council, says unemployment in his craft is "bad—about 25 percent." Some of that is seasonal, but tight money and the higher fees required of developers make things generally worse, he says.

"Even some of your heavy construction companies have cut down their crews," Watts says. "An end to tight money would pick things up, but it wouldn't have a great impact."

The number of jobless Carpenters in the Oakland area could reach 50 percent in another month, warns Local 36 Business Rep. Al Thoman. "All through the year it was never under 15 percent," Thoman says. In the past, he says, unemployment would be almost non-existent in summer and 15 or 20 percent in winter.

"The stick building business is dead," Thoman says flatly. About 130 or 140 of the men in his local are employed on a sewer project "or I'd really be hurting."

The scene does not seem that bad at Carpenters Local 22 in San Francisco, where a rank-and-file member sitting at the local office says times were "fairly decent until now" and "not too bad yet." He very seldom goes more than a month without working. "It's a union town here so it's not so bad." It is worse south of San Francisco where there are more non-union contractors, he says.

Workers have a hard time when they reach age 55, he and a few other members say. "When a man passes 55, contractors don't want to look you up." For this reason, the social security age should be lowered to 55 in building trades, they argue.

A mirror of the hard times in the city is found in the San Francisco Joint Board of the Ladies' Garment Workers. Manager Mattie J. Jackson estimates about 400 of the 3,400 members are out of work. The rest are working on a rotating basis where they may work only one week out of two.

Last year, the number of unemployed in the San Francisco Joint Board was "perhaps 150," she says. Four plant closings occurred here since then. She attributes it to the inflationary spiral. "The picture may change but it doesn't look good in any case." About 10 members showed up at the union hall on a typical Tuesday to find no jobs on the board.

Generally worsening unemployment in the San Francisco area hit 8.7 per cent in December.

The federal emergency job program provided the city about 700 jobs expected to be filled by the end of the month. At least 34,000 San Franciscans were unemployed in December, the mayor's office estimated.

As in other cities, a flood of applicants showed up the first day they could to apply for the emergency public service jobs.

Even in well-to-do Marin County, just north of San Francisco, where November's unemployment rate in one of the nation's richest counties was only 6.7 percent, an overflow crowd of jobseekers jammed the Veteran's Memorial Building parking lot for the approximately 100 federal jobs given to Marin, which had 5,800 unemployed in November.

Both union officials and rank-and-file workers voiced the same despairing fear that things will get worse before they get better.

Business Up at Food Stamp Offices

Milwaukee — The unemployment situation has become so serious in some of the construction trades here that many union halls are referring only those workers who have used up their unemployment benefits to job openings.

James Elliott, president of the Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council, estimated unemployment in the Laborers, Carpenters, Bricklayers and Cement Finishers unions at between 20 and 25 percent.

And when many current projects are completed in the next month or two, he expects joblessness to mount quickly in the other trades, including the Electricians, the Plumbers and the Sheet Metal Workers.

Some 4,000 of the 5,730 members of Operating Engineers Local 139 are unemployed, about twice the number usually on layoff at this time of the year. Business Manager Joseph J. Goetz, Jr. said that unemployment in the underground utilities division of the local has reached men with 18 to 20 years of seniority.

Elliott said the construction trades union offices are busy referring workers to unemployment offices and urging them to apply for food stamps. "That's not generally been done in construction locals in the past," he said.

Waiting line problems have been particularly critical for food stamp applicants in Milwaukee County, and the county public welfare agency has begun to take appointments for three or four days later for new applicants.

After one day when unemployed workers reported waiting 7½ hours in vain, the county started the appointment system. John Rauschenberger, a spokesman for the department, said that the use of appointments for food stamp applications was unusual, and had been rarely tried before by the county.

In addition, workers are facing other hardships. Elliott of the Construction Trades Council said that many workers were unemployed long enough so that they had to pay out of their own pockets to keep medical insurance benefits in effect for their families under the health and welfare programs. This ranges from $6 to $12 a month, depending on the case, he said.

Cutbacks in both federal and state government construction have made matters worse in Wisconsin. Elliott was sharply critical of the impounding of funds by the Ford Administration on such projects as FHA Section 235 and 236 programs and for sewerage and water facility construction.

He said the release of funds for sewerage and water projects would spur employment throughout the state as many smaller communities would take advantage of the 90-10 sharing formula for financing. The quickly increasing costs of construction have brought about the cancellation of numerous other large projects, he said, including one for a new 38- to 40-story building in downtown Milwaukee.

The unemployment problem is hitting Wisconsin at a time when Gov. Patrick J. Lucey is asking the state to initiate an austerity program, including cutbacks in spending for university construction and the prospect of closing various state institutions which will throw others out of work.

John W. Schmitt, Wisconsin State AFL-CIO president, said he has urged Lucey to expand the highway program and thus add to the work force. It would be wise, Schmitt said, to put people back to work: "They would be paying taxes and not drawing unemployment compensation and food stamps."

The State AFL-CIO has scheduled its annual community services conference several months earlier than usual to draw attention to the role local unions can play in assisting the unemployed, Schmitt said. The conference will be held Mar. 8 and 9 in Wisconsin Rapids.

Werner Schaefer, president of the Milwaukee County Labor Council, also urged completion of various governmental projects. "Not only would this put people back to work," he said, "but it would change the attitude of those who are still working, which is even more important, and bring them more confidence."

Among the industrial unions, unemployment is spotty; actually, the Milwaukee area industry is strongly machine-tool oriented and varied and is usually last to feel recessions, according to Schmitt.

Because home construction is so tight, any firms associated with that industry are being hard-hit. Workers at an automatic garage door manufacturer in Waupaca, for instance, are facing a 60 percent layoff.

Some of Milwaukee's largest industries, however, are working steadily, including the Briggs & Stratton Corp., a maker of small gasoline engines and other goods, and Bucyrus-Erie Co., a manufacturer of mining machinery.

Desperate Job Seekers Swamp Atlanta Agency

Atlanta—They came by the thousands, jobless Atlantans in desperate search of work, any kind of work.

The early birds began lining up shortly after 3 a.m. on Jan. 10, their sleeping bags in hand to help them endure the long night's wait for 225 public service jobs, Atlanta's share of $5.5 billion in job aid passed by Congress in December.

City officials had reserved the Civic Center auditorium for the one-day sign-up session. With the unemployment rate at 7.5

The Jobs Crisis

percent and more than 20,000 out of work by early December, it was expected that as many as 2,000 might apply for the new city jobs.

But by dawn, there were already 2,000 persons in line under gray, drizzling skies. The line that began at the auditorium's glass doors twisted for hundreds of feet out of sight around the corner. A sole city policeman arrived at 7:30 and helplessly surveyed the growing crowd around the door, as dozens of persons pushed to the front of the line.

Among the early arrivals was James Wilson of Atlanta. At age 19 he was typical of many in the predominantly black, mostly young crowd.

Wilson was laid off last month from his job at a local Sears Roebuck warehouse. Asked what kind of work he was looking for, Wilson replied that he'd take "any kind of job, really. I've got a family to support."

George Washington, 31, was also in line long before the doors were set to open at 8:15 a.m. Washington hadn't worked since he lost his waiter's job three months ago.

Now, with his unemployment insurance exhausted and a wife and two children to support, he was ready to work at "anything."

A young white from Seattle, 24-year-old Randall Cranor, had left his job as a dock hand on the West Coast and headed south in search of warmer weather and a new home. His first two months in Atlanta he tried "everything—state civil service, private employment agencies, temporaries—there just aren't any jobs.

Police reinforcements began arriving by 8 a.m. as the waiting crowd, some of whom had been in line for five hours, grew increasingly restless. At 8:15 a single door was opened on schedule and the rush began.

The surging crowd pressed those at the front against the glass, smashing two plate glass doors and forcing many people into the debris.

"What's happening? I'm a veteran," a 24-year-old Atlantan cried in disbelief as he clutched a bloody pants leg. He hobbled about the lobby in pain, cursing loudly, until policemen helped him to the hospital.

As the doors burst open, the entire line quickly collapsed and thousands poured into the gold and velvet-cushioned lobby, milled noisily about, and then streamed into the 4,500-seat concert hall.

By the time the brief melee had ended, four persons had to be taken to the hospital for treatment of lacerations.

Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson and a host of other top city officials quickly rushed to the scene and attempted to calm the crowd. Jackson, the city's first black mayor, addressed the gathering from the auditorium stage, calling for massive federal assistance to combat the nation's spreading unemployment.

"What's happening here is an indication of what's happening all over the country, which is that people are desperate for jobs," Jackson said. "There are 3,000 people here looking for 225 jobs."

Underscoring the frustration of the 3,000 job-hungry Atlantans is the fact that the jobs they were hoping to get are temporary only and pay between $114 and $175 a week.

The largest single category, 56 jobs, is for litter and vacant lot cleanup crews. The second largest category, 24 jobs, is for manual laborers. Both pay only $114 a week and aren't expected to last beyond 1975.

The recession and growing unemployment have hit hard at Atlanta, a boom town that survived the nation's 1969-1970 recession virtually unscathed.

From November 1973 to May 1974, manufacturing in Georgia dropped off between two and three times faster than the national decline.

The real crunch didn't hit until late fall, however. Unemployment increased 28 percent in the month of October alone.

One of those hit by the layoffs was James Phillips, a 33-year-old bricklayer with a wife, four children and a fifth on the way. After years of steady work, Phillips found himself out of a job in October. Until then, he had been earning $6 an hour as a bricklayer. Then the bottom fell out for him.

"This is the first time I reckon I've ever been without a job," Phillips explained. "I couldn't even get a job in a restaurant washing dishes for $2.25 an hour."

Figures from the State Labor Dept. show that Georgia has finally caught the rest of the nation in unemployment. After lagging behind the national figure for all of 1974, Georgia's unemployment has now hit the 7 percent mark.

Hardest hit statewide is the textile industry, Georgia's largest single producer.

The textile industry here has devised a new type of unemployment in cooperation with state officials. It's called "partial employment."

A "partial" works a week, is off a week and collects unemployment compensation, and then is back at work again. In the last week of December, about 75,000 of Georgia's 150,000 unemployed were partial layoffs.

Local mill owners send state labor officials a list of the workers to be laid off for the coming week and the Labor Dept. sends the worker an unemployment check, bypassing the need to stand in long waiting lines.

Carpeting has been hit hardest of all. In the carpet center of Dalton, 60 miles from Atlanta, nearly one of five workers is unemployed.

"I've always been a man who said you could find some kind of work if you tried," said 50-year-old George Winters as he began a wait of several hours in the packed county unemployment office. "But I've about changed my mind now."

Waiting along with Winters was Bill Stone, a 50-year-old father of two who had been working at one mill for 18 years when, this fall, it shut down permanently.

In Atlanta, the auto industry accounts for the largest single number of layoffs. Nearly one in five of Atlanta's 20,000-plus unemployed formerly worked at one of the Ford or GM plants here.

...Atlanta

Unemployment Cuts Swath Across St. Louis Work Force

St. Louis — As the lines of unemployed grew—and the wait as well—at a downtown office of the Missouri Employment Security Division here on one early January day—a man at the rear of one line fainted.

But only one person left his place in line to help the stricken man. The others were apparently fearful of losing their place in line. Employment Security personnel assisted the man, who was conscious by the time an ambulance arrived.

The incident was indicative of growing feelings of desperation among the jobless as the employment situation in the area worsens. The caseload of unemployed workers at one Employment Security office was described as "without precedent."

Elsewhere, lines were out the door. Estimates of the numbers seeking unemployment insurance benefits ran as high as 50 percent over the same time last year.

Of the eight employment security offices in the St. Louis area, seven reported handling more than 1,000 persons on a recent day.

And prospects for the immediate future are "dismal" in the opinion of Ollie Langhorst, executive secretary-treasurer of the Carpenters District Council of St. Louis.

Unemployment here has affected just about every class of worker, and each has a story of personal deprivation to tell.

A 22-year-old welder, his wife and 3-week-old baby are living on $35 a week in unemployment insurance. When he was working, his take-home pay was $145 a week.

An electrical engineer, 26, was making $11,400 a year until he was laid off by McDonnell Douglas Corp., a major aerospace employer. He found a job in Ohio, only to be laid off there the day after Christmas. His unemployment benefit is $50 a week.

As unemployment rises here, businesses are becoming more and more selective in filling even unskilled jobs, a spokesman for the Missouri Division of Employment Security commented.

Restaurant owners who "used to take anyone they could get, as long as they were neat, clean and could breathe" are now refusing referrals of anyone requiring training, he continued.

One problem facing this city's unemployed is the lack of adequate public transportation. In many cases, the jobless live in the city but the jobs are in the county, often beyond the bus lines.

Typical is a 27-year-old man, trained as a dental technician, who lives with his grandmother near the downtown area.

When he could find no work as a dental technician, he paid $1,000 tuition for a vocational course to learn how to apply vinyl tops to automobiles. He worked at General Motors for a while, but was laid off.

"I've worked in nursing homes and in dishwashing jobs since then," he said, "but I didn't get paid enough to be self-supporting. And the longer I stayed in jobs like that, the more unskilled I became."

His $57 a week unemployment benefits ran out six weeks ago. "I'm in a pretty hectic situation," he said.

The electrical engineer laid off in Ohio moved his family in with his parents. He said they were "grinding down on our savings now."

He hopes for an upturn: "If things work out, maybe my wife will get a job to provide at least some basic income. We owe $600 on our car and we're about $2,000 in debt. In another month we might be completely broke."

A $19,000-a-year electronics salesman, 43, out of work for about two months said he'd tried "three commercial placement offices, but they were all absolutely discouraging."

One segment of the economy has noted an upturn, however. Joe Cointin, directing business representative for Machinists District 9, said that automobile mechanics in his jurisdiction have not fared too badly. "People are having their cars repaired rather than buying new ones."

But Cointin anticipates worse times ahead, particularly as the effects of the cutback in automobile production are felt by industry suppliers.

Langhorst reported that 25 percent of the 11,000 carpenters in St. Louis are unemployed. Few have found work in other industries.

He thinks it will be "several months" before construction work improves, even with a massive infusion of mortgage funds.

The latest available figures show that unemployment in the metropolitan St. Louis area in mid-November was 7.2 percent. Compounding the depression in the construction industry and the slump in car sales is the continuing decline in manufacturing jobs in the area.

Robert E. Whaley, manager of the St. Louis Employment Security Office, said the worst unemployment situation he could recall "was in 1946, when we had all the servicemen returning from World War II.

"But we had jobs on the horizon then, when we were regearing from a wartime to a peacetime economy."

Shock Waves Hit Columbus

Columbus, O. — Shock waves from the national economic recession have sent unemployment skyrocketing in Ohio within the last six weeks.

Ohio is the second largest producer of automobiles and trucks, and the national slump in auto sales has hit Ohio workers hard. All three major auto producers — General Motors, Ford and Chrysler—have announced big cutbacks in their production facilities in the state.

At GM's huge Vega assembly plant in Lordstown, more than half the entire work force has been idled. Ford has announced layoffs of more than 14,000 production workers through Ohio, and Chrysler has furloughed thousands of workers at its Twinsburg assembly plant near Cleveland.

In the rubber complex near Akron, more than 102,000 workers have been sent home since summer. Many of these are auto production workers, but the three major tire manufacturers—Goodyear, B. F. Goodrich and Firestone—also have made big layoffs.

Another depressed area is Dayton where General Motors has a number of production facilities, including Delco Products and Frigidaire. Almost daily, newspapers in the Dayton area have front page news stories about more layoffs from the giant production companies. The Dayton Daily News recently reported more than 4,700 workers in that community have been idled since November.

William Papier, chief of the Division of Research & Statistics of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, reports large increases in jobless workers since the first week in December.

One "crutch" jobless Ohio workers are using to help them through the recession is the availability of the federal food stamp program. On Jan. 3, the Ohio AFL-CIO called a meeting of all full-time community services representatives in the state to explain how to help their jobless members file papers to collect food stamps. Personnel from the Ohio Dept. of Welfare were on hand to assist and explain rules and procedures.

It was emphasized that laid-off workers could be eligible to collect food stamps providing they have "liquid assets" that do not exceed $1,500 and have limited incomes. It was stressed also that workers do not have to be on welfare to be eligible for food stamps.

Critics Confounded:

Vitality of Bargaining Process Strength of Economic System

The following is excerpted from the presidential address of AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger to the annual meeting of the Industrial Relations Research Association in San Francisco, Dec. 28, 1974.

FOR MANY YEARS NOW the system of collective bargaining that has developed on this continent and the parties involved in the process have been under frequent attack, sometimes from the same people using opposite vantage points. The collective bargaining system is decrepit and rigid, it has been said, and the parties are too soft, too tough, too dumb or an interference with the competitive market model which could enable the computer to provide all the answers, if unions and collective bargaining would only get out of the way.

Such public exercises have continued in 1974, although less frequently. This year, amidst a deepening economic mess, the economics establishment—particularly the macro-economist Mandarins who dominate the economics departments of the elite universities and leading foundation subsidiaries—has been exposed as bankrupt, bereft of much ability to explain its continuing failures in recent years, to analyze major economic developments, to provide workable forecasts and remedies for the increasingly complex and dangerous problems that beset the economies of the U.S. and the western world.

And the self-styled pundits, who have blamed most difficulties on collective bargaining and organized labor, have been compelled to spend at least some time in 1974 wallowing in their foolishness, amidst the deepening economic crisis.

Indeed, the record clearly shows that in the past decade when almost every American institution has been badly pulled, tugged or nearly torn apart, the collective bargaining system and the trade unions have been among the few institutions with a high degree of stability. Indeed, their very diversity, pragmatism and flexibility—which have been the bane of their attackers— have also been basic factors in their relative stability.

With its lack of neatness, disregard for perfection and contempt for preconceived textbook formulas, collective bargaining has continued to reveal its inherent vitality as a dynamic system of problem-solving between the differing interests of labor and management at the workplace. Despite failures and setbacks, this system of collective bargaining has usually achieved workable solutions for practical problems—such as attempting to meet the challenges of radical and rapid shifts in technology at the workplace—by flexing and changing with the changing needs and demands of the parties in a fast-changing world.

For the most part, the parties to this sometimes turbulent process are unknown. The national leaders of the parties, whose names are reported in the news media, are known to the world. But the day-to-day work on the "shop floor" is performed by tens of thousands of business agents, stewards, committeemen, international union representatives, foremen, superintendents and plant managers—the unsung foot soldiers who each day and each week work out pragmatic, rather than ideological or even neat solutions, to difficult problems that arise in never-ending constancy at tens of thousands of varied workplaces in this continental-sized economy.

But the troubles in the economic environment have been growing. And they are placing onto the bargaining tables, issues that are increasingly difficult for many managements and for the overwhelming majority of workers. These include such matters as workers' pressures to catch up with raging inflation, while managements are confronted by recession-induced suppression of productivity gains and the impact of monetary policy on costs and liquidity, and there are such additional issues as job security and the status of pension and SUB funds.

The essential difficulty, however, is not with the collective bargaining system—with all of its warts and imperfections—or with the negotiators and the tens of thousands of other practitioners who keep the system operating.

THE MAJOR DIFFICULTY, by far, is with the federal government's economic policies and the policymakers. And it is also with the campus- and foundation-dominated economics establishment—with its overwhelming emphasis on aggregate numbers derived from the theoretical formula-bound computer responses, rather than observation, analysis and judgment—that has failed to provide the policymakers and the public with anything that approaches adequate analysis, critique and workable remedies.

Amidst all of this disarray and spreading economic debris—including the pressing interest-payment costs of local governments and the inability of many of them to float new bond issues—amidst all of this, the collective bargaining system and its tens of thousands of negotiators and "shop floor" practitioners have managed to carry out their functions. And it has been done with a high degree of success and accommodation and without high-flown pretense.

Proposal in Works:

Excessive Tax Rate Increase In Social Security Unjustified

AN EXPECTED PUSH for a social security tax increase from the Social Security Advisory Council is not justified now, nor in the future, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman declared. The rate hike proposal will likely come in the advisory council's final report to Congress.

Seidman renewed labor's call for contributions from general tax revenue to the social security system. He said that while there may be a need for a gradual rise of the present $14,100 taxable wage base, the advisory council should reject the idea of a sudden jump to $24,000.

He made the statements on Labor News Conference. Rudy Danstedt, one of six public representatives on the advisory council, was also questioned by reporters on the network radio interview.

Danstedt said that "it is high time" that Treasury funds be applied to social security, adding that at least four other members will join with him in the effort to include that recommendation in the council's report. He reported that he and others will also strongly oppose any boost in the tax rate.

Danstedt, who is assistant to the president of the National Council of Senior Citizens, rejected the contention that social security is "in the red" and the advisory council is under pressure to recommend steps to bolster the system. He stressed that even though the present council is stacked along conservative lines, its members found that the social security system is sound, and that it is not in danger of getting out of balance.

Danstedt and Seidman agreed that social security should not be totally funded by the federal government and converted into a welfare program for the elderly.

Workers and employers should continue to contribute to the system, they said; retirees should have a right to benefits without a demeaning means test; and the federal payments should be used to make specific improvements in the structure of the program, not across-the-board increases.

Questioning them on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Ned Scharff of the Washington Star-News and Theodor Schuchat of the North American Newspaper Alliance. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Through Advisory Panels:

Big Oil's Influence Shapes U.S. Policy

CONTROL OF NATIONAL OIL POLICY and influencing government to its point of view are skillfully effected by the petroleum industry through its multiple memberships on over 130 federal advisory committees and subcommittees.

Federal advisory committees are groups organized from the citizenry and industry as well as from official government agencies to assist in advising the legislative and executive branches of government on specific matters relating to their experience and expertise. Some committees are created by statute, some by executive order, and others by agency authority. Regardless of their juridical beginning, however, they are used in almost every policy area of the federal government.

So great was the proliferation of these advisory committees and so little known about them that efforts were mounted by Congress to bring some order out of chaos. The Federal Advisory Committee Act was signed into law in October 1972 and became effective in January 1973. It includes a reporting requirement designed to identify the location, function and costs of advisory committees in the Executive Branch, thereby providing an annual inventory.

THE OIL INDUSTRY is represented on a minimum of 132 federal advisory committees and their subcommittees. Actually, those figures are not to be considered as a definitive count because not all the subcommittees, work committees and task forces were reported under the act. The 132 committees used as a sample were selected from an inspection of those committees which appeared to have an oil industry connection or had an oil industry employe traced back to it.

The following examples will illustrate in part the difficulties of identification:

- The Economic Advisory Board of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce had the chief economist of Exxon and an economist of the Mellon National Bank, which is a Gulf bank, as two of its members.
- Of the National Business Council for Consumer Affairs' large number of subcouncils, no fewer than five had a representative of the oil industry:
- The National Export Expansion Council included among its members the chairman emeritus of Phillips Petroleum. Among this committee's subcommittees, the one on trade and investment in developing countries included a vice president of Arco, and the subcommittee on chemicals included representatives from Chevron, Esso, Lubrizol and Shell.

It was manifestly impossible to make visual inspection of the thousands of names and committees, many of them with generic names, in order to arrive at a definitive count of oil industry representation. Another factor which limits a total listing was the inability to recognize oil company subsidiaries. Thus the statistics compiled are only illustrative of oil industry penetration into advisory committee apparatus rather than definitive.

Of the oil companies with a large number of representatives on federal advisory committees, Exxon heads the list with 58 representatives, followed by Standard of California, Mobil, Atlantic Richfield, Texaco, Gulf and Continental with 20 or more each. Another 12 oil companies have 10 or more representatives.

Of the 132 advisory and subcommittees identified, the oil industry dominated some by virtue of constituting the majority membership. On the others, of course, they were merely representational, having one or two members. The list of government departments, independent agencies and special offices having responsibility for committees on which the oil industry has one or more members is led by 26 such committees for the Commerce Dept., 20 each for the Federal Power Commission and Federal Communications Commission, 13 for Labor and 12 for Interior. Another 14 federal agencies have 10 or less with oil company representation.

—From How Big Oil Influences Government by Norman Medvin in the December 1974 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

A SOCIAL SECURITY tax rate hike is not justified, and Congress should reject the idea that is expected to get a strong push from the Social Security Advisory Council, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, third from left, and advisory council member Rudy Danstedt, second from left, declared. They were questioned on Labor News Conference by Theodor Schuchat, left, of the North American Newspaper Alliance and Ned Scharff of the Washington Star-News. The AFL-CIO produced interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

How to Buy:

Advertised 'Special Ingredient' Often Aspirin or Baking Soda

By Sidney Margolius

TELEVISION COMMERCIALS for various products often mention they have special ingredients of some mysterious nature which they never actually identify. In fact, these unnamed ingredients most usually are: aspirin, antihistamines, stomach coatings and other antacid ingredients, ammonia, twice as much ammonia.

Since these are all ordinary ingredients, some going back to grandma's day, the question is, why not just buy the basic ingredients and save money?

Anacin, of course, is the product that persistently advertises that it has more of the pain reliever "that doctors recommend." This pain reliever that doctors recommend is merely aspirin available at any pharmacy, department store or supermarket for 39-49¢ per 100 tablets and sometimes less. If you want more of it, simply take more of it.

Another widely-sold pain reliever at two and three times the price of ordinary aspirin is buffered aspirin. It is merely aspirin with a little antacid salts such as bicarbonate of soda to relieve any nausea some people might get from ordinary aspirin, especially when taken on an empty stomach.

Incidentally, the Federal Trade Commission, charged in a complaint issued last year that a number of pain relievers advertised as significantly superior to others really had aspirin as their main ingredient. There's no significant difference among various brands of aspirin, the FTC officially observed. The products in question include Anacin, Bufferin, Excedrin, Bayer Aspirin, Cope, Vanquish and Midol.

Similarly, when Contac's commercials compare it to a number of other products, such as cold tablets and night-time liquids, the basic active ingredient in all of these about which the advertiser is talking, is antihistamines. But Contac does not compare itself to other delayed-action antihistamine tablets, some of which are available at much lower prices under the private brand names of large retailers.

Antihistamines also are a major ingredient in a number of other preparations such as Coricidin and Inhiston.

Antihistamines inhibit allergic reactions and also tend to make you a little sleepy. The result is, a number of over-the-counter sleep preparations such as Sominex and Sleep-Eze are merely a form of antihistamine. Some brands also have a little aspirin.

DIGESTIVE REMEDIES such as antacids have become big sellers. For years many were promoted with exaggerated claims of giving relief from "nervous emotional disturbances," "nervous tension headaches," "cold symptoms," "consumption of alcoholic beverages," "food intolerance" and so on.

As the result of recent action by the Food & Drug Administration, manufacturers of antacid products now may claim only that these products give relief from "heartburn," "sour stomach" and acid indigestion.

But in this instance too, consumers could use merely the basic low-cost ingredients. The several hundred brands of antacid tablets, powders and liquids on the market contain a variety of ingredients. But one of the most familiar is simply sodium bicarbonate—ordinary baking soda. Another familiar ingredient is calcium carbonate.

One effect of the FDA's review was to require Alka-Seltzer to make clearer that its combination of aspirin and antacid should be taken only if the user actually has a headache as well as an upset stomach. Some medical experts felt that the combination was unnecessary and might be harmful to anyone suffering from serious gastrointestinal problems. That's why some of Alka-Seltzer's recent commercials announcing, not too loudly, that you should be careful, or saying in a caption, "Use only as directed."

Another persistent promotion is for household cleaners which proclaim that they have (1) ammonia; (2) more ammonia, and (3) twice as much ammonia, which you are invited to smell to believe.

Ammonia can be bought for as little as 25-30¢ a quart.

Scouring powders often boast that they have chlorine which helps bleach sink stains. Chlorine bleaches, of course, are available for as little as 25¢ a quart if the price didn't go up again this week.

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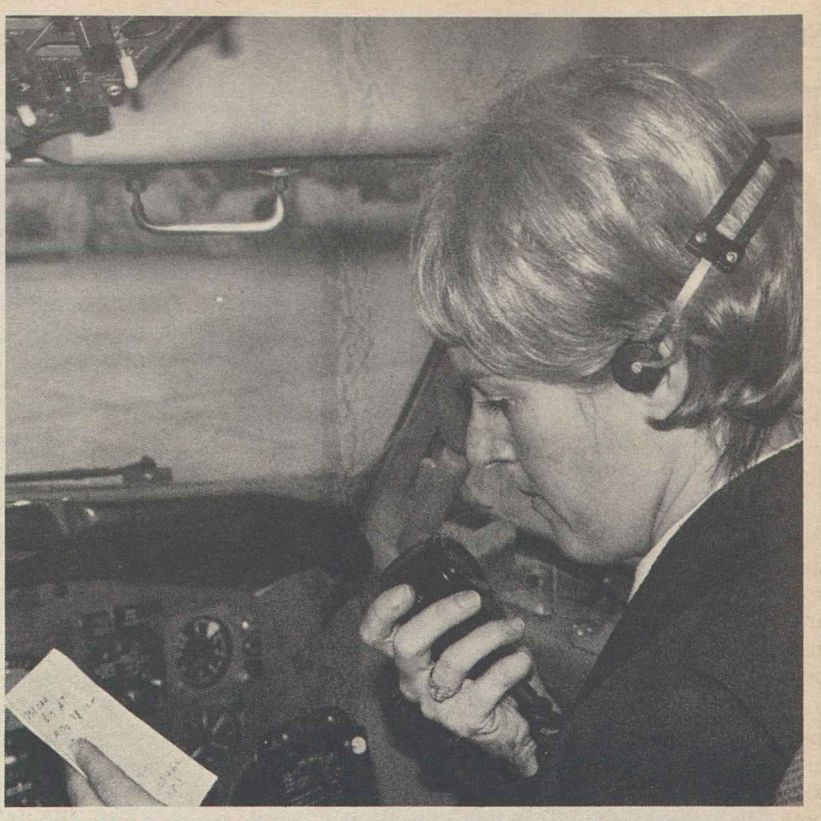


AT THE CONTROLS of a Frontier Airlines jet is Emily Howell, the first woman pilot serving a regularly scheduled airline. A first officer with Frontier, she has been flying since 1958 and has logged more than 8,000 hours in the air. She is a member of the Air Line Pilots.

Brainwashing Public:

Digest, Big Business Team Up on Unions

By Kenneth Fiester

TWO NATURAL ALLIES are teaming up for the first time on a new scheme to brainwash the public in pro-big business, anti-trade union ideology.

Reader's Digest and the Business Roundtable will jointly sponsor a series of monthly articles which will appear both in the magazine and in 50 college newspapers. The articles will be written by the Digest staff as though they were editorial material. But then they will be screened by the public information committee of the Roundtable, and when approved, inserted in the magazine chastely labeled "Advertisement."

However, the Digest will promote the series, titled "Our Economic System—You Make It Work," just as though it were a regular editorial feature. The big difference is that the Business Roundtable will pay $1.2 million for the 136 pages the articles will fill during the year.

The Digest will spend about $108,000 of its take to place the pieces as ads in those 50 college newspapers. Their original sponsorship will thus be buried another layer deep.

The first article, on productivity, will appear in the February issue. Other installments already in the works will cover product quality, entrepreneurship, pricing strategy and inflation.

The Digest's 44 million readers are thoroughly familiar with its editorial bias against unions and in favor of 19th Century capitalism. Its partner is less well-known but thoroughly congenial.

The Business Roundtable was founded several years ago by Roger Blough, retired chairman of U.S. Steel (and the subject of President Kennedy's wrathful "jawboning" when he sought to defy a price program). The Roundtable's avowed goal was to stimulate industrial expansion by "reducing construction costs," which it said could be helped along if big corporations put their heads together. Among the heads that are part of this togetherness are DuPont, Alcoa, American Can, Olin Industries, General Motors, AT&T and three oil companies, along with big steel and General Electric.

Reporters soon discovered that the Roundtable's chief notion about "reducing construction costs" was to eliminate or emasculate the building trades unions. This caused a measure of unfavorable publicity and the Roundtable has maintained a low profile since—until now. (PAI).

Soup to Nonsense:

Law of Averages Proves Myth In Real Life Decision Making

By Jane Goodsell

THE LAW OF AVERAGES ought to be repealed. It just doesn't work. It ought to work, of course. As any gambler can explain with paper and pencil, the laws of mathematical probability can't miss. But as many a gambler has discovered, wiring home for bus fare from Las Vegas, it can, it does.

Consider the times you've paused at a crossroad, uncertain whether to turn right or left. According to the law of averages, you should have a 50-50 chance of making the correct choice. But how often do you? Whichever road you take, you should have taken the other one. You find out you made the wrong choice after you've driven 10 or 15 miles, and have to make a U-turn and head back to that intersection.

If you try to outsmart yourself by turning back sooner, you'll be wrong again. You were on the right road in the first place and, if you'd stayed on it, you'd be at your destination.

How many times have you picked the right line to stand in at the supermarket? You're an intelligent person, and you use your head. So, logically, you queue up in the shortest line. There are only three people ahead of you, whereas the other line consists of five customers. So what happens? A lady in the other line gasps, "Oh, I forgot to buy nutmeg!" and the customer in front of her mutters, "Goodness, that reminds me I'd better pick up some ginger!" Both of them drift out of line, reducing it to three people.

But while the other line clicks briskly along, yours has bogged down to a standstill. The customer two places ahead of you has only three items in her cart, but she has a box of empty bottles in her car which the clerk has to help her carry in. She has a fistful of coupons she wants to redeem, and a complaint to register about a pot roast she bought the other day. The lady directly in front of you has a box of eggs, and she needs only half a box. Would the clerk mind cutting the box in half? She has to cash a check, but she forgot her pen. And would it be all right if she dashes off for a half a second to pick up a bottle of vanilla? The old law of averages didn't work so well, did it? Not even with the odds in your favor.

There are two movies you want to see, and they sound equally good. Whichever one you pick, you can't miss. Or can you? How many times have you walked out of the theater saying, "Well, we certainly made the right choice, didn't we?"

You're having guests to dinner and, at the last minute, you remember that you've forgotten to buy coffee cream. Should you rush to the store and buy some? Or take a chance that none of your guests uses cream?

The odds ought to be about even. And, in a way, they are. Half the time you will apologize for not having cream, and the rest of the time you'll wonder how to use up the cream you bought that nobody used.

The law of averages works fine on paper. But real life is different. As Satchel Paige so accurately put it, the odds are always 60 to 40 against.

Full Measure of Quality!

3/4 Ingredients of All
1/2 Union Products
1/4 and
Union Services

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

State of Union 'Not Good':

Ford Mixes Tax Cuts, Hikes, Opposes New Program Funds

(Continued from Page 1)

During 1975, Ford said, regardless of how high the consumer price index rises, no such increase should exceed 5 percent and there should be no provision for a "catchup" raise in future years.

Ford warned Congress that he "will not hesitate to veto any new spending program." His veto threat apparently extends to such basic anti-recession measures as accelerated public works, increased public housing and direct job creation.

The President advanced his energy tax proposals as a means of prodding individuals and business to use less fuel. He also proposed both deregulation of natural gas prices and an excise tax on natural gas—both of which would mean higher prices for consumers. The White House estimated that it would send the consumer price index up by about 2 percent.

AFL-CIO President George Meany endorsed the goal of reducing U.S. dependence on imported oil. But he said that Ford's program would only increase living costs. "It is rationing by taxation and high prices and is, therefore, inequitable and inflationary."

Ford proposed what he termed a "windfall profits tax" on oil to accompany price deregulation. But Meany said the President's plan amounted to "simply another excise tax on each barrel of oil" that would be passed on to the consumer in still higher prices.

The President's proposal for a permanent tax cut, with the biggest impact in the lower income levels, and for a handout of $80 a year to persons who don't earn enough to pay taxes was intended to answer criticism that the higher fuel prices would fall hardest on those who could least afford it.

Meany said most people would still lose from the tradeoff.

The President's proposal for a rebate of up to 12 percent of 1974 taxes to stimulate the economy would clearly put added purchasing power in the hands of those who already have most to spend.

Thus, taxpayers with incomes above about $41,000 a year would get $1,000 from the government while the rebate for a family of four with a $7,500 income would be $58, and for a $6,000 family it would be $29.40.

When Ford announced this plan in a televised speech to the nation, Meany termed it "peanuts for the poor."

The President did promise to ask new funds for energy research and development—the one exception to his hold-the-line budget policy.

He proposed modification and deferment of anti-pollution standards for automobiles, greater use of coal through modification of the Clean Air Act, an expanded investment tax credit to spur nuclear power plant construction, commercial development of naval oil reserves, and a 15 percent tax credit on costs of improving insulation of private homes.

On other domestic issues, Ford merely said that he will send Congress separate messages on general revenue sharing, extension of the Voting Rights Act and perhaps some other matters. Conspicuously missing was any reference to national health insurance or to the nation's housing crisis.

His relatively brief foreign policy section in the State of the Union message protested mildly the trend to congressional restrictions on the President's freedom to act.

"By the Constitution and tradition," Ford said, "the execution of foreign policy is the responsibility of the President."

STATE OF THE UNION is "not good," President Ford acknowledged in his address to Congress. His proposals to deal with unemployment and inflation involved a combination of tax increases and tax cuts that the AFL-CIO said wouldn't do the job.

Advisory Panel Stresses Low-Income Tax Relief

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, Steelworkers President I. W. Abel, Clothing Workers President Murray H. Finley; Seafarers President Paul Hall; Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock; Teamsters President Frank E. Fitzsimmons and Mine Workers President Arnold Miller.

The management members included the board chairmen of General Motors, Alcoa, General Electric, Sears Roebuck, Mobil Oil, the Bechtel Companies and the First National City Bank, plus the vice chairman of U.S. Steel.

The panel also adopted a set of principles for a national energy policy, which it recommended to the President.

Its key was expansion of domestic energy supplies to meet the nation's needs and free America from the threat of any future foreign oil embargo.

On tax policy, the Labor-Management Committee recommended:

- An individual income tax cut, effective Jan. 1, 1975, totaling about $15 billion. This would be accomplished by granting a $70 tax credit for each exemption on a tax return (a $280 tax cut for a family of four) and a 5 percent cut in taxes due after the exemption credit. There would be a $375 ceiling on any tax reduction so that persons with high incomes would not receive a substantially higher tax cut.
- A $5 billion tax savings for business through a rise in the investment tax credit from 7 to 12 percent.

The labor-management group said the tax package should be enacted quickly and independently of overall tax reform legislation to be acted on later this year.

It stressed also that the tax cut alone won't solve the nation's economic problems and that additional measures will be needed "to produce more jobs over the longer term."

Meany termed the committee's two-pronged tax proposal "a responsible, equitable compromise." He noted that the committee considered but did not recommend the corporate tax cut the President proposed in addition to the rise in the investment tax credit.

"The President's proposals are not the compromise to which the Labor-Management Advisory Committee agreed," Meany said, and the AFL-CIO "will fight them in Congress."

The labor-management panel called for expansion of both coal and nuclear power as well as oil and natural gas. It asked government aid for research and development of new energy sources and facilities, as well as accelerated development of mass transit systems.

It proposed a stretchout of present environmental restrictions on energy production and use. But environmental goals should not be abandoned, the panel said.

Democratic Leadership Outlines 'Action' Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

If interest rates haven't shown a significant drop by July 1, the task force proposed consideration of "more drastic remedies, including the possibility of a progressive tax on interest income which would be prohibitive on income derived from excessive rates of interest (9 percent and above) and evolving downward to nominal on income from low rates of interest (below 6 percent).

The Democratic task force wrote a proposal on wage and price stability that was fuzzy enough so that news stories from the Associated Press and United Press International opened with different conclusions.

The full text is as follows:

"We need a tough but selective program to halt the current wage-price spiral, Phases I and II of the Nixon Administration program controlled wages with a vengeance while permitting prices to rise, resulting in a cruel diminution of the wage earner's purchasing power.

"There must be no return to such a policy. The present Council on Wage & Price Stability is a toothless tiger. The need is for an independent agency with subpoena power, the resources to hold extensive hearings, the authority to delay price increases up to 90 days and, in extreme cases, the authority to impose controls more permanently on a selective basis. The selectivity should be aimed at those industries where near-monopoly and administered prices render the forces of true competition inoperable."

On energy conservation, the report listed various suggestions that have been made to cut back on fuel use and then added that "the range of options should not be limited to those here enumerated." It did ask "careful consideration of the effect of any proposed fuel tax increase upon the millions of working Americans who have no available or practical alternative to the use of their automobiles in getting to and from their daily work."

The report endorsed accelerated public works as well as additional public service jobs to deal with unemployment. And it asked the "appropriate committees" to develop recommendations for an emergency housing program.

It also urged early action on legislation "to forestall the apparent intention of the Administration to increase the price of food stamps to low-income Americans."

Apart from these "priority" issues, the House leadership panel endorsed for action during the first session a "comprehensive national program to assure adequate health and medical care for all."

It called for long-range development of new energy sources, possibly financed by a trust fund. It asked for enactment of an effective Consumer Protection Agency bill, incentives to food production and possible new aid to ailing industries that are "vital to the nation's economic health."

The task force, headed by Rep. James C. Wright, Jr., of Texas, asserted that the nation's problems are "not insoluble" but warned that they will be aggravated if solutions are needlessly delayed.

The Program Is 'Unsupportable'

AFL-CIO President George Meany had this comment on the State of the Union message:

The AFL-CIO General Board will meet Jan. 23 to recommend emergency measures that can, should and must be taken immediately to restore stability to the economy and get America back to work.

The President's proposals to the Congress will do neither.

His program would increase inflation; would not stimulate the economy; would not end the recession. Therefore, it is unsupportable.

Obviously, the President's energy goal of reducing U.S. dependence on imported oil is sound. But his program will not achieve that goal and will only increase the living costs of the American people. It is rationing by taxation and high prices and is, therefore, inequitable and inflationary.

His program would increase the price of everything that oil touches—from gasoline to heating; from food to medicine.

Just one small part of the President's program—deregulation of natural gas—would cost consumers about $10 billion a year. To that inflated price tag must be added his proposed excise taxes on natural gas and imported and domestic crude oil.

The President's so-called "windfall profits tax" is not a tax on profits at all. It would not affect the obscene profits giant oil and gas companies made during the past year, while they pay taxes to the U.S. at an effective rate of about 6 percent. His proposal is simply another excise tax on each barrel of oil and every consumer would pay it.

The President's income tax proposals are clearly inequitable.

The one-shot tax rebate of 12 percent would provide too much for too few, with too little for the too many in the low and middle tax brackets.

The vast majority of American families would pay more in energy-related price and tax increases than they would receive from the proposed permanent tax cut.

The President's proposal to give corporations both an increased investment tax credit and a cut in the corporate tax rate would only compound tax injustice and is economically unjustified.

In making his tax proposals, the President largely ignored the unanimous recommendations of his Labor-Management Advisory Committee. The committee's recommendations were a responsible, equitable compromise of the positions of both labor and management and, most importantly, would have effectively provided the massive stimulus so necessary to turn the economy around. The committee discussed a cut in the corporate tax rate and did not recommend it to the President.

The President's proposals—linked as they are to staggering energy cost increases—are merely an incomplete effort to rebate those costs to taxpayers. They are not in any sense a stimulus to an economy that is sick and needs an immediate boost in consumer purchasing power.

Therefore, the President's proposals are not the compromise to which the Labor-Management Advisory Committee agreed. The AFL-CIO cannot support his proposals and will fight them in the Congress.

For Public Workers:

Supreme Court Extends Stay In Wage-Hour Enforcement

The Supreme Court has granted an injunction suspending enforcement of the federal minimum wage law for 3.4 million public employes until it has considered the issue.

The court extended a stay that Chief Justice Warren Burger had previously granted on a temporary basis, suspending the extension of the Fair Labor Standards Act to the public employes covered for the first time on May 1, 1974. The stay suspends enforcement of a minimum wage increase from $1.90 to $2 an hour scheduled for Jan. 1, 1975, and has the effect also of suspending enforcement of the previous step applied last May.

The decision by the full court to extend the stay granted by Burger came on Jan. 10, one day after the AFL-CIO and a group of unions representing public employes had asked the court not to keep the injunction alive and to grant them leave to intervene in the case.

In extending the stay, the court set late January deadlines on further presentations in the case, which grew out of a challenge by the National League of Cities and other parties to the FLSA overtime provisions becoming applicable to fire fighters and police on Jan. 1, 1975.

Fire fighters and police, along with all public employes, received the minimum wage increase last May, but the later effective date on the overtime provisions was drawn up by Congress to allow time to rearrange the extraordinary work schedules of fire fighting and police forces.

In setting up the separate date for overtime coverage, the 1974 FLSA amendments had allowed considerable flexibility in scheduling hours of work. On Jan. 1, the obligation would have been to pay time and one-half after 60 hours in a seven-day period or after 240 hours in a 28-day work period.

In suspending the expansion of coverage, the stay stopped enforcement of overtime provisions along with other provisions effective last May. All jurisdictions were thought to be in compliance with the $1.90 minimum except Cape Girardeau, Mo., one of participants in the suit initiated by the National League of Cities.

In an affidavit accompanying the union request to be allowed to intervene in the case, Fire Fighters President William H. McClennan pointed out that locals in his union were already well along in arranging an orderly transition in the work schedules before the League of Cities began its legal action in December. McClennan is also president of the AFL-CIO Public Employees Dept.

Contrary to the league's contention that the stay was needed to ease the fire fighters' changeover from old work schedules, McClennan said that the last-minute action would throw a monkey wrench into the transition. He stressed that the period between May and December was too long for the league to contend they were ill-prepared or had inadequate notice. He added:

"It should also be noted that in a number of instances in which state and local governmental employers have acted to reduce the weekly hours worked by individual fire fighters so as to avoid the necessity of paying overtime compensation under the act, they have hired additional fire fighters to maintain the same level of service, thus accomplishing one of the primary purposes of the overtime requirements of the act to increase employment."

McClennan also refuted the league's contention that most Fire Fighters do not want coverage under the Fair Labor Standards Act because it would interfere with second jobs. McClennan said that for 16 years, Fire Fighters' conventions have called for FLSA coverage, including the overtime provisions, and that in all that time, his union received only one letter asking that the FLSA not be applied to Fire Fighters.

The broader questions of the case involve the authority of the federal government to impose standards on state and local governments. Thus federal regulations on equal pay and age discrimination would also be at issue.

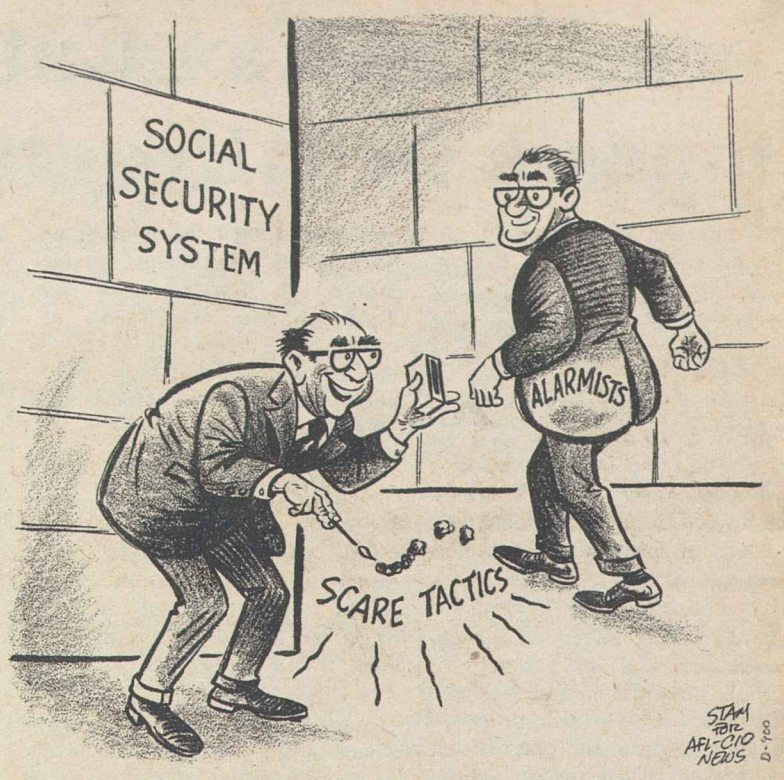
The league's request for a stay was originally turned down by a three-member panel of federal judges on the grounds that the Supreme Court had already answered the same question in a 1968 case stemming from earlier FLSA amendments. But Burger subsequently granted the stay and the full court then extended it.

The union brief refuted the National League of Cities' contention that an emergency existed to justify the stay, noting that during congressional consideration of the FLSA amendments, the league's testimony had been used as an expert opinion on the overall cost of the provisions.

The brief also cited previous Supreme Court decisions on the application of federal civil rights laws to local government employment.

In addition to the AFL-CIO and the Fire Fighters, the suit was joined by the State, County & Municipal Employees, Operating Engineers, Service Employees, Teachers and the National Education Association.

'Start Yelling Fire!'



House Democrats Vote New Era on Chairmen

(Continued from Page 1)

caucus, probably Thomas S. Foley of Washington for the Agriculture Committee and Melvin Price of Illinois for Armed Services. Both are the next senior members. Poage or Hebert—or anyone else—could then be nominated from the floor. Poage indicated that he will support Foley for the post; Hebert was quoted as threatening to break caucus discipline and carry his fight to the full House, seeking Republican aid.

The full caucus, in a turnabout, declined to go along with Steering Committee recommendations for replacement of two other chairmen — Wright Patman of Texas and Wayne Hays of Ohio.

The Steering Committee, in a surprise move, had voted to replace Banking Committee Chairman Patman, who has served in the House since 1929, longest of any congressman. The panel passed over the next two senior members and proposed Henry S. Reuss of Wisconsin as chairman. But the full caucus rejected Reuss by a 146-141 vote. Procedural differences entered the debate and Reuss has said he will still be a contender when the caucus meets again.

The Steering Committee also voted to reject the substitution of Frank Thompson, Jr., of New Jersey for Hays as chairman of the Administration Committee—a post of considerable influence on the internal workings of the House. The margin made it likely that Hays would retain the chairmanship at the next caucus.

There was no challenge to the top party leaders—Carl Albert of Oklahoma had no Democratic opposition for re-election as Speaker of the House and Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., earlier was unanimously re-elected majority leader.

Retirements and resignations brought new chairmen to a number of other committees, including the ascension of Al Ullman of Oregon to head the powerful Ways & Means Committee. Rep. Wilbur D. Mills, seeking to overcome a self-described alcoholism, agreed to step down voluntarily.

A 43-seat Democratic gain in the House, raising the party's majority to 291-144, resulted in committee changes at least as far-reaching as the replacement of chairmen.

Earlier the caucus had voted to establish party control of every House committee by a 2-1 ratio plus one additional Democrat. Thus, the Commerce Committee will have 29 Democratic and 14 Republican members. In the 93rd Congress, the Democratic majority was only 25-19.

The new lineups will give nearly all committees a liberal or moderate liberal majority, largely nullifying the ability of a coalition of Republicans and conservative Democrats to control decisions.

There will be one less committee in the 94th Congress. The Democratic caucus voted and the full House confirmed the abolition of the Internal Security Committee—formerly the Un-American Activities Committee—and transfer its functions to the Judiciary Committee.

There are 75 freshmen Democrats, counting both those who replaced retiring Democrats as well as those who won Republican-held seats, and most of them are relatively liberal.

Within the Democratic caucus, the unusually large freshman contingent emerged as a power base.

Committee chairmen whom new congressmen once courted for favors were now called before the Democratic freshmen for polite but pointed questioning.

In the Senate, Republicans had a leadership skirmish.

Liberal Jacob K. Javits of New York sought the chairmanship of the Republican conference, the party caucus. He was beaten by conservative Carl T. Curtis of Nebraska, 23-14.

Two Rail Unions Move For Mediation of Talks

Two of the 17 unions bargaining with the naiton's railroads have exercised their right to ask the National Mediation Board to step into the negotiations.

Requesting mediation were the Railway & Airline Clerks and the Machinists, which along with other rail unions have been in negotiations with the major carriers since last fall. Earlier, the Sheet Metal Workers set a strike date of Jan. 24.

A request for mediation is one of the steps necessary to conform with the Railway Labor Act.

President C. L. Dennis of the Railway & Airline Clerks previously had said the offer made to his union was "without a shred of reality."

The Machinists described the action as a refusal on their part to accept "the stalling around of weeks of talks and scores and meetings." Machinists Vice President John Peterpaul said the union had submitted 22 proposals to management and had received a "flat no" on 18 of them and a "wholly inadequate offer on four—on wages, cost of living, health and welfare and subcontracting."

The general chairmen of four shopcraft unions also bargaining with the railroads met in Washington, D.C., and said the management offer "is totally unacceptable and must be rejected." They are the Carmen, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Firemen & Oilers and the Boilermakers.

The National Mediation Board re-entered the Sheet Metal Workers' negotiations in an attempt to avert the Jan. 24 walkout. The union has been free to strike since last August, but has continued in negotiations on issues left over from 1973 bargaining.

The strike notice against five major carriers was followed by an announcement by other carriers that they would not assign work to the Sheet Metal Workers if the five lines were struck.

In all, about 500,000 workers represented by 17 unions are affected by the current round of bargaining to replace 18-month agreements that expired Dec. 31.

The unions have asked a 20 percent initial wage increase, followed by another 15 percent boost on Jan. 1, 1976. They are also seeking a cost-of-living escalator and improved fringe benefits.

So far, the carriers, bargaining through the National Railway Labor Conference, have offered only a 9 percent initial increase and a limited cost-of-living clause.

1-18-75

Wholesale Price Index Rose 20.9% During 1974

The wholesale price index closed 1974 with the biggest year-to-year increase in 28 years, despite a leveling off in December as the recession began to set in deeply.

Wholesale prices declined five-tenths of 1 percent in December, the first monthly decline since October 1973. But for the year, they rose 20.9 percent, the biggest jump since a 31.1 percent increase in the post-World War II boom year of 1946.

The December decline in the index was attributable primarily to a 4.1 percent drop in the price of farm products. The decline followed increases of 2.5 percent in the index in October and 1.2 percent in November. The 3.9 percent jump in August had been the year's highest monthly increase.

In releasing the wholesale index, the Dept. of Labor warned against expecting the December decline to show up in consumer prices for December, which are yet to be released. The consumer price index contains such charges as hospital care and other services which have no wholesale equivalent, the department pointed out.

Urgency Keys Labor's Plan To Put U.S. Back to Work

AFL-CIO News

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GENERAL BOARD of the AFL-CIO, including the top officers of affiliated unions and departments, called on Congress and the President to take the "immediate, massive, emergency measures" needed "to turn the economy from the edge of disaster."

Board Asks Action By Ford, Congress

By Saul Miller

The AFL-CIO has placed before President Ford and Congress a comprehensive and specific action program to turn the economy around and spare the American people "the misery of a depression."

It spelled out at an emergency session of the federation's General Board a major six-point program bolstered with details and documentation and asserted that "we will not relent in our support of this program to put America back to work."

The 450 unions leaders at the General Board meeting, representing the federation's 110 affiliates as well as its departments and state federations and major local central bodies, carefully listened to a series of reports on the sweep of the crisis across all sectors of the national economy and adopted unanimously the program presented to the board by the AFL-CIO Executive Council. **(Text on pages 6 and 7.)**

They heard AFL-CIO President George Meany detail America's "bad news" and declare that "our program must be one of action. Actions the President can take immediately. Actions the Congress can take within 60 days. It will be an emergency program."

And when the board finished its day-long task, Meany told them he will "send a copy of this program to President Ford and to every member of Congress tomorrow morning" and challenged Congress to come up with something better, if possible.

The meeting drew more than 150 reporters and broadcasters, and eight television cameras covered the opening session. National Public Radio broadcast the sessions live across the nation.

Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland described the "grim condition" of the economy and called for quick and decisive action to "restore public confidence and turn the economy around" as he presented the action program.

The program adopted by the board called for action in six major areas:

- "An immediate tax cut of at least $20 billion, primarily for low- and middle-income taxpayers, to stimulate the economy through added purchasing power."
- "Immediate government measures to reduce America's dependence on imported oil and establishment of a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing."
- "Immediate reduction of interest rates and allocation of credit for high-priority social and economic activities."
- "Immediate, massive federal efforts to create jobs for the unemployed."
- "Immediate action to protect existing jobs from unfair foreign competition."
- "Immediate government assistance to the unemployed to minimize their hardships."

"Without this emergency action," the board warned, "unemployment will feed on unemployment. Production cutbacks will spread

(Continued on Page 3)

'Frustration, Heartache':

Recession's Impact Leaves Its Mark Across the Nation

No industry, no craft, no region of the nation has been immune to the spreading cancer of unemployment.

Six union leaders, speaking as representatives of a cross-section of the workforce, reported to the AFL-CIO General Board on the impact of a worsening recession whose end is not yet in sight.

The reports were grim and laced with anger at a too-little, too-late, response from government.

- I. W. Abel, president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. and of the Steelworkers, cited the loss of 766,000 production jobs in the durable goods industry over the past year, adding: "You know and I know that statistics do not convey any sense of the frustration, the heartache and the dashed hopes of this vast new army of unemployed and their families."
- Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., charged that the Administration's "discredited" economic policies pushed the construction industry into a depression, with a 15 percent unemployment rate nationally and above 30 percent in some cities and crafts.
- W. Howard McClennan, president of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. and of the Fire Fighters, stressed that government employment is not immune to recession in the private sector. "When you're laid off, when your wages stop, it doesn't make any difference where you used to work, whether in the public sector or the private sector."
- Murray H. Finley, president of the Clothing Workers, said the unemployment rate has shot up to 10.5 percent in the textile industry and 10.7 percent in apparel. At the same time, hours of work have dropped, some of the best-known firms have been forced out of business and one-plant communities have become disaster areas.
- James T. Housewright, president of the Retail Clerks, termed unemployment a "disaster" for workers in the traditionally low-paid retail and service trades, many without union protection for whom the minimum wage has been "at once a floor and a ceiling."
- Al H. Chesser, president of the United Transportation Union, warned that the blight that has fallen on all segments of the industry will be worsened if President Ford's fuel tax is allowed to go into effect. Airlines, railroads, trucking and the maritime industry have been caught in the vise of higher fuel costs and decreased buying power in the economy.

A common theme in the six reports to the General Board was the urgent need for massive government action before the recession develops into a disastrous depression.

"We must insist," Abel said, "that the White House and the Congress act quickly, with con-

(Continued on Page 3)

Consumer Price Index Up 12.2% Over Year

Sky-high prices forced American families to pay 12.2 percent more for the necessities of life in 1974, even as the purchasing power of the family breadwinner over the same period shrunk by 5.4 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

A rise of seven-tenths of 1 percent in the government's consumer price index last month lifted the index to 155.4 percent of its 1967 average. The 12.2 percent over-the-year increase in the CPI was the highest since 1946.

Except for 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1946, years in which the United States was either engaged in or coming off a war, last year's rise in the cost-of-living was the sharpest since BLS began measuring changes in consumer prices in 1913.

While the December rise in the CPI was the smallest increase in five months and compared with increases of nine-tenths of 1 percent in each of the two preceding months, the gain was still high by historical standards.

And while retail prices continued to mount, the average worker's paycheck in December still bought less, dollar for dollar, than in 1965. Despite a four-

(Continued on Page 7)

New Committees Turn To Legislative Agenda

By David L. Perlman

Congressional committees, many of them under new leadership, turned to a legislative agenda that is likely to clash with President Ford's severely limited program.

Ford held a televised news conference to defend his tax and energy proposals against a torrent of criticism and to reiterate his opposition to any form of increased government spending on the nation's needs.

He expressed the hope that Congress "won't make too many changes," and said the proclamation he has now issued imposing a first-step $1 a barrel tax on imported oil "will set in motion the most important and far-reaching energy conservation program in the nation's history."

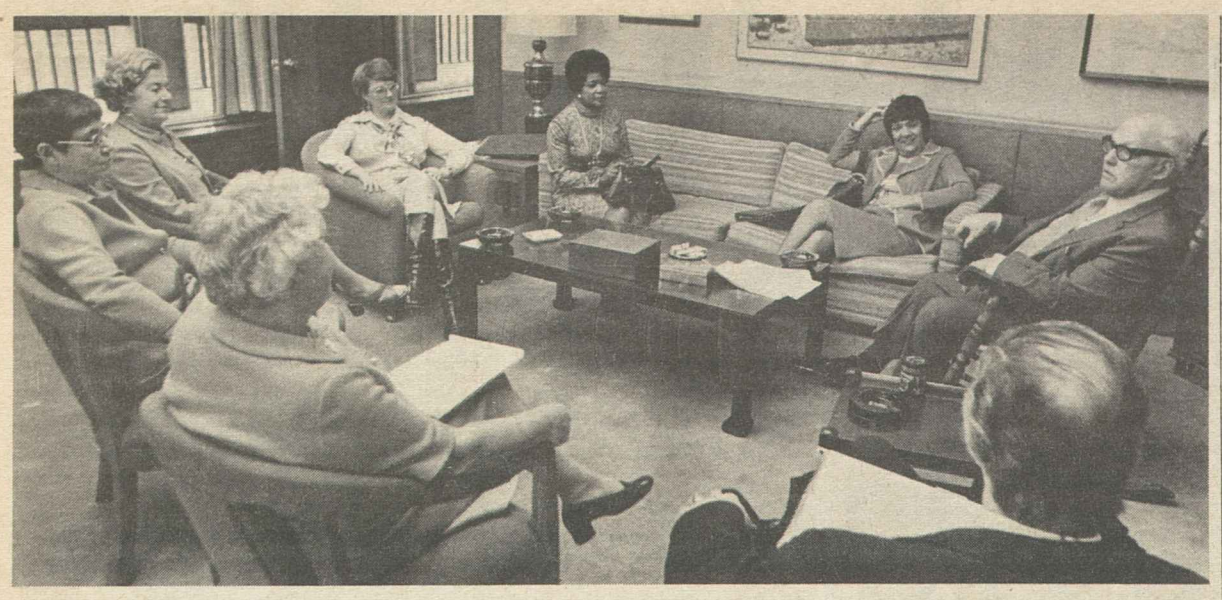
Key congressmen and senators have introduced a resolution suspending the President's authority, to impose the oil tariff.

An enlarged, more liberal House Ways & Means Committee opened hearings on tax-cut legislation amid strong indications that its final shape will be greatly changed from Ford's two-part proposal.

The big new Democratic majority on the committee and in the House as a whole is not expected to approve $1,000 refunds for the affluent and what AFL-CIO President George Meany termed "peanuts for the poor."

The tax controversy will be the

(Continued on Page 2)



PROBLEMS OF WOMEN WORKERS and the drive for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment are discussed by AFL-CIO President George Meany and the top officers of the Coalition of Labor Union Women in Meany's office at federation headquarters. CLUW, formed last March by 3,200 trade unionists, is working on programs to bring more women into unions, end job discrimination because of sex and secure improved pensions and maternity benefits, child care programs and other legislation.

Federal Adjustment Benefits Denied To Import-Plagued Glass Workers

The Labor Dept. has denied trade adjustment assistance to 700 glass workers who lost their jobs because of imports of sheet glass, compounded by the slackening demand from the faltering auto and housing industries.

The denial is the first announced by the Labor Dept. since the passage of the Administration's foreign trade bill, although 210 Boot & Shoe Workers have since been certified eligible for adjustment assistance.

Affected by the denial were 350 glass workers at the Fourco Glass Co. at Fort Smith, Ark., and another 250 at Fourco's plant in Clarksburg, W.Va. Petitions for assistance were filed with Labor Dept. for the workers by the Glass & Ceramic Workers and the Glass Cutters.

These 700 glass workers are only a portion of the nearly 2,000 others in the same industry who were denied adjustment assistance in recent months under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.

In 1970, the U.S. Tariff Commission found that imports had caused injury to the U.S. glass industry and the President authorized the affected workers to apply for assistance with the Labor Dept.

Howard Chester, executive secretary of the Stone, Glass & Clay Coordinating Committee of six AFL-CIO unions, estimated that from 5,000 to 6,000 glass workers have lost jobs because of imports since 1970.

Sheet and float glass imports rose from 24 percent of the U.S. market in 1970 to 28 percent in 1973, Chester noted. However, with the drop in demand in 1974 from the housing and auto industries, the imports slipped to 16 percent of the market.

Begium, Italy and Japan are the largest shippers of glass to the United States. But Communist countries have greatly expanded shipments in recent years and currenty account for 35 percent of all imports.

Union petitions for trade adjustments assistance for 1,950 glass workers have been rejected by the Labor Dept. since September. Affected by those denials were 650 workers at PPG Industries at Henryetta, Okla.; 425 workers at PPG Industries at Clarksburg, W.Va.; 250 workers at Okmulgee, Okla., in addition to the 700 Fourco workers at Fort Smith and Clarksburg.

In rejecting the unions' petitions for the Fourco workers, Deputy Under Sec. Joel Segall said that imports were not the major factor in layoffs. He attributed the decline in production to reduced demands from building construction and the substitution of float glass for sheet glass.

The 210 shoe workers certified eligible for adjustment assistance had been employed by the American Girl Fashions, Inc. at Portsmouth, N.H. Under the 1962 trade act they would be eligible for adjustment benefits of up to 65 percent of their average wage for 52 weeks, plus testing, training and job placement.

Far more workers have been denied trade adjustment assistant under the 1962 trade act then were certified eligible for benefits.

As of last October, the Tariff Commission had denied 157 petitions involving 62,566 workers affected by foreign imports. Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. had certified about 48,000 eligible for assistance. Even so, only about two-thirds of them actually received benefits.

Under the 1974 trade act, which becomes effective in April, adjustment assistance will be increased to 70 percent. The act also transfers virtually all trade adjustment assistance functions from the Tariff Commission to the Labor Dept.

And if the act is properly implemented and necessary funds are appropriated, workers displaced by imports could stand a much better chance of being certified for benefits.

Chester said that while unions are hopeful the assistance process will be liberalized, they will have to wait and see.

Alcoholic Held Concern Of Unions, Employers

Alcoholism on the job is a national problem that can be controlled with effective social programs developed through the cooperation of labor and management, AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis declared.

Speaking at the 25th annual luncheon of the Labor & Industry National Coordinating Committee of the Beverage Industry, Perlis noted that the problem is found at all levels of society. And efforts are under way at all levels of society to assist problem drinkers.

The liquor industry, with labor-management support, also has accepted the responsibility of contributing to research and education programs aimed at prevention and treatment, Perlis pointed out.

He noted that the absence of effective evidence about the causes of alcoholism makes information, detection, referral, recovery and rehabilitation particularly important.

One major approach to helping the alcoholic in industry overcome the problem is through joint labor-management programs developed through collective bargaining.

"The approach should not be pro-management or pro-union, but pro-patient," Perlis stressed. "The alcoholic on the assembly line should be treated much the same as the alcoholic in the executive suite."

He said the emphasis should be on motivating all alcoholics on the journey to recovery, assuring them that the trip is worth taking.

Perlis noted that efforts to assist alcoholics in American industry have been reinforced with the creation last year of a top labor-management advisory committee to the National Council on Alcoholism. Co-chairmen of the committee are AFL-CIO President George Meany and James Roche, former board chairman of General Motors.

The full utilization of that committee should be a challenge to both governmental and voluntary funding committees, Perlis suggested. He also said the AFL-CIO will continue to press for insurance coverage for alcoholics and for the development of adequate community services for the treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics.

New Department Begins Newsletter

The new AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. has begun publication of a biweekly newsletter, entitled In the Public Service.

Its first issue includes the text of the department's constitution, lists the affiliates, officers and committees, and carries legislative news.

After Committee Changes:

Congress Prepares Legislative Agenda

(Continued from Page 1)

first big test for the new Ways & Means chairman, Rep. Al Ullman of Oregon, who took over this year from Wilbur D. Mills in one of four replacements of incumbent chairmen by less senior members of committees.

While Mills had agreed to step down as chairman, three other veteran congressmen were dropped from the chairmanships of major committees by secret ballot votes of the House Democratic caucus.

In one case, after a series of votes, the caucus completely shattered seniority precedents by picking the fourth-ranking Democrat as chairman. It elected Henry S. Reuss of Wisconsin to head the Banking, Currency & Housing Committee.

A week earlier, the caucus had narrowly rejected Reuss for the post in apparent disagreement with the procedure under which the Democratic Steering Committee made the initial decision to nominate Reuss instead of Wright Patman of Texas, long-time chairman and the oldest House member in terms of service.

The Steering Committee then submitted Patman's name. Reuss and an even more junior member of the committee, Robert G. Stephens, Jr., of Georgia, were nominated from the floor. Stephens was eliminated on the first ballot and then Reuss was designated chairman by a 152-117 vote over Patman.

There were no clearly ideological conflicts between Patman and Reuss—both have called for reduced interest rates—and the debate dealt largely with issues of effectiveness, vigor and personal style.

Two other committee chairmen who were ousted—F. Edward Hebert of Louisiana and W. R. Poage of Texas—were vulnerable as conservatives who had worked and voted more closely with the Republicans than with the majority of House Democrats.

The caucus approved Melvin Price of Illinois to replace Hebert as Armed Services chairman and Thomas S. Foley of Washington as chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

The caucus, however, refused to replace Wayne L. Hays of Ohio with Frank Thompson, Jr., of New Jersey as head of the House Administration Committee. It also rebuffed challenges to several influential chairmen of Appropriations subcommittees, relying on an infusion of new Democratic members to ensure that key programs aren't starved for funds.

No committee chairman had been denied reappointment since 1967, when Adam Clayton Powell of New York was dropped as chairman of the Education & Labor Committee.

In the Senate, both the Democratic and Republican caucuses endorsed resolutions requiring all committee meetings to be open to the public and press unless the members voted to close them for specified reasons. House-Senate conferences would also be open unless conferees from either chamber voted to close the sessions.

The hottest behind-the-scenes fight on the Senate side was in the Democratic Steering Committee, where assignments to legislative committees are made.

The issue was the filling of a Democratic vacancy on the Judiciary Committee, whose chairman is James O. Eastland of Mississippi and whose jurisdiction includes the expected renewal this year of the Voting Rights Act.

The civil rights coalition strongly opposed the bid of Alabama's James B. Allen for the vacancy. The Steering Committee first voted 10-7 to give the post to James Abourezk of South Dakota. It later defeated on a 9-9 tie vote a move to enlarge the committee so as to create another Democratic opening that Allen could fill.

On the Senate floor, a familiar skirmish was being refought over the rule that requires a two-thirds vote to cut off debate and break a filibuster.

A bipartisan group of senators is again trying to change the rule so as to allow 60 percent to halt a filibuster. In the past, rules changes have been blocked by filibusters that prevented them from being brought to a vote.

In the near future, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller will be asked as presiding officer of the Senate to declare whether the Senate can get to a vote on a proposed rule at the start of a new Congress by a simple majority vote.

If he so declares, it will be up to the Senate whether to accept his decision, which would likely pave the way for a change in the filibuster rule, or overturn it.

Daniel J. Sullivan Dies, Officer of Rail Clerks

Chicago—Daniel J. Sullivan, secretary-treasurer of the Railway & Airline Clerks since 1969, died at his home in Deerfield, Ill., Jan. 18. He was 59.

Sullivan held a number of BRAC local and regional offices in the New York area. He was general chairman of the New York district until he was elected vice president of the union's express division in 1963.

The BRAC executive board elected Sullivan secretary-treasurer in June 1969 and he was re-elected at the union's convention in 1971.

In a message to Sullivan's widow, Theresa, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said that "his lifetime of service to the labor movement earned him the respect and affection of many thousands of trade unionists."

BRAC President C. L. Dennis said the unexpected death of Sullivan "is deeply felt by all officers and all members of the brotherhood."

At a special meeting of the BRAC executive board, Vice Pres. D. A. Bobo was elected to fulfill Sullivan's unexpired term. Bobo had been a general chairman with the Transportation Communications Employees Union when it merged with BRAC in 1969.

In 1971, Bobo became the first vice president of BRAC's transportation-communications division and was elected a vice president of the international in March 1972.

Fred J. Kroll, general chairman of the union's Penn Central system board, was elected to succeed Bobo as a vice president.

Labor Spells Out Back-to-Work Plan

General Board Issues Program for Action

(Continued from Page 1)

further. The threat of widespread bankruptcies of businesses and banks will become reality."

It pointed up that the recession that began more than a year ago is the most prolonged "and the deepest since the 1930s," and that the "downward spiral is gathering momentum."

Meany's opening speech to the special meeting termed President Ford's program "one of the weirdest . . . I have ever seen"—a program that is based on "statistics, computer profiles and economists' models, but not on human needs."

He warned Ford that "the AFL-CIO will not shrink in its support of vital social programs just because (he) is threatening to veto any new programs."

Tracing the history of Nixon economic policy through the Ford Administration, Meany noted that the AFL-CIO "repeatedly and consistently warned of the dangers facing this country . . . but the policy makers were deaf to our warnings and blind to the evidence." We take no satisfaction in being right, he added, "every one of us wishes we had been wrong."

He sharply assailed Ford's tax and energy programs as falling short on fighting either the recession or inflation and specifically attacked his proposal to put a 5 percent ceiling on social security cost-of-living increases as well as other retirement programs and federal workers' wages.

Meany's keynote was followed by reports on the economic crunch in various sectors of the economy by Presidents I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers, Robert Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., W. Howard McClennan of the Public Employees Dept., Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers James T. Housewright of the Retail Clerks and Al H. Chesser of the United Transportation Union.

The action program was presented to the board by Kirkland, and each of the six major areas was supported and expanded on by AFL-CIO vice presidents—John H. Lyons on taxes, Paul Hall on energy, Joseph Keenan on housing and credit, Martin J. Ward on public works and impounded funds, Peter Bommarito on foreign trade, and Jerry Wurf on unemployment insurance, welfare and public service jobs.

The proposal for a tax cut specifically called for Congress to act on the unanimous compromise recommendations of the Labor-Management Advisory Committee to the President for a $15 billion cut in individual income taxes effective Jan. 1, 1975, through reduced withholding from paychecks by means of a $70 tax credit per exemption and a 5 percent cut in the tax remaining after the exemption credit, with a maximum cut of $375 per return.

There would also be a $5 billion cut in corporate taxes through an increase in the investment tax credit from the present 7 percent to 12 percent and from 4 percent to 12 percent for utilities.

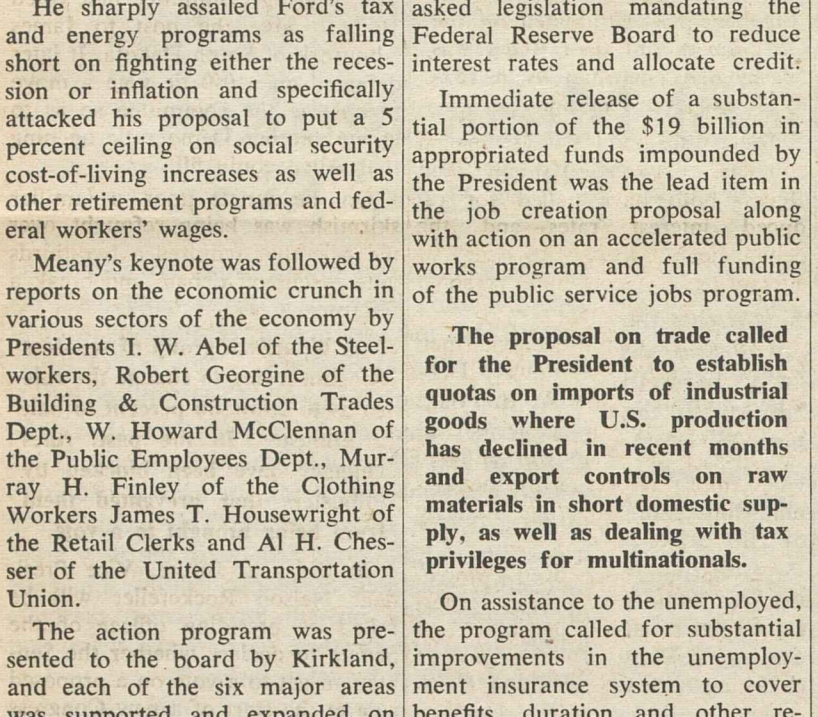
The energy proposal called for a quota on oil imports "including a ban on such imports originating in those countries that embargoed oil to the United States and Holland in 1973-74." It called for opposition to the President's $3 per barrel duty on imported oil as an excise to be paid by consumers and rejected his proposal to decontrol domestic crude oil and deregulate the price of natural gas.

On interest rates, the program asked legislation mandating the Federal Reserve Board to reduce interest rates and allocate credit.

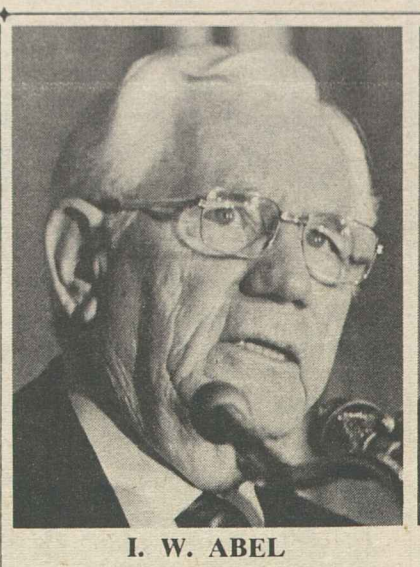
Immediate release of a substantial portion of the $19 billion in appropriated funds impounded by the President was the lead item in the job creation proposal along with action on an accelerated public works program and full funding of the public service jobs program.

The proposal on trade called for the President to establish quotas on imports of industrial goods where U.S. production has declined in recent months and export controls on raw materials in short domestic supply, as well as dealing with tax privileges for multinationals.

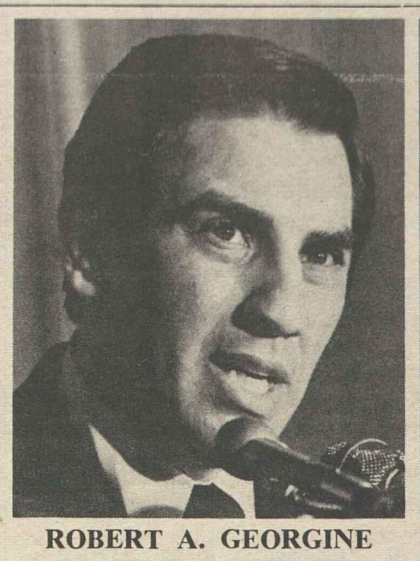
On assistance to the unemployed, the program called for substantial improvements in the unemployment insurance system to cover benefits, duration and other requirements during the emergency period, provide health care for the unemployed who lose health insurance coverage along with their jobs, improved welfare during the emergency with the costs borne by the federal government and an improved food stamp program with no increase in cost.



PROGRAM TO PUT AMERICA back to work and meet the nation's neglected needs is pressed by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the General Board. Seated is Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.



I. W. ABEL



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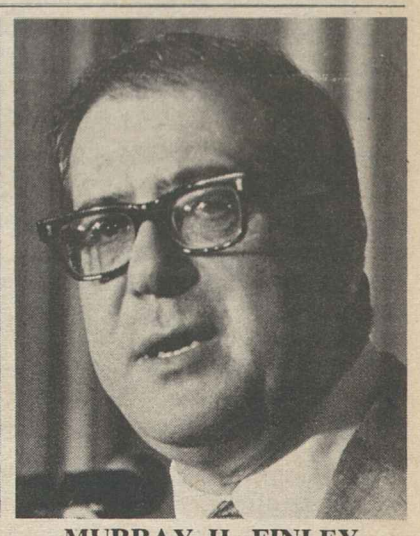
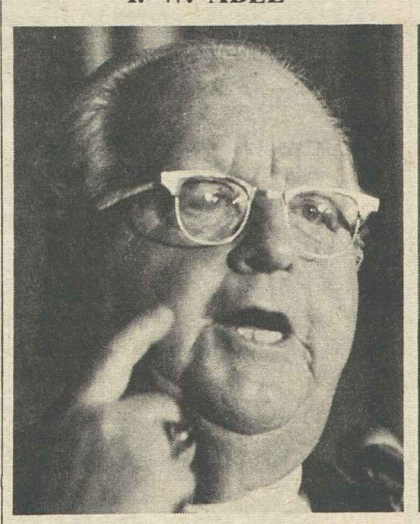


MURRAY H. FINLEY



W. HOWARD McCLENNAN

AL H. CHESSER

JAMES T. HOUSEWRIGHT

Reports Show Recession's Impact Leaves Its Mark Across the Nation

(Continued from Page 1)

fidence of purpose and with equity, to put our members and America back to work. As one who lived through the '30s and barely survived, I say one depression in a century is more than enough."

Abel said the "ripple effect" of cutbacks in major industries is becoming "a tidal wave." Cutbacks in auto sales and production have meant cutbacks in tire plants, in parts shops, in glass manufacturing and other suppliers.

Construction declines mean that 7,000 members of the Pottery Workers who normally manufacture bathroom fixtures are unemployed and 2,000 others are on reduced workweeks. Cement production is down, furniture sales are off and "the electronics industry is, by anybody's measure, a disaster area." Its employment is 206,000 below a year ago, Abel said, and at least 15 percent of the members of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers are out of work.

"Americans want jobs, not welfare," Abel said, "and this great country of ours should be able to give them work."

Chesser said development of alternate fuel sources, not high oil taxes, is needed for self-sufficiency. He added:

"If it takes federal assistance to revive and restore our vital transportation systems, so be it. If the private power companies can't bring on cheap nuclear power, let the government increase expenditures on projects that will make the nation stronger.

"If these measures do not bring back full employment, then let the government expand unemployment assistance and create jobs in fields and projects which would be of benefit to the nation and its people.

"After all, that's the real purpose of government. It's our government and it must respond to the people's needs."

Housewright noted the AFL-CIO's repeated warnings of economic disaster at the time when the Administration's economists were dogmatically advocating "high interest, tight money and budget cuts."

Only now, he said has there been a belated, grudging change in government economic policy.

For low-paid retail and service workers, Housewright said, the era of wage controls was a disaster that has left those who still have jobs at the mercy of the fierce inflation.

A 5.5 percent ceiling on wages that were too low to start with meant that the workers and their families were unable to cope with an inflation that was most severe in the necessities that comprise the bulk of their living expenses.

Angrily, he said: "Our people want to know what our government is going to do to get us out of the rotten mess we are in. They aren't going to be satisfied with a $50 tax rebate . . . particularly when those proposing the tax cut will receive a $1,000 rebate."

Trickle-down economic theories, Housewright said, "should have died with the Hoover Administration."

Georgine gave a vivid account of the impact on "the nation's largest industry" of government policies keyed to high-interest rates, freezing of housing programs, cutbacks in federal construction and "defiantly impounding many millions of dollars of funds contrary to the intent of Congress."

As a result, he said, "the construction industry is fighting for its breath. The housing industry has collapsed. Electric utilities have been compelled to cut back on vitally needed energy expansion programs. Commercial construction has dropped dramatically. Highway construction is virtually dried up. Contractors by the tens of thousands are being forced to the wall."

Finley spoke of the staggering blow to apparel and textile industries as the slump in consumer buying power came on top of unemployment created by imports from the cheap wage areas of the world.

When buying power shrinks and people fear for their jobs, clothing purchases are put off, Finley noted. And textile and apparel workers are laid off.

The blow of joblessness often hits "in one-shop towns" without alternative employment opportunities, he noted, and also in large cities where unemployment is already higher than average.

"In addition," Finley said, "the apparel and textile industries employ large numbers of women and members of minority groups, for whom jobs are even scarcer during recessions."

McClennan compared the "needless human grief" of a nation "pockmarked by economic explosions" with disasters he encountered as a fire fighter.

Particularly at the local level, he said, business recession and consequent drops in tax revenues have forced layoffs and cutbacks of public employes. Statistics in this area are somewhat misleading, he suggested, since the emergency public service jobs created to ease unemployment in the private sector often conceal layoffs of regular city employes.

McClennan warned that "the public service jobs program doesn't go nearly far enough to meet the needs of the unemployed today, regardless of whether they worked in the private sector or the public sector before they lost their jobs."

Kircher Named Trustee Of Cincinnati University

William L. Kircher, administrative assistant to the president of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees, has been appointed as a trustee of the University of Cincinnati.

Kircher is the former AFL-CIO organizing director and also has served as a trustee of Ohio University.

A Time for Action

THIS GENERAL BOARD has been called into emergency session because of the state of the American economy. President Ford last week said it is "not good." That sets some sort of a record for understatement. The fact is: the economy is in the worst shape it has been in since the Great Depression.

Six and a half million workers were counted by the Labor Dept. as officially unemployed in December.

Another 850,000 unemployed are reported as too discouraged to even look for work. Still another 3.4 million people are working part-time for what the Labor Dept. calls "economic reasons."

That adds up to 10.7 million Americans who are either out of a job or underemployed as a result of the current recession. And those are only the ones counted by the government.

Unemployment among blacks and other minorities is higher now than at any time since World War II. And the government's official statistics do not reflect real conditions in the ghetto. Unemployment rates estimated as high as 40 percent. Rampant discouragement. Real deprivation and hopelessness. The cold statistics miss this human misery.

The gross national product—a Commerce Dept. statistic—dropped 9.1 percent in the last three months of 1974. This is the largest decline in the GNP in nearly 30 years. The primary cause was a drop in consumer spending.

Double-digit inflation—fueled by the prices of food and energy and by high interest rates—continues unabated. The buying power of workers' paychecks is lower now than it was in 1965. And if the buying power of paychecks can't keep up with inflation, you can imagine what has happened to unemployment compensation checks.

The only good news in the President's speech was that he admitted there was only bad news. In fact, the real bad news in the President's message was his proposals. His economic program was the weirdest one I have ever seen:

To fight recession and stimulate the economy, he resurrected the old, discredited "trickle-down" theory of economics that Arthur Burns first learned before the 1930 depression.

For those who are suffering the most—the unemployed, the aged, the sick and the poor—he proposed even more suffering.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS were very disappointing. They were based on statistics, computer profiles and economists' models, but not on human needs. Unless an Administration looks at people as flesh and blood, and not as simple statistics, its proposals will not be good enough for the American people.

The American people demand a program to end recession . . . a program that will get America back to work . . . a program that will stabilize the economy. That is why we are here today.

This has not been a very happy speech. It wasn't meant to be. This is not a very happy time for America.

But we have faith—in this country, in its system of government, in the strength of its people. We wouldn't be here if we didn't have faith.

Faith has carried America this far. But we can't live on faith alone. It must be buttressed by action. Now is the time for action—compassionate, sensible, fair action by Congress and the President.

—From AFL-CIO President George Meany's address to the AFL-CIO General Board in Washington, D.C., Jan. 23, 1975.

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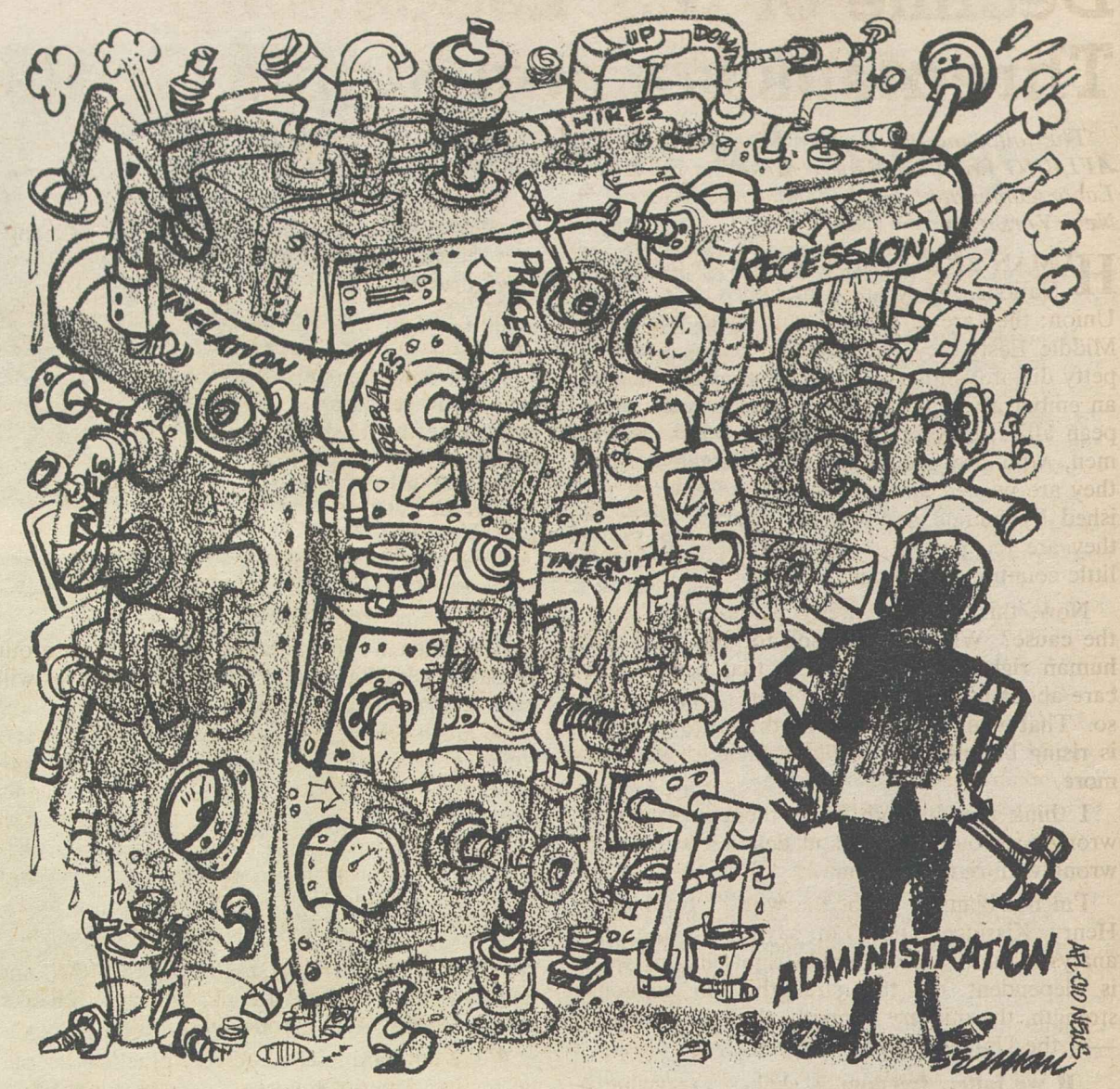


A Word Edgewise:

Boston School Mess Makes Young Pay for Elders' Sins

By John P. Roche

IF I HAVE ONE WISH IN 1975, it is that the appalling educational shambles in Boston will be cleared up. It would take about 50 pages to simply explore the background, but to put the matter in shorthand, Boston has been hit simultaneously by at least four crises: 1) leadership; 2) money; 3) class; and 4) race. When you put these in a pot and let them brew for over a decade, the result is a noxious mix. And that is precisely what has happened. Alas, the victims are not the politicians who played hypocritical games but a bunch of youngsters who are paying for the sins of their elders.

To be precise, when the pioneer state racial imbalance act was passed a decade ago—at a time when civil rights was the "in" thing—the legislators looked on it as a pious abstraction—a special novena for cosmetic purposes. It had, after all, been sponsored by a blue ribbon panel including Richard Cardinal Cushing and a number of other ethical magnates. Then . . . nothing. The Boston School Committee ignored it, mayors of Boston blamed the School Committee, the governors blamed . . . and so it went. Those who supported the measure learned that every fifth time around, they got a brass ring.

From the outset I argued that the racial imbalance act was a fake and would remain one until a new system was implemented to fund Boston's schools. Boston, like other cities and towns in the Commonwealth, raises school funds from a general property tax—but roughly half of the property in the city is tax exempt. Thus the whole school system has been starved. I have no objection to busing children to obtain a better education—and in a multi-racial community that involves learning in an ethnically mixed context—but it has struck me as a logical tragedy to bus kids from one lousy school to another.

Which brings us to the real barrier: the Chinese wall the affluent suburbs have built around Boston. Our daughter, for example, rode a bus seven miles each way to and from our friendly "neighborhood" school, but when she got there she got as good an education as our town's broad tax base could supply. I don't have the statistics handy, but my guess is that our system laid out roughly twice as much per pupil as Boston's.

At the risk of being lynched, I think this is outrageous. The school property tax should be abolished and all schools funded from income tax revenues with whatever tax increase is necessary to do a decent statewide job. This would make it possible to build good schools in the poor areas—whether inhabited by blacks, whites, Chicanos or Eskimos. The present arrangement perfectly fulfills Jesus' observation that "from them that have not shall it be taken away."

IN CONCRETE TERMS this means that my tax money would go to support schools in Roxbury and Hyde Park. Fine—I have always understood that one of the functions of taxation in a democratic society is to redistribute income in the interest of improving everybody's education, health, housing and general welfare. Despite the wild shrieks of School Committee yahoos, the hard fact is that Boston just can't cope in isolation.

So back we go to square one: the current mess in Boston. It is a grievous error to look at the brawls as a race war. A bunch of tough poor kids have been dumped on the turf of another bunch of tough poor kids—accidentally one bunch is black, but you would be seeing the same problems if the invaders were Italo-Americans, Polish-Americans or poor Appalachian WASPs. The key is class—economic status and all that goes with it—no skin color. (About 40 years ago in Dorchester the poor, tough Jews were fighting it out with the poor, tough Irish: A friend of mine still bears scars from that war.)

Top priority right now must be given to the enforcement of Judge Garrity's desegregation order. Second, a number of Boston politicians should be afflicted with acute laryngitis for about six months. But third, and in the long run most important, the new governor and General Court should eliminate the archaic school funding system and equalize opportunities for all young people in the Commonwealth.

Meany to JLC:

Decline of U.S. Leadership Threatens Human Rights Goals

The following is excerpted from an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the Jewish Labor Committee eighth annual award dinner in New York City:

HUMAN RIGHTS are a disgrace in the United Nations. They are a mockery in the Soviet Union; they are threatened with extinction in the Middle East; they are trampled on by scores of petty dictatorships on several continents; they are an embarrassment to some of our Western European allies; they are a nuisance to our businessmen, who are hankering after detente dollars; they are twisted and unrecognizable in lands ravished by famine and natural disaster, and, yes, they are too painful to think about in that poor little country of Vietnam.

Now, this is not a pretty picture, and what's the cause? What's the reason for this worldwide human rights recession? Is it that people don't care about human rights any more? I don't think so. That would be like saying that unemployment is rising because people don't want to work any more.

I think that in both cases there is something wrong with our policies and definitely something wrong with our leadership.

I'm not blaming all of the world's troubles on Henry Kissinger, but I'm saying, in the final analysis, the cause of human rights in this world is dependent on the strength—the economic strength, the military strength, the moral strength —of the United States of America.

If we falter, freedom is shaken everywhere. And I don't say this because I am a jingoist or a chauvinist. I say it because I've been around a long time, because I read maps, because I read history and witnesses, and because I can count. I say it because I've heard it again and again from the people who know best, the refugees and victims of totalitarianism, whether of the right or the left.

And I believe—advisedly believe, sincerely believe—that Dr. Kissinger has presided over an era which has seen a decline of American strength —military, economic and moral—of unprecedented proportion.

The decline in America's strength and moral leadership is severe enough to present this generation of Americans with the very real prospect that they may live out their lives in a world dominated by the most powerful and reactionary totalitarian force in the history of mankind.

Yet, this horrible prospect does not seem to agitate large numbers of thoughtful Americans, especially those, I'm sad to say, from whom we in the labor movement seek the closest cooperation on domestic and economic issues.

I'm speaking, of course, of many of our liberal friends, who are gung-ho for detente at any price. And I speak of them not with bitterness, but with a certain sense of bafflement. For here are the people who looked at what the Nixon-Agnew Administration did to our domestic affairs, to our economy, to the war on poverty, to senior citizens, to civil liberties, to minorities and all the rest, and they said this was terrible, a disaster, an unmitigated disaster.

But then they looked at the foreign policies of these same people, headed by the same man they denounced as the most corrupt president in the history of this country, and they looked at detente and they say it's wonderful, it's progressive, it means a generation of peace.

And what about the economic aspects of this detente, brought to you by the same folks who brought to you the miracle of recession with inflation? That's wonderful, too. Free trade is terrific; trade is the road to peace.

And when we in the labor movement raise our voices to ask what impact these trade policies will have on American workers, on American jobs, what are we told? We are told, in effect, don't worry. The Administration wouldn't think of sacrificing your jobs to achieve its own political purposes. After all, just because the Administration has already given us 7 percent unemployment, there's no reason to be suspicious of its plans for international trade. We're told this, not just by the Administration, but by some of our liberal friends.

WELL, TO THE ADMINISTRATION and these so-called liberal friends, we say, "Thanks, but no thanks. We're not buying."

We're not paranoid, we're very practical people. Protecting American workers and their jobs is not a hobby with us and it's not an afterthought. And on this score, I think our overall record is good. And if the truth be told, we also have a pretty good record of sizing up the economy from the point of view of the country as a whole.

Read our statements, our predictions going back to 1969, and you'll see that we have a pretty good record. Then read—going back a year or only a few months ago—read the predictions of the Administration's own egg-heads, who are running the show. And then read ours and see who is paranoid.

So, we say to some of our liberal friends, the contradiction is on your side of the fence, not ours. We are consistent. What we want for ourselves at home—political democracy, social justice, economic security—we want for all people. We think that is a pretty worthy object for American foreign policy.

Meanwhile, we continue to make our own independent judgments on matters of foreign policy, regardless of how those judgments rub the Administration or the loyal opposition party. It is our judgment that the foreign policies pursued by our government in the last half decade have failed to produce any of the major results that were predicted.

As Unemployment Mounts:

Improved Enforcement Urged To Curb Child Labor Abuses

STIFF ENFORCEMENT of the Wage & Hour Law and prohibitions against child labor should be a high priority for the Labor Dept. during this period of deepening recession and mounting unemployment, Service Employees economist Rudolph Oswald said.

Even hit-and-miss federal monitoring last year uncovered 15,000 children illegally employed, Oswald said. He pointed out that federal inspectors investigated only 2 or 3 percent of the nation's workplaces and turned up only a small fraction of the actual child labor law violations.

Oswald, SEIU research director, said that citizen complaints can help curb child labor abuses. He urged that suspected violations be reported to the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division offices located throughout the country. He said that unfortunately, many employers cut legal corners feeling that children are more flexible than adults, will work for lower wages and can be fired or laid off without complaint.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Oswald said that tight enforcement of minimum wage and overtime requirements, as well as the child labor laws, is especially important during recessionary periods. He pointed out that the Fair Labor Standards Act was adopted during a major recession, with one of its key aims to put the floor under wages so that unemployed workers would not be underbidding workers with jobs, causing a downward spiral of wages.

Oswald renewed the call to shorten the standard workweek and increase the overtime penalty to double-time, to create more job opportunities for workers who need jobs but can't find them. He noted that the time-and-a-half overtime penalty was set in 1938, when most of the payroll was purely wages. He said that with the growth of fringe benefits over the years, on which no overtime payment is required, the deterrent against scheduling excess hours instead of hiring more workers is quite outdated.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

ALMOST A YEAR AND A HALF AGO the Arab oil-producing nations stunned the United States with their oil embargo and their huge increase in the price of crude oil.

With bitter memories of empty gas tanks and the long lines of customers waiting, sometimes in vain, to buy a few gallons of gasoline, the United States resolved that this should never happen again; that the nation must become self-sufficient in energy that is vitally needed to keep the U.S. industrial machine going no matter what its source.

How much progress has been made in attaining or even starting to attain that goal? The answer is not good at all.

Congress has set up a Federal Energy Administration, has directed the Atomic Energy Commission to explore new sources of energy and has debated all sorts of energy bills. Yet, what to do about energy is still a burning question in both Congress and the Ford Administration.

Democrats in Congress have come up with their latest call for an energy program to encourage exploration for new domestic oil and gas supplies "to encourage the development of secondary and tertiary recovery techniques for existing oil wells; to develop a national strategic energy reserve and to mandate a concentrated program of research and development aimed at other sources and methods of energy production."

As debate rages over what to do about cutting down on gasoline consumption without crippling the nation's economy and taking more money from the pockets of its workers, relatively little attention is being paid to the development of new sources of energy.

Most of the President's so-called energy section of his State of the Union report to Congress was taken up with petroleum products—an import fee on petroleum, crude oil price decontrol, natural gas deregulation, the Naval Oil Reserve, the outer continental shelf, ecological factors in drilling for oil, auto gasoline mileage increases, strategic petroleum storage—about everything you can think of about the oil shortage.

There was a considerable amount of discussion about increased coal supplies, but when it came to other sources of energy the presidential message was largely restricted to long-term energy goals "beyond 1985."

MUCH THE SAME is true of a recent report of the newly created Federal Energy Administration, entitled "Project Independence." On the basis of that report, "independence" is far off.

Here again the overwhelming emphasis is on oil—obviously crucial as that is—but again the 1985 date pops up with discussions on what the oil situation will be by that year. Some analysis is made on the possibilities of other energy sources by that date, but oil still gets the major consideration.

Yet, as long ago as October 1973—the very month that the Arab embargo was declared—the AFL-CIO 10th convention said:

"The long-range energy needs of America and the ability of the national economy require immediate measures to secure America's self-sufficiency through development of varied and alternative energy resources and technologies. That is why we most strongly recommend enactment by Congress of legislation that would mobilize the nation's scientific and technological resources through a 10-year, $20 billion crash program to expand existing and develop alternative energy resources—including advanced nuclear power technology, oil shale development, improved utilization of coal resources, electrical power technology, conservation of fuels and energy and modes of transportation."

There is little of this sense of urgency for developing a "crash program" in either the President's energy proposals or the Federal Energy Administration's "Project Independence."

The United States has gone through great crises before. As the AFL-CIO noted, out of the first New Deal came the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Rural Electrification Administration, the Public Utilities Holding Act and the Bonneville Power Administration. It is this kind of imaginative thinking that the federation called for "to put America's energy house in order."

DEEP RECESSION and high unemployment demand stiff enforcement of the Wage & Hour and child labor laws, Service Employees Research Director Rudolph Oswald, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News.

Text of General Board's 'Action' Plan

The following is "An Action Program to Put America Back to Work" adopted by the AFL-CIO General Board, Jan. 23, 1975, at Washington, D. C.

AMERICA IS IN AN economic emergency. The recession, which began more than a year ago, is already the most prolonged and the deepest since the 1930s. There is no end in sight.

The downward spiral is gathering momentum. In December, industrial production tumbled 2.8 percent, on top of a 4.6 percent decline in the previous 12 months. Public confidence in the government's ability to manage the economy continues to erode from one record low-point to another.

The country is on the brink of depression. Immediate, massive, emergency measures are required to turn the economy from the edge of disaster.

Without this emergency action, unemployment will feed on unemployment. Production cutbacks will spread further. The threat of widespread bankruptcies of businesses and banks will become reality.

Therefore, to spare the American people the misery of a depression and to turn the economy around and provide jobs for American workers, the AFL-CIO General Board urges the following immediate actions by the Congress and the President:

I. An immediate tax cut of at least $20 billion, primarily for low- and middle-income taxpayers, to stimulate the economy through added purchasing power.

Specifically, we urge immediate congressional consideration of the unanimous compromise recommendations of the Labor-Management Advisory Committee to the President. This emergency tax package calls for:

1—A $15 billion cut of individual income taxes, effective Jan. 1, 1975, through reduced withholding from paychecks, heavily weighted on behalf of low- and middle-income families, by means of a $70 tax credit per exemption and a 5 percent cut in the tax remaining after exemption credit, with a maximum cut of $375 per return; and

2—A $5 billion cut in corporate taxes to create jobs through an increase in the investment tax credit from the present 7 to 12 percent on business investment in equipment and machinery in the United States and from the present 4 to 12 percent for utilities.

The President ignored the recommendations of his Labor-Management Advisory Committee. He proposed a 12 percent tax rebate, up to a maximum of $1,000. This would amount to less than $12 for a family of four earning $5,000 and only $157 for a similar sized family earning $12,500 a year. By contrast, a family would have to have an income of more than $41,000 (about 2 percent of U.S. families) to receive the maximum $1,000 rebate.

The President's proposal would not stimulate the economy, because it gives the bulk of its benefits to those income groups who don't need it. Low- and middle-income families, those hardest hit by inflation and recession, need a tax cut in order to purchase consumer goods and they need it every week, not just in two pitifully small lump sums. Therefore, we will oppose the President's lopsided rebate proposal.

In addition, we will support enactment of a program to give relief to those working poor who pay no income taxes because their earnings are too low. Such a program will also stimulate the economy by giving added purchasing power to those who need it the most.

Following enactment of the needed emergency tax-cut stimulus for the economy, we urge the appropriate committees of the Congress to promptly begin work on closing the loopholes of special tax privilege for the wealthy and corporations. Only through tax justice will the government's needs for tax revenue be met by a fair and equitable tax structure.

II. Immediate government measures to reduce America's dependence on imported oil and establishment of a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing.

President Ford's energy proposals are rationing by unfair taxation and high prices and would not conserve energy. He has proposed unfair tax and price increases for oil and natural gas which would be passed on to all consumers without distinguishing between essential and unessential consumption. In fact, increased energy costs would far exceed the President's proposed tax reductions for the vast majority of American families.

His proposed so-called "windfall profits tax" is not a tax on profits at all. It is yet another excise tax on each barrel of oil and will be paid by consumers. His proposed reduction in the corporate tax rate is economically unjustified.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO urges the Congress to take the following immediate actions:

1—Enact a quota on oil imports, including a ban on such imports originating in those countries that embargoed oil to the United States and Holland in 1973-74.

2—Take the importation of oil out of private hands and place it in the hands of government. The government should determine the amount of oil imported, negotiate its price and provide for its internal allocation.

3—Establish a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing to minimize regional, industry and individual hardships.

4—Reject the President's proposal to deregulate the price of natural gas and decontrol the price of domestic crude oil. In addition, the government should revoke the lease of any oil or natural gas producer who refuses to pump supplies discovered on land leased from the United States. These leases should then be turned over to companies who will produce the needed supplies.

5—Block the President's imposition of a $3 per barrel duty on imported oil. This proposal is nothing more than another excise tax which would be paid by consumers and is particularly discriminatory against the industrialized Northeast.

6—Encourage enforcement of the reduced highway speed limit, encourage drivers to reduce optional trips, increase operating subsidies to mass transit for fare reductions.

7—Terminate U.S. government subsidies for the giant international oil companies, including elimination of the depletion allowance on foreign oil operations and the dollar-for-dollar credit against U.S. taxes for these corporations' royalty and tax payments to foreign governments.

8—Adopt a genuine excess profits tax, such as the successful tax in effect during the Korean War.

9—Stretch out present environmental restrictions on energy production and use to reduce energy consumption and facilitate expansion of domestic energy output. This is a matter of timetable not of objectives. The advance of technology and development of clean energy sources can permit realization of environmental objectives. The two programs should be viewed as compatible parts of a single problem. Extension of auto emission control standards should provide that the auto companies be required to increase mileage per gallon and to lower prices, dollar-for-dollar, for any cost reductions enjoyed as a result of an extension.

10—Establish a petroleum stockpile to guard against future oil embargoes.

When these emergency steps are taken, the Congress must then begin work on creation of a federal oil and gas corporation to provide a yardstick for new energy exploration and development; launch a crash program to develop alternative energy sources and technology; investigate monopolistic practices of the giant oil companies; and regulate foreign investments in the U.S. from the oil-producing areas of the Middle East.

III. Immediate reduction of interest rates and allocation of credit for high-priority social and economic activities.

Under the Credit Control Act of 1969, the President has the authority to direct the Federal Reserve Board to reduce interest rates and allocate credit. If he continues to refuse to use this authority, the Congress must enact legislation mandating the Federal Reserve Board to take these actions.

Significantly lower interest rates are essential to restore the health of the home-building industry and to encourage the general expansion of sales, production and employment. In addition, available credit must be allocated for housing, local government facilities and basic industrial expansion. Curbs must be placed on the extension of credit to speculators, gambling casino operators and foreign borrowers.

The AFL-CIO also urges the following actions:

1—Presidential reactivation of all programs for low- and middle-income housing. Revival of these programs, already authorized and funded by the Congress, would support the construction of thousands of needed housing units, providing jobs on the construction sites and in the various supply industries.

2—An immediate reduction in interest rates for FHA and VA home mortgages to 6 percent under federal mortgage assistance programs.

3—An immediate review of government regulations holding up the awarding of federal funds for the construction of housing.

4—Establishment by the Congress of a government agency to be the lender of last resort for business and state and local governments. The interest rates should be reasonable and loans should be directed at the preservation and creation of jobs in the private sector, including housing, as well as to assist state and local government efforts to maintain and expand public facilities and services.

In addition, the Congress should immediately undertake a broad review of federal housing programs with a view toward expanding federal efforts, better coordinating programs and reducing unnecessary red tape. If the United States can make loans of U.S. taxpayer money to the Soviet Union at 6 and 7 percent interest rates, then it can surely authorize home mortgage loans to the American people at similar interest rates.

IV. Immediate, massive federal efforts to create jobs for the unemployed.

There is only one solution to unemployment, and that is jobs. Therefore, the AFL-CIO urges emergency action on the following job-creating programs:

1—Immediate release of a substantial portion of the $19 billion in appropriated funds impounded by the President. Priority should be given to releasing those funds that would create jobs. Specifically:

a. $9 billion of the impounded funds for construction grants for sewers and waste treatment plants.

b. Nearly $4.4 billion for federal aid to highways.

c. $372.5 million for hospital construction and modernization.

In addition, we urge the President not to carry out his announced intention to impound about $6 billion more in highway funds for Fiscal Year 1976.

Release of these funds could immediately result in orders for building materials and the hiring of workers for on-site construction.

2—Immediate congressional action on an Accelerated Public Works program providing a minimum of $2 billion in grants to communities with high unemployment to enable them to step up short-term construction and repairs of public facilities.

3—Full funding by the Congress and full implementation by the Labor Dept. and state and local governments of the Public Service Employment Program adopted by the Congress in December.

The long lines of applicants for these public service jobs in communities across the country also indicate the need in fiscal 1976 to increase the present authorization so as to provide one million additional public service jobs for Americans who cannot find work.

We insist that federally financed public service jobs must be additional jobs and that state and local governments must not be permitted to fire permanent employes in order to hire temporary public service job seekers. Workers hired under the public service employment program should be accorded the same general conditions of employment as regular state and local government employes.

4—Expansion of federal programs to provide assistance to young people to stay in school, and a doubling of the youth summer job program to help young people earn enough money to return to school in the fall.

V. Immediate action to protect existing jobs from unfair foreign competition.

Because of the nation's economic crisis and the continuing large deficit in the U.S. balance of payments, we urge the President to:

1—Immediately use his powers under the Trade Act of 1974 to establish quotas on imports of industrial goods in those areas where U.S. production has declined in recent months.

2—Immediately impose import restrictions against countries whose trade practices have placed unfair or unreasonable burdens on U.S. commerce.

3—Immediately impose export controls on raw materials and other products in short domestic supply, including petroleum products and coal, through a system of monitoring and licensing.

Because of the unfair economic competition resulting from the expansion of foreign operations of U.S.-based multinational companies, we urge the Congress to:

1—Revoke provisions for the deferral of tax payments on foreign-earned profits.

2—Eliminate the foreign tax credit.

3—Repeal Sections 806:30 and 807 of the Tariff Code which encourage foreign production for shipment back to U.S. markets.

4—Regulate the export of American capital and technology that results in the export of American jobs.

VI. Immediate government assistance to the unemployed to minimize their hardships.

For unemployed workers, the government must:

1—Substantially improve the nation's unemployment insurance system by:

a. Making extended unemployment compensation benefits available to jobless workers recently covered by the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974 for the same duration as for jobless workers covered by the permanent program.

b. Eliminating the "waiting week" requirement in state programs which delays the payment of benefits for the jobless.

c. Increasing the individual's weekly benefit amount to two-thirds of his or her weekly wage, up to 75 percent of the statewide average weekly wage, with the increased costs paid by the federal government during this emergency period.

d. Requiring Employment Security Offices in those areas of substantial unemployment to remain open longer hours all week long, hiring enough additional staff to process claims without the demeaning and unnecessary delays to which the unemployed are presently subjected.

2—Provide health care to the millions of workers who lose their health insurance coverage under employer-employe plans when they become unemployed. The health care crisis facing the unemployed—who are denied Medicaid and stripped of their group coverage—is further evidence of the need for urgent congressional enactment of National Health Security. Therefore, we also call upon the House Ways & Means Committee to quickly hold subcommittee hearings and begin work on the long-neglected problem of an adequate health care system for America.

3—Make the limited Aid to Unemployed Fathers program mandatory in all states. Additionally, because workers exhausting their unemployment insurance will have to rely increasingly on welfare to sustain themselves and their families, Congress must immediately begin work on establishing federal minimum benefit standards for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program.

4—Provide that the increased costs of welfare during the present emergency are borne by the federal government. Ob-

(Continued on Page 7)

During 1974:

Consumers Socked By 12.2% Price Rise

(Continued from Page 1)

tenths of 1 percent rise from November, real spendable earnings —take-home pay adjusted for inflation—were down 5.4 percent from the year-earlier level.

At $89.12, the real spendable weekly earnings of a married worker with three dependents were $2.20 below the level for the year 1965 and $5.12 less than a year ago. December marked the 22nd straight month in which real spendable earnings were below their year-earlier level.

In an analysis of 1974 CPI changes, BLS noted about 40 percent of the increase in the index over the year was due to a rise of 13.2 percent in nonfood commodity prices. Food prices rose 12.2 percent and accounted for a fourth of the annual rise.

"The food index rose sharply in the first quarter, slowed substantially in the second, and accelerated again in the third," BLS noted. "Food prices continued to rise at a rapid rate in the fourth quarter—advancing at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 14.6 percent."

About a third of the rise in the CPI last year was due to an increase of 11.3 percent in the services index, BLS said. Price increases for energy items—gasoline, motor and fuel oil, coal, and residential natural gas and electricity—accounted for more than one-tenth.

The higher prices in December were blamed on most food items, especially sugar and products using sugar, housekeeping supplies, gas and electricity, and public transportation.

"The effect of these increases was partially offset by declines in prices for beef, fresh fruits and vegetables, clothing and used cars," BLS said.

The food component of the CPI rose seven-tenths of 1 percent in December after adjustment for seasonal variations. The nonfood commodities index rose four-tenths of 1 percent, the smallest monthly rise in 1974, while the services index increased nine-tenths of 1 percent, about the same as in October and November.

Food bought in grocery stores increased by eight-tenths of 1 percent from November to December while food purchased away from home — restaurant meals and snacks — rose by 1 percent, BLS reported.

Besides sugar, unusually sharp prices were posted for cereal and bakery products. Prices for these items went up 2.3 percent over the month, or at an annual rate of 27.6 percent. Prices for dairy products rose by 1.7 percent, an annual rate of 20.4 percent.

Pork and poultry prices rose instead of declining as they usually do in December, BLS noted.

Prices continued to increase for a wide range of nonfood commodities. Advances were larger than in recent months for some items such as tobacco products and tires. Gasoline prices rose slightly following four consecutive monthly declines.

Sixty percent of the rise in the services index in December was due to higher charges for household services such as rent, gas, electricity, property taxes and appliance repairs, BLS noted.

Taxicab, railroad, airline and intercity bus fares rose sharply, and auto insurance charges continued to increase over the month. Charges for most other services, such as medical care, recreational and personal care, continued to rise in December.

TWUA Urges Stricter Dust Safeguards

New York—Stricter federal controls are needed on cotton dust to protect textile workers from the disabling "brown lung" disease, the Textile Workers Union of America told the Secretary of Labor.

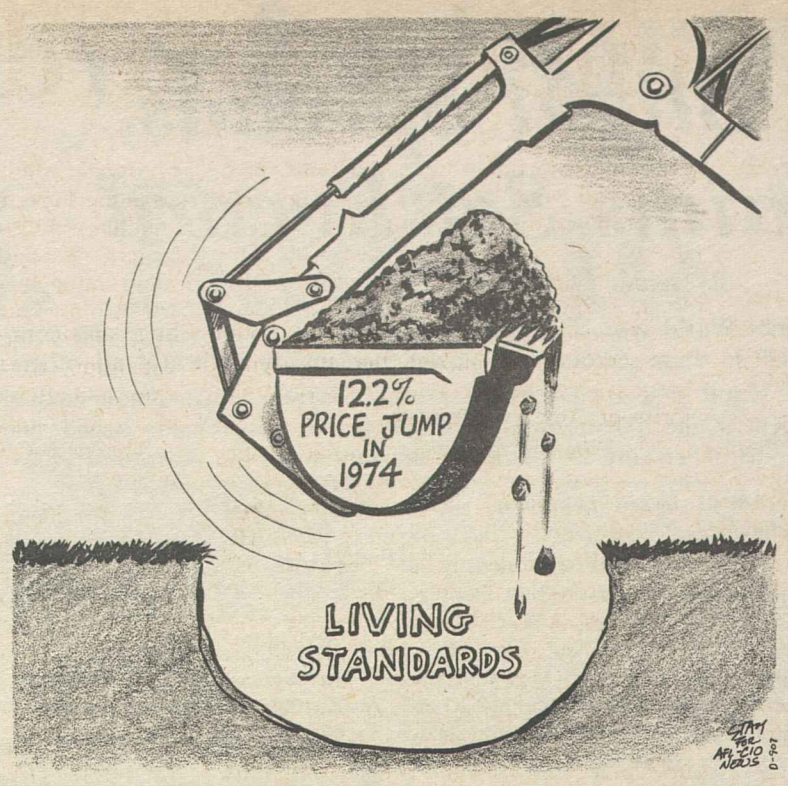
TWUA President Sol Stetin said the current exposure level permitted by the federal government is inadequate in safeguarding workers against byssinosis.

A TWUA petition filed with the Labor Dept. urges immediate action to reduce the health hazard for 800,000 textile workers across the country.

The union has asked the Occupational Safety & Health Administration to set a standard lowering the permissible exposure level in workplaces to cotton dust to 0.1 milligram per cubic meter of air during an eight-hour period—one-tenth of the level currently permitted.

TWUA has estimated that up to 100,000 active and retired textile workers are suffering from brown lung disease. These victims are afflicted with shortness of breath, tightness of the chest and coughing.

A revised criteria document issued recently by the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health recommends that concentrations of the cotton dust be reduced "to the lowest feasible level, but in no case as high as 0.2 milligrams" and further supports the TWUA's petition for the reduction from current levels.



Meany Hits 'Recession' In Human Rights Cause

New York—The cause of human rights is in "a world-wide recession," AFL-CIO President George Meany asserted in a speech to the Jewish Labor Committee's annual award dinner here.

In the United Nations, Meany said, only four nations opposed recognition of "the organized murderers known as the Palestine Liberation Organization."

Human rights "are a mockery in the Soviet Union," he said, "threatened with extinction in the Middle East" and "trampled on by scores of petty dictatorships on several continents."

Meany was the principal speaker at the JLC dinner honoring Clothing Workers President Murray H. Finley with the organization's human rights award. He praised Finley as representative of "a new and up-and-coming generation of labor leaders who combine old-fashioned labor idealism and toughness with the new skills and knowledge that the modern labor movement demands."

To say that the "recession" in human rights came about because people around the world no longer care about human rights, Meany said, is as invalid as to say "that unemployment is rising because people don't want to work any more."

Meany declared that "the cause of human rights in this world is dependent on the strength — the economic strength, the military strength, the moral strength — of the United States."

He expressed a "sense of "bafflement" at some of labor's "liberal friends" who pursue "detente at any price" and who consider free trade as "the road to peace."

The AFL-CIO's foreign policy positions have been consistent, Meany stressed, in supporting democracy and social justice throughout the world.

In the case of beleaguered South Vietnam, he told the gathering, America's choice now is whether to provide the "ammunition" the Vietnamese seek "or make the conscious decision to let the freedom of South Vietnam be permanently destroyed."

Other speakers in the tribute to Finley included New York's Gov. Hugh Carey, who made an unscheduled appearance at the dinner, and Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute. Clothing Workers Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman welcomed the guests in his role as president of the JLC, and Jacob Clayman, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., was dinner chairman.

Finley, in his response, said the continued existence of "a free and responsible labor movement" in the United States is an assurance that the voice of truth "will never be stilled."

Sir Archibald Gordon, Ex-Labor Attache, Dies

London—Sir Archibald Gordon, who served as labor attache and first secretary at the British embassy in Washington from 1943 to 1954, died here before the end of the year. He was 82.

Sir Archibald, who had been in the British civil service since 1912, was widely known as an arbitrator and conciliator. He also had been president of the United Nations League of Lawyers.

'Mop-up' Talks Produce New Oil Contracts

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers signed new national agreements with five more major oil producers, two intermediate-size companies and several smaller firms, as the union proceeded to wind up its current round of negotiations with the industry.

"We're entering the mop-up stage in this bargaining program," OCAW President A. F. Grospiron said. "The companies that still have not settled are attempting to chisel the union on minor details."

About 33,000 of the union's 60,000 members in the industry now are covered by new contracts, he said.

OCAW's national oil bargaining policy committee here approved new two-year agreements with Cities Service, Mobil, British Petroleum, Ashland and Tenneco, all major firms, and with Champlin and Getty, intermediate-size companies.

The pacts generally follow the pattern established in the union's Jan. 10 agreement with Gulf, the first of the major producers to settle. The Gulf settlement increases basic wages by 26.8 percent over the life of the contract. It also provides cost-of-living protection, improved medical and pension benefits, a 10th paid holiday and other fringe benefit improvements.

Meanwhile, the union pressed its demands with strikes against Union Oil, Husky, Phillips Petroleum and Continental Oil—walkouts involving about 3,000 workers.

Strikes against Skelly, Standard Oil of Ohio and Marathon were delayed because talks with the firms were progressing to the union's satisfaction.

The OCAW's 430 local contracts with the industry expired at midnight, Jan. 7. Negotiations are conducted on a plant-by-plant basis with agreements approved by the union's policy bargaining committee before being submitted to the membership for ratification.

Standards Institute Elects 2 Unionists

Two union safety experts have been elected to the board of directors of the American National Standards Institute. They are Alan F. Burch, safety director of the Operating Engineers, and Charles H. Tupper, safety director of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

ANSI is a clearinghouse and coordinating agency for voluntary standards. The 13-member board includes representatives from business, labor and government.

A Program 'to Put America Back to Work'

(Continued from Page 6)

viously, financially hard-pressed states and cities cannot bear the aditional burden.

5—Reject the Administration's efforts to increase the cost of food stamps to the unemployed and the poor. In addition, we urge the following immediate improvements in the food stamp program:

a. Reduction of the present 30-day certification period to 15 days.

b. Adequate staffs of trained workers should be provided to handle certifications.

The AFL-CIO further believes that unions have a special responsibility to help meet the immediate needs of their unemployed members. Therefore, we urge:

1—Local central labor bodies to enlist, through their community service programs, the participation of all government, voluntary and private agencies to expedite the handling of applications, complaints and special needs of the unemployed.

2—Local central labor bodies to work with the Human Resources Development Institute to develop jobs and provide adequate counseling and referral for unemployed union members.

3—State federations to expand their efforts to inform newly-covered unemployed workers of the availability of unemployment insurance benefits and to prod state Employment Security Offices to provide better service for all unemployed.

4—Local central labor bodies to arrange to use union halls as emergency centers for processing unemployment compensation claims in order to reduce the long lines outside overloaded employment service offices.

* * *

Further, we take note of the President's proposal to place a 5 percent ceiling on mandated cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security, Railroad Retirement and civil service and military retirement benefits, and a similar 5 percent ceiling on pay increases for federal employes required under the Federal Pay Comparability Act.

This is unfair and inequitable. On the one hand the President proposes higher prices for just about everything people must buy and, on the other, attempts to deny retirees and federal employes that to which they are legally entitled.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO will vigorously oppose the President's proposed ceiling in the Congress.

Conclusion

This is the AFL-CIO program for action. We present it to the President and to the Congress. And we call for immediate action on each and all of its points.

We pledge to our members, our fellow workers and our fellow citizens that we will not relent in our support of this program to put America back to work.

Industrial Output Plunges:

Economic Blight Spreads, Jobless Claims Set Record

By James M. Shevis

The most precipitous recession since World War II picked up speed as the nation's huge and complex economy ground to a virtual halt in some sectors, and slowed perceptibly in nearly all others.

Starting with a Commerce Dept. report that gross national product, in real terms, plummeted at an annual adjusted rate of 9.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 1974, the government issued one dismal set of statistics after another to underscore the gathering momentum of the downturn:

● A record 970,200 Americans filed new claims for unemployment insurance benefits in the week ended Jan. 11, the highest number of initial claims since the jobless benefits program got under way in 1937, the Labor Dept. announced.

● The nation's industrial output plunged 2.8 percent in December, following a 2.5 percent slide in November, the Federal Reserve Board reported. The December drop showed industrial production 6.5 percent below the year-earlier level.

● The Fed also noted in another report that manufacturers' use of their productive capacity declined to 75.9 percent in the last three months of 1974, the lowest rate since the first quarter of 1972 when capacity use was 75.6 percent.

● The number of new houses started in December dropped to an adjusted annual rate of 868,000, down 12 percent from the previous month and the lowest rate for any month since October 1966. For all of 1974, the number of starts fell 35 percent below the 1973 level, the Commerce Dept. said.

The decline in "real" GNP over the October-December period was the steepest since the first quarter of 1958 when the drop was nearly the same, 9.2 percent. It marked the fourth straight quarter of decline.

Real GNP is the value of the country's total output of goods and services, after adjustment for the effects of inflation.

From the last three-month period of 1973 to the fourth quarter of 1974, real output dropped 5 percent—the sharpest year-to-year decline recorded for any quarter since 1947 when the government began compiling such statistics.

The current recession already is the longest since the Great Depression of the Thirties, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger noted. The downturn began in the fall of 1973, and slid steeply when the Arab oil-producing countries imposed their embargo on the United States.

The 9.1 percent decline in real GNP in fourth-quarter 1974 followed downturns of 1.9 percent in the third quarter, 1.6 percent in the spring quarter and 7 percent in the opening three months of the year. For all of 1974, the drop in real output was 2.2 percent from the previous year.

Reflecting the mounting number of layoffs, particularly since last November, a record 4,627,200 persons were receiving unemployment benefits in the week ended Jan. 4, the Labor Dept. reported. The number of workers covered by jobless insurance who were unemployed reached 7.1 percent. The previous high was 5.2 percent in December, which tied a record set in January 1961.

The largest increase in unemployment insurance benefits payments was in North Carolina which reported heavy layoffs in the textiles, clothing and furniture industries. Other states posting higher volumes of payments were Pennsylvania, New York, California, Tennessee, Connecticut and Michigan.

The large number of new applicants for jobless benefits is expected to swell the January unemployment rate for the nation as a whole. The Bureau of Labor Statistics, which is scheduled to announce the new rate on Feb. 7, normally conducts its joblessness survey during the first workweek of each month.

In its report on the December drop in industrial production, the Federal Reserve Board described the latest declines in production as "large and widespread among products and industrial materials."

On the continuing decline in residential construction, Michael Sumichrast, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders, observed that the "bottom hasn't been reached." He said the housing starts rate "very likely is going to hit an all-time low" in the next 30-60 days.

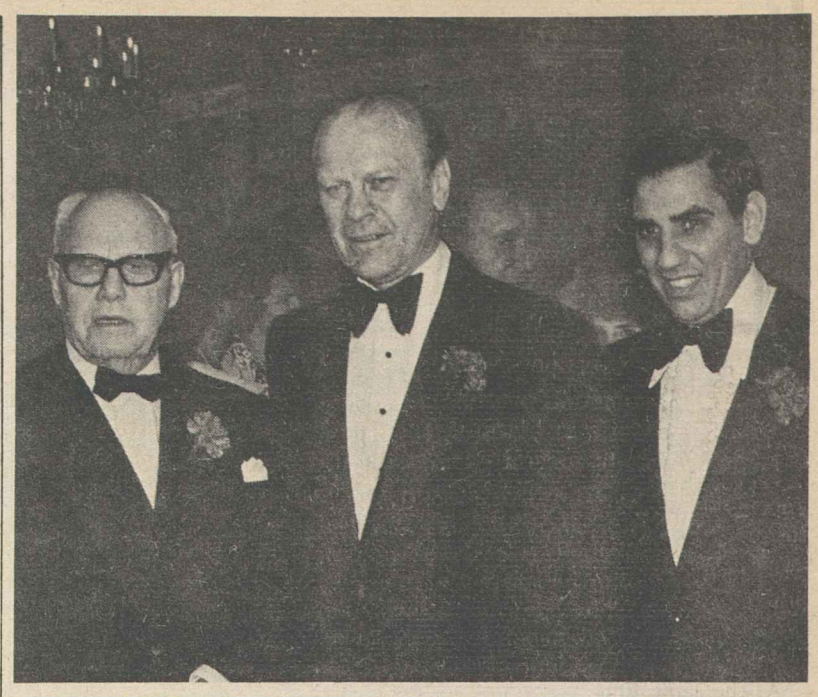
The housing industry, the first to suffer from the current recession, received some cheering news as the Housing & Urban Development Dept. announced a drop from 9 to 8.5 percent in the maximum interest rate on government-backed home loans.

The cutback stemmed partly from recent declines in major banks' prime lending rates. The rate now stands at 10 percent for most lending institutions and at 9.75 percent among a handful.

The prime is the rate banks charge their most creditworthy corporate customers.

Meanwhile, the Conference Board reported consumer confidence in the state of the economy fell to an all-time low in its most recent survey. The board's consumer confidence index dropped to 39.9 percent of its 1969-70 average in the last two months of 1974—9 points below the September-October level and 22 points below the November-December 1973 level.

The index has dropped steadily since last spring. The board's buying plans index in the closing two months of 1974 hit a low of 76.8 percent, 17 points below the year-earlier level.



TESTIMONIAL DINNER for Robert A. Georgine, right, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., included President Ford and Federation President George Meany among the more than 2,000 guests in Washington.

Social Security Panel Asks Payroll Tax Shift

The Social Security Advisory Council edged a step closer to the AFL-CIO's contention that a government contribution should be added to the payroll tax on workers and employers that now finances the program.

It voted tentative approval of a plan that would shift the portion of the payroll tax that is now earmarked for Medicare into the basic social security program. This multi-billion dollar addition would avoid the need for a sudden sharp rise in the taxable wage base or in the social security tax.

Under the proposal endorsed by a 9-4 vote of the advisory council, the federal government would then replenish the Medicare fund from general Treasury revenues.

Thus, if the plan were adopted, the social security program would continue to be funded exclusively by workers and employers but most of the money needed to operate the Medicare program of health care for the elderly would come from general tax revenues.

Additional changes may be made in the advisory council's recommendations before they are sent to the President and Congress. But a draft covering the items of tentative agreements included these statements:

● "The earnings-related OASDI program should be preserved as the nation's primary means of providing economic security in the event of retirement, death or disability. Future changes . . . should conform to the fundamental principles of the program: universal compulsory coverage, earnings-related benefits paid without a test of need, and contributions toward the cost of the program from covered workers and employers."

● Benefits for persons added to the retirement rolls in the future should be more closely tied to earnings levels, with cost-of-living increases limited to the post-retirement period.

● Persons receiving social security benefits who have annual earnings of over $2,520 a year now lose $1 of benefits for each $2 in wages above that amount until the age of 72, when there is no earnings restriction. The council proposed a less rapid loss of benefits after the earnings cutoff is reached. It recommended that $1 of benefits should be withheld for every $3 of earnings between the exempt amount and twice the exempt amount, and $1 for $2 above that level.

● Sex differences should be ended, but dependent benefits should be reduced if a dependent is receiving a pension for work that had not been covered by social security.

The document noted that not all of the council members agreed with all recommendations and that differing views might be filed when the report is completed.

First Quarter NLRB Cases Jump by 10.3%

The National Labor Relations Board reported it processed 11,600 cases of all types during the first three months of its 1975 fiscal year, which began last July. The total was 10.3 percent above the year-earlier period.

The case intake of 11,600 was also the largest number for any July-September period, the NLRB noted in a statistical summary. The number of unfair labor practice charges filed during the three-month period was 12.9 percent higher than the like period a year earlier, and the number of representation petitions was up 6.6 percent.

The overall 10.3 percent rate of increase was substantially greater than for all of fiscal 1974 when the 42,373 cases filed with the board—a record number in itself—were just 3.2 percent more than in the preceding fiscal year.

The NLRB received 7,636 charges during the quarter alleging that employers, unions or both had violated provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, 875 more than were filed a year earlier.

In addition, there were 3,964 petitions for employe representation elections, union-shop deauthorization polls, amendment of union-representation certifications and clarifications of employe bargaining units, an increase of 210 over the same quarter of fiscal year 1974.

Building Trades, Navajo Nation Reach Pioneer Job Training Pact

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and the Navajo Nation jointly announced the signing of an unprecedented agreement under which Navajo workers will train as apprentices in a number of building and construction trades.

BCTD President Robert A. Georgine said the agreement provides an organized method of training Navajos to become qualified building trades craftsmen.

"For the building and construction trades, it is a first venture," Georgine observed. "Never before have we had an overall training program for the development of skills which simultaneously involved all of our affiliates. We consider it a most significant development."

Navajo Tribal Council Chairman Peter MacDonald also praised the pact as a "giant step forward for Navajo workers."

"Our people now have an opportunity," MacDonald said, "to become skilled craftsmen and to bring their wages up to the level long enjoyed by union workers."

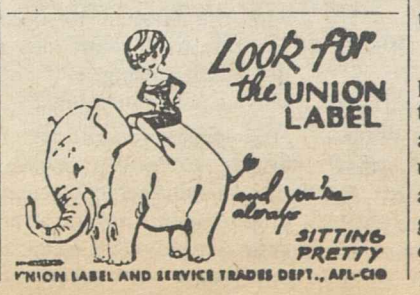
In addition to the training and work opportunities, another main purpose of the agreement is to insure that all construction work within the vast Navajo Reservation — in the states of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Colorado — shall proceed efficiently, economically and without interruption.

Meanwhile, a Navajo Construction Industry Manpower Program is being organized to increase the rate at which Navajo Indians have been securing suitable employment opportunities in the construction industry, especially within or near the Navajo Reservation.

NCIMP grew out of the joint efforts of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., a committee of international representatives appointed by the presidents of building trades international unions, the Four Corner States building trades organization (New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado), the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, and the Office of Navajo Labor Relations.

The principal objective of NCIMP will be to produce construction industry journeymen by bringing Navajos into the construction industry via the apprenticeship route and, for those beyond apprenticeship age but in possession of some of the occupational skills, through journeyman training programs.

NCIMP also will develop and coordinate technical assistance activities aimed at improving the ability of Navajo contractors to compete successfully and achieve a greater share of the construction activities.



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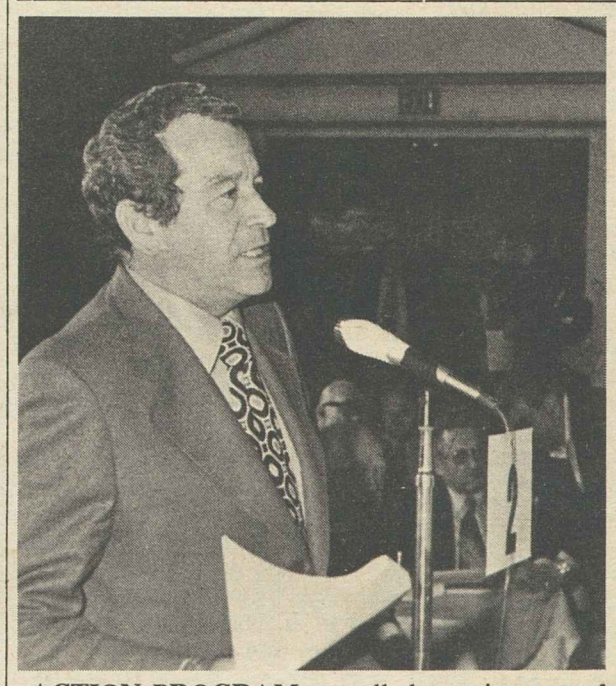
Labor Presses Tax Slash To Revive Buying Power



ACTION PROGRAM to pull the nation out of recession was strongly supported in floor discussion at the AFL-CIO General Board meeting. Among the participants were Sol. C. Chaikin, left secretary-treasurer of the Ladies' Garment Workers, and President Clyde M. Webber of the Government Employees. **(Story, Page 3)**

Economy Continues Sharp Skid

The nation's economic outlook grew steadily bleaker as the Commerce Dept. reported its index of leading indicators dropped in December for the fifth straight month.

The index, a barometer of the state of the economy which the government uses to forecast trends, fell 2.4 percent over the month. The cumulative decline of 11 percent since last summer was the steepest slide in the index's history.

At the same time, the Commerce Dept. revised its original estimate of the November drop in the index from 1.5 percent to 3.5 percent, the largest one-month drop on record.

Of the nine economic indicators in the index, six pointed toward deepening recession. They included new claims for unemployment insurance benefits, new orders for durable goods, stock prices, consumer installment debt, the average workweek and the price of industrial materials.

Grim news also flowed from the Labor Dept. in the form of the government's weekly report on the number of workers drawing or filing for the first time for unemployment insurance benefits.

For the latest reporting period, the week ended Jan. 18, another 851,700 initial claims for benefits were filed at employment security offices across the country. A total of 4,561,300 persons were actually receiving benefits for the week ended Jan. 11.

Meanwhile, other sectors of the economy revealed drastic cutbacks in machine tool orders in December, a severe drop in the volume of newspaper help-wanted advertising and a steady stream of reductions in work forces and production schedules.

New orders for durable goods were off 11.1 percent in December, the steepest decline in more than 20 years, the Commerce Dept. reported. And the Labor Dept. issued a report showing productivity in the private economy fell at the annual rate of 10.1 percent during the last three months of 1974. For calendar year 1974, the government said, the output of goods and services declined 2.7 percent, the first year-to-year drop on record.

Among the new layoffs were a 2,000-worker reduction at Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., Virginia's largest private employer, and a cutback of 3,000 employes at Seatrain Shipbuilding Corp. of New York.

Other big layoffs were ordered

(Continued on Page 3)

Backs Bid To Block Oil Tariff

The AFL-CIO pressed Congress for an immediate tax cut of at least $20 billion to halt the nation's slide into economic disaster.

Most of the tax reduction should go to the low-income and middle-income households "whose need for increased purchasing power is greatest," AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger told the House Ways & Means Committee.

Goldfinger submitted to the panel the emergency economic program adopted by the AFL-CIO General Board the previous week. It includes the tax cut package that had been unanimously recommended by the President's Labor-Management Advisory Committee — and largely ignored by President Ford.

Unless purchasing power can be increased, Goldfinger warned, "there is no end in sight" to mounting unemployment and production cutbacks.

He said the AFL-CIO "fully supports" the attempt by the Ways & Means Committee to block the President's power to impose a $3 per barrel tariff on imported oil. He termed such a tariff "nothing more than another unfair excise tax" that would be passed on to consumers through higher prices that would swallow up the added purchasing power generated by a tax cut. It would also cause extensive hardship in the northeastern states, he warned.

Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) and the enlarged Democratic majority of the tax-writing Ways & Means Committee appeared moving towards a two-phase tax cut that would include a limited rebate on 1974 taxes with a reduction in

(Continued on Page 8)

Despite Gains:

1974 Pay Increases Trail Cost of Living

Union negotiators achieved first-year wage increases averaging 9.8 percent in major collective bargaining agreements in 1974—substantially more than the 1973 and 1972 averages but still well below the pace needed to keep even with soaring living costs, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Consumer prices last year climbed 12.2 percent over the year before, the highest over-the-year rise since 1946.

First-year wage boosts under contracts covering 1,000 workers or more averaged 5.8 percent in 1973 and 7.3 percent in 1972. The 9.8 percent rate last year was lower than the average first-year increases negotiated in both 1970 and 1971, before the government imposed economic controls.

In 1970 and 1971, first-year increases averaged 11.6 percent for each year.

A BLS survey of major bargaining settlements reached during 1974 showed that increases averaged 7.3 percent annually when measured over the life of the contract, compared with a 5.1 percent average in 1973 settlements.

The BLS survey covered 1,171 contracts affecting nearly 5 million workers in the private sector of the economy, primarily in the steel, communications, construction, retail trade, apparel and bituminous coal mining industries.

In key contracts—those covering 5,000 workers or more—the first-year increase in wages and benefits combined averaged 10.7 percent in 1974, up from 7.1 percent in 1973. Measured over the life of the contracts, the wage benefits packages under such agreements averaged 7.7 percent a year compared with 6.1 percent in 1973.

The report also showed that major contracts negotiated in 1974 had an average duration of 30.2 months. Overall, BLS noted, the size of wage-rate settlements tended to decline as contract duration grew.

About 60 percent of the agreements concluded last year contained cost-of-living escalator clauses

(Continued on Page 2)

4 Rail Unions Reach Accord On New Pact

Four unions representing more than half of the nation's 500,000 railroad workers have reached tentative agreement on new contracts with the carriers increasing wages and other benefits by 41.6 percent over a three-year period.

Two of the unions—the Signalmen and Maintenance of Way Employees — approved the settlement at meetings of their general chairmen.

President Al H. Chesser of the United Transportation Union said the agreement is being mailed to local chairmen for approval at membership meetings. The fourth union, the Sheet Metal Workers, is putting the terms directly to its members through a mail referendum.

The Railway & Airline Clerks and the Machinists, meanwhile

(Continued on Page 3)

Health Security Case Brought Before AMA

Chicago—Labor took its case for National Health Security to the American Medical Association, stressing that access to quality care by all citizens must be the "fundamental test" of any national health insurance proposal.

AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said in a statement presented to the AMA's National Leadership Conference here that labor and the AMA are generally agreed on what the nation's health care needs are, but disagree on the approach required to meet those goals.

Seidman noted that while America "has no peer" when it comes to the scientific and clinical aspects of medical practice, not all of its citizens can afford to get the quality care.

A key element of Health Security would be fully prepaid comprehensive health care coverage for all without deductibles or co-insurance, he pointed out.

The Medicredit proposal supported by the AMA is tied to the deductible and co-insurance approach, Seidman observed, while the Health Security plan would be financed through payroll taxes on employers, employes and other individuals, matched by general revenue funds.

(Continued on Page 2)

Rights Coalition Spurs Drive for Jobs, Justice

The Civil Rights Leadership Conference will mobilize its coalition of black, labor, church and liberal organizations to fight the unemployment and inflation that hit hardest "those least able to bear it—the poor and minorities."

Chairman Roy Wilkins warned the Leadership Conference's annual board meeting that "civil rights and social peace do not thrive in an atmosphere of economic scarcity and injustice." As the poor of all races and ethnic groups compete for a "diminishing number of decent jobs and dwellings," Wilkins said, "tension grows and the danger of intergroup conflict and social disruption mounts."

Wilkins, who is also executive director of the NAACP, acknowledged differences within the civil rights coalition.

"The NAACP and AFL-CIO do not always see eye-to-eye. Differences arise between black and Jewish groups and between blacks and the Spanish-speaking."

But, he stressed, there is "far

(Continued on Page 2)

'74 Pay Hikes Trail Rise in Living Costs

(Continued from Page 1)

compared with about 40 percent in 1973. They provided for average annual wage gains of 6.1 percent, exclusive of any potential cost-of-living increases, compared with 4.9 percent in 1973.

Contracts without cost-of-living escalators provided for annual wage adjustments averaging 9.1 percent, compared with 5.3 percent in 1973.

The acceleration in wage increases negotiated in 1974 was more pronounced in non-manufacturing than in manufacturing. In non-manufacturing, first-year increases for some 3.2 million workers averaged 10.4 percent; the life-of-the-contract increase was 7.9 percent a year.

In the manufacturing sector, first-year increases for about 1.8 million workers averaged 8.7 percent while over the life of the contract raises averaged 6.1 percent a year.

For the 1.1 million construction workers covered under major agreements last year, first-year increases averaged 11 percent compared with 5 percent in 1973. On a life-of-contract basis, construction settlements provided 9.5 percent average increases per year, compared with 5.1 percent in 1973.

During 1974, escalator clauses were introduced in 164 settlements covering 869,000 workers, BLS noted. This was the largest expansion of such coverage since 1971, when unions in the steel and communications industries adopted COL clauses.

BLS said the 1974 pickup in escalator coverage occurred in a wide variety of industries, including construction, bituminous coal, and apparel where such provisions were previously uncommon. COL escalator clauses now cover about 5.3 million, or 51 percent, of all workers in major bargaining units, BLS said.

Wurf Urges Special Aid to States, Cities

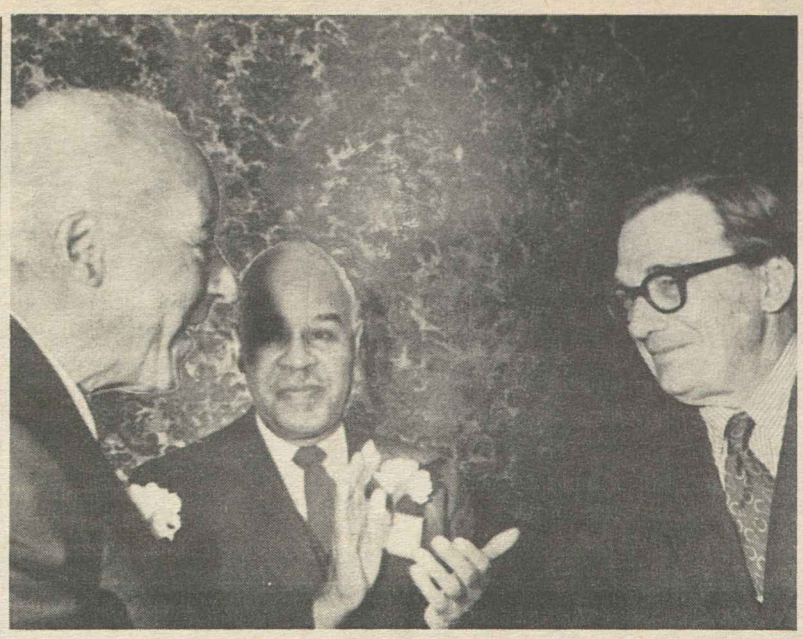
The State, County & Municipal Employees warned that a $5 to $6 billion "emergency transfusion" of federal funds to the states and cities is needed to avert the "worst wave of layoffs since the great depression."

AFSCME President Jerry Wurf at a news conference in Washington called upon public officials and Congress to rally behind the cities and states with special financial assistance and full funding for existing federal aid programs.

He said "a special grant of between $5 and $6 billion specifically aimed at maintaining the level of service envisioned at the time that state and local government budgets for the current fiscal year were being formulated" would reverse a wave of public employment layoffs that threaten to debilitate government services.

Attributing the municipal finance crisis to decreasing tax revenues and increasing operating costs. Wurf specifically cited cutbacks under way in New York City, Baltimore and Atlanta.

He said slashes in city services "become the problem of a mentally retarded child with inadequate training facilities, of an elderly widow on an unsafe street, of poor, congested neighborhoods with twice-a-month garbage collection."



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE on Civil Rights honored one of its founders, A. Philip Randolph, at its annual board meeting. Randolph, for half a century a leader in both the trade union and civil rights movements, is congratulated by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. Leading the applause is Roy Wilkins, chairman of the conference and executive director of the NAACP.

Health Security Case Brought Before AMA

(Continued from Page 1)

He noted that 40 national organizations—representing labor, farmers and consumers—are convinced that only Health Security meets the precepts of a comprehensive national health insurance program.

"Consumers want comprehensive health care benefits without deductibles and co-insurance," Seidman said. "They want fully prepaid medical care. They want to pay for their medical care when they are well and working, not when they are sick and off the job."

In a panel discussion before the AMA conference, he stressed that Health Security would be administered and financed on "tried and tested" principles of social insurance that have proved successful in other countries.

He also refuted a number of misleading statements that have been used by opponents of the Health Security approach. Health Security would not establish socialized medicine, he stressed, nor would it make doctors government employes. It would not abolish fee-for-service practice, nor force doctors into groups. It would not establish government control over the practice of medicine, nor adversely affect the doctor-patient relationship.

Neither would Health Security cost the American people more than any of the alternate national health insurance proposals, Seidman stressed.

The cost of health care adds up to the same total whether it's paid through taxes, insurance premiums or out-of-pocket fees, he noted. And the same initial total would be reached under any national health insurance program, or even if none is enacted.

If Health Security were launched in fiscal year 1976, Seidman said the initial total cost would be about $76 billion. While the additional federal funds needed would be $28 billion—over and above present expenditures—nearly $6 billion of that would represent relief to states and localities because medical services for the poor would be shifted to Health Security.

The major difference between Health Security and other proposals is that the alternative plans rely on insurance companies to administer the programs and to collect premiums from employers and workers, he said.

Proponents of the alternative measures would have consumers believe that mandatory premium payments are less painful than mandatory taxes, Seidman observed. "Frankly," he said, "we do not see the difference."

The AFL-CIO is strongly supporting National Health Security because it is convinced that national funding, national budgeting, careful planning to eliminate waste, and quality incentives are needed if all Americans are to receive health care, he said.

Times Reporter Wins Guild's Broun Award

Selwyn Raab, a reporter for the New York Times, received the Newspaper Guild's 1974 Heywood Broun Award for an article revealing new evidence calling into question the convictions in 1967 of former top-ranking boxer Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis for a triple murder in Paterson, N.J.

The 34th annual award, which includes a citation and a $1,000 prize, was presented at a luncheon with the Guild executive board. The award memorializes the newspaper columnist who was the Guild's first president.

The judges said Raab's entry was selected from a record 110 entries on the basis of three major criteria: (1) the effort to right a wrong; (2) the human qualities of the story, and (3) the reporter's initiative.

Raab's investigative reporting, spanning more than a year, resulted in reopening of the judicial process in the case and, the judges said, "reflected Broun's deep concern for justice and the underdog."

Honorable mentions were awarded to Linda Pavlik of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Michael Graham and Jim Neubacher of the Detroit Free Press, and Mark Etheridge III and Michael Schwartz of the Charlotte Observer.

Judges were Richard Valeriani, diplomatic correspondent for NBC News; Frances L. Lewine, White House correspondent for the Associated Press, and Raymond G. Dick, assistant managing editor of the Washington Star-News.

Economic Justice:

Civil Rights Group Presses Jobs Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

more agreement than division" and unity in a commitment to "the goal of a free, plural, democratic society that accords equal opportunity, equal justice and equal treatment to all its citizens."

Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., executive director of the National Urban League, warned that the economic collapse has "already wiped out many of the scant economic gains blacks have made" and expressed concern that it might put "new strains on the civil rights movement itself, as black people and minorities struggle for economic opportunities."

Jordan stressed that "the fundamental interests of blacks and whites are the same. Both need basic social and economic reforms. Both need jobs, wages and housing. Both need that open, integrated society without which other reforms will have little effect."

He called for unity behind a program of full employment, a family income floor, decent housing for all and a quality national health insurance system.

The link between labor and the civil rights movement was spotlighted in the presentation of the Leadership Conference's annual award to A. Philip Randolph, who devoted his life to both causes.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland spoke for the Leadership Conference in the tribute to Randolph, one of those who helped establish the conference 26 years ago. Kirkland noted that Randolph, longtime AFL-CIO vice president, had "a closetful of plaques" and presented him with a book inscribed by the conference officers to a man "who personifies our coalition's principles of liberty, equality and human dignity for all people. His life of struggle for these goals is our example."

Randolph, noting that he will be 86 in April, spoke of the unity of the "two great forces" for social change, the labor movement and the civil rights movement.

Standing tall and dignified at the podium, he was greeted by wave after wave of applause at the luncheon presentation.

The conference heard reports from task forces in a number of fields and put particular emphasis on an anticipated legislative battle this year for extension of the Voting Rights Act, whose passage in 1965 broke down racial barriers to voter registration in the South.

The law will expire June 30 unless Congress acts. A panel chaired by Clarence Mitchell, the LCCR's legislative director, stressed the continued need for the law.

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger was one of the panelists in an afternoon program chaired by Bayard Rustin, who heads the Leadership Conference's executive committee.

Goldfinger said the progress made during the 1960s in narrowing the economic gap between blacks and whites has been set back by the economic crisis that has fallen disproportionately on blacks.

A delegation from the conference presented the coalition's program to President Ford at a 45-minute meeting in the White House.

Air Controllers Draft Safety Guideline Policy

Chicago—The Air Traffic Controllers drafted a two-phase program for improving safety standards for the nation's air traffic system at a special meeting of 300 PATCO representatives.

The PATCO program encompasses both short- and long-range efforts to reduce airline accidents. The 15,000-member organization is an affiliate of the Marine Engineers.

A resolution adopted unanimously reaffirmed the need of PATCO members to maintain "the highest professional standards in their work by adhering to all regulations and procedures established by the Federation Aviation Administration."

PATCO said the decision to adhere closely to FAA rules comes in the wake of recent accidents followed by the agency's efforts to impose "an arbitrary and capricious program of severe disciplinary action for controllers who are involved in system errors, no matter what the facts may be."

In an effort to meet long-range accident prevention efforts, PATCO President John Leyden said the union has created a safety committee to develop guidelines for controllers. He said the guidelines may go well beyond the current standards set by the FAA.

Leyden said that the recent FAA action affecting PATCO members and the agency's rejection of the union's suggestions for the use of improved technology to upgrade air safety has adversely affected the morale of the controllers.

Leyden also expressed concern over news reports that three aviation industry officials are being considered to succeed FAA Administrator Alexander Butterfield, raising further fears that the government agency created to regulate the airlines is becoming a captive of the industry.

Additional stress between FAA and PATCO stems from the failure to reach a collective bargaining agreement with the agency after 11 months of negotiations, Leyden said.

Representatives at the one-day meeting extended full authority to Leyden and PATCO Executive Vice Pres. Robert Poli to continue negotiations in the effort to "achieve a satisfactory agreement."

Dystrophy Group Re-Elects Unionists

Los Angeles—Seven trade union officials, including AFL-CIO President George Meany, were re-elected corporate members of the Muscular Dystrophy Association at its annual meeting here.

The others are union presidents Hal C. Davis of the Musicians, James T. Housewright of the Retail Clerks, W. Howard McClennan of the Fire Fighters, Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes and James H. Rademacher of the Letter Carriers, and Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to Meany.

Donahue, O'Neal and McClennan also were re-elected to the MDA board of directors.

At General Board Meeeting:

Union Leaders Spur Action On Labor's Jobs Program

The AFL-CIO action program to halt further economic deterioration and get America back to work was strongly backed by leaders of federation affiliates who called for its immediate implementation.

As Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland presented the program at the AFL-CIO General Board meeting, its major elements were spelled out in detail by a series of speakers.

"This is no time for pussyfooting by either the Executive or Legislative Branch of government or by the two major political parties," President Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipefitters declared.

"When the unemployment lines are as long as they are today, the federal government has a clear responsibility to put forth an immediate and massive effort to create jobs."

Ward said the jobs program outlined in the plan adopted by the General Board contains elements that "have been used successfully in the past to stimulate a stagnating economy." And, he stressed, "never have they been more desperately needed than today."

Analyses of other parts of the program were presented by Iron Workers President John H. Lyons, who looked at the board's emergency tax package; Seafarers President Paul Hall on the energy recommendations; Sec. Joseph D. Keenan of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers on the need to lower interest rates; Rubber Workers President Peter Bommarito on steps to protect American jobs from unfair foreign competition, and President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees on aid to the jobless.

Speaking on the special problems of federal workers, Government Employees President Clyde M. Webber noted the federation's action program opposes the Administration's plan to put a 5 percent ceiling on wage increases for federal employes and military personnel this year. He expressed appreciation for the support the AFL-CIO "will be giving us in this battle as we go down the line."

Repeatedly, the union leaders castigated the Ford Administration for its delaying tactics in combating the deepening recession. The President now has the power to create jobs for the unemployed and the authority to act against high interest rates, but his economic counselors have given him poor advice, they charged.

"What can the President do?" Ward asked. "The most important thing is to admit to himself that the economic program he has put forth will not solve the recession and will not impede inflation," he said.

"On the one hand, it purports to put more dollars into consumers' hands, and on the other it takes these dollars away.

"It would produce additional social and economic inequities, but it will not produce a net increase in either consumer spending or jobs," Ward stressed.

He called upon Ford to release immediately a substantial portion of the $19 billion he is impounding —funds already appropriated by Congress—and funnel it toward construction programs that would create jobs.

Hall charged Ford's energy proposals, including his plan to impose a $3 per barrel tax on imported oil, constitute "the biggest rip-off in the history of this country."

He said that if it is put through, "this $3 a barrel (tax) is going to translate itself right off the bat to a $50 billion per year rip-off. And it's going to come right down to you, the working people and the ordinary people of this country."

He said the AFL-CIO energy proposals—which include import quotas, "a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing," blockage of the President's proposed tariff on foreign oil and a genuine excess profits tax—would result in significant cutbacks in the price of oil.

Lyons observed that the $20 billion tax cut recommended to stimulate the economy would place increased purchasing power in the hands of those who most need it.

"It is truly aimed at the average worker, not at the top 15 percent of the work force who would be the recipients of approximately 85 percent of the tax rebates proposed by the Administration," Lyons said.

Seventy-five percent of the nation's taxpayers earn less than $15,000 a year, he noted, "and it is this huge majority that would receive the benefits of this program. It is this huge majority that would rapidly transfer these tax reductions into purchases that would put people back to work."

Under the AFL-CIO plan, individual income taxes would be cut a total of $15 billion, with a $375 maximum cut per return. Corporate taxes would be reduced $5 billion by raising the investment tax credit from 7 to 12 percent generally and from 4 to 12 percent for utilities.

Keenan, addressing the crisis brought on by the Federal Reserve Board's tight money policy, pointed out that most families cannot afford to buy homes at today's record-high mortgage interest rates. He called on Congress to adopt the federation's proposals for lower interest rates.

"Congress should amend the Emergency Home Purchase Assistance Act of 1974," he said, "to provide that for mortgages with an original principal amount of $35,000 or less, the maximum mortgage interest rate is to be 2 percentage points below the maximum interest rate prescribed in accordance with a formula in that act. This would mean about a 6 percent rate."

Keenan also called for a fairer method of credit allocation, urging Congress to enact legislation "to create the machinery for selective regulation of capital and credit fund extensions when the demands for funds exceed the supply."

Wurf observed that the federation's recommendations for assisting the nation's unemployed workers "is an indictment of this rich society." The board's program is both "comprehensive" and "realistic," he said.

Bommarito warned that the Ford Administration is again preparing to "blitz" Congress in an attempt to subsidize multinational companies and get most-favored-nation status for the Soviet Union, moves that would cost the United States both jobs and revenue.

The AFL-CIO economic program would prevent the export of American jobs to foreign countries, he said, and, it also would remove those tax advantages that encourage U.S. corporations to move their operations overseas.

4 Rail Unions Reach Agreement on Contract

(Continued from Page 1)

have broken off negotiations with the National Railway Labor Conference, the carriers' bargaining arm, and have asked the National Mediation Board to enter the talks.

Mediation also got under way betwene the carriers and four shopcraft unions—the Carmen, Firemen & Oilers, Boilermakers-Blacksmiths and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers—following a one-day strike against three railroads.

The unions were free to take "self-help" action under the Railway Labor Act after 10 days had elapsed from the breakdown of talks. The struck lines, the Chesapeake & Ohio, Burlington Northern and Louisville & Nashville, petitioned the Mediation Board to enter the dispute.

President Harold C. Crotty of the Waymen described the new agreement as "the largest contract gain in the brotherhood's history."

Announcing terms of the settlement, Crotty said the 41.6 percent total contract gain breaks down as follows: wages and cost-of-living adjustments, 37.5 percent; added health and welfare costs, 2.5 percent; a dental plan, 1.2 percent, and an additional paid holiday, four-tenths of 1 percent.

The agreements between the carriers and the other three unions generally parallel the terms announced by the Maintenance of Way Employees.

Under the new pact, BMWE's 100,000 members in the United States will receive wage boosts of 10 percent retroactive to Jan. 1 when the old agreement expired; 5 percent effective Oct. 1; 3 percent on Apr. 1, 1976, and a final 4 percent on July 1, 1977.

A cost-of-living escalator clause is included in the agreement with provision for a periodic "roll in" of accumulated COL increases.

The COL clause, effective Jan. 1, 1976, will add at six-month intervals 1 cent in wages for each rise of four-tenths of a point in the consumer price index for the first three adjustments. The final adjustment will be made at the rate of 1 cent for each rise of three-tenths of a point. There is a maximum allowance of 68 cents an hour in COL increases over the life of the contract.

The dental plan is a first for the union. Addition of the day before Christmas as a paid holiday becomes effective in 1976, and will give BMWE members a total of 10 paid holidays.

Crotty noted the initial 10 percent wage boost "will put substantial buying power in our members' hands right now when it is vitally needed both to help them catch up with high prices and to stimulate our bogged-down economy."

Other rail unions now in various stages of negotiations with the industry are the Railway Supervisors, Train Dispatchers, Locomotive Engineers, Transport Workers, and the Yardmasters.

The Sheet Metal Workers, in addition to its tentative agreement on the new three-year wage-benefits package, also reached a settlement of its work-rules dispute with the carriers that dates back to February 1973.

Index Shows Economy in Steep Slide

(Continued from Page 1)

by Armstrong Rubber Co. in West Haven, Conn.; General Electric at Schenectady, N.Y.; Cummins Engine Co., Columbus, Ind., and Dayco Corp., Dayton, Ohio.

The December drop in machine tool orders—1.5 percent from the November level—brought such orders to a level 66 percent below the year-earlier total.

The 8.1 percent decline in the volume of help-wanted ads last month dropped the Conference Board's index of help-wanted newspaper advertising 30.7 percent below a year earlier.

"Since July of 1974, the index has fallen 34 percent," the research organization noted. The unemployment rate has risen to 7.1 percent from a cyclical low of 4.6 percent reached in October of 1973.

"Historical precedent and current analysis combine to suggest that neither the fall in help-wanted advertising nor the rise in unemployment will be arrested before the unemployment rate reaches 8 percent."

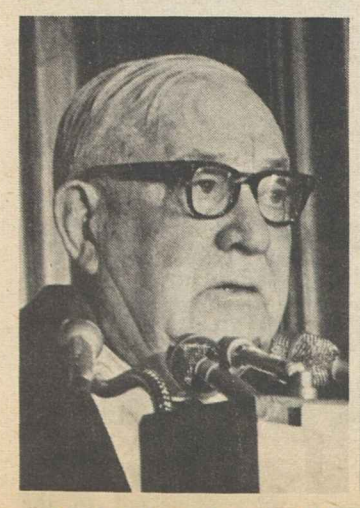
Strike Rise Tied To Lag in Wages

Strikes resulted in 2.4 days of idleness out of every 1,000 worked in 1974, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The number of days lost to work stoppages last year compared with 1.4 and 1.5 in 1973 and 1972, respectively. While higher than in either of those two years, last year's level was considerably below that of 1971 and 1970.

Last year's increase was attributed to a backlash from the removal of wage-price controls from the economy on Apr. 30, and to the fact that 1974 was a heavy collective bargaining year.

When controls were lifted, "unions demanded substantial wage increases in an effort to catch up with the accelerated rise in consumer prices," BLS said.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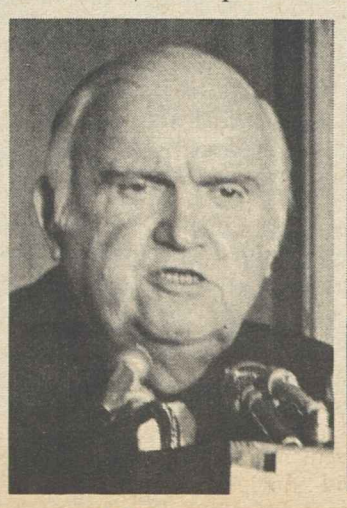
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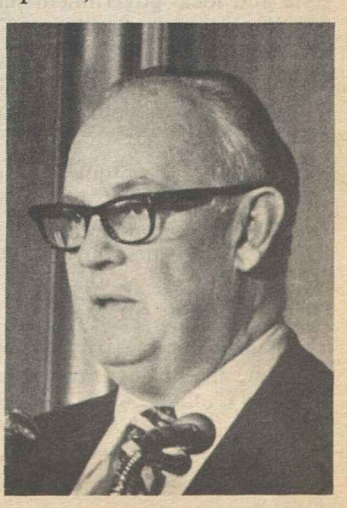
MARTIN J. WARD

On Blackmail . . .

ADMINISTRATION POLICIES that paid blackmail to the Arab extortionists, that emptied America's grain reserves, that exported other goods in short domestic supply, that tightened the money supply and jacked up interest rates—those are the direct causes of double-digit inflation and recession.

It wasn't wage increases or excessive demand or social security increases or a drop in productivity.

Every American schoolchild could have told the government how to handle the blackmail demands of the Arab oil sheiks. The response should have been: "Not one cent for tribute."

Instead, Henry Kissinger had a new quotation for the history books: "Pay."

And pay we did. And we will continue to pay until the United States deals with the blackmailers in the manner that they deserve.

No tribute, no foreign aid, no trade, no jet fighters—nothing, until the blackmail stops.

If the United States embargoed oil from those countries that cut off supplies to this country, there would be hardship. There would have to be strict allocations and strict rationing.

But allocations and rationing are a small price to pay to avoid total economic collapse and to take America's economic destiny out of the hands of the Arab sheiks.

. . . and Unemployment

I WANT TO TALK about the misery of unemployment. I think some people have forgotten just how miserable it is.

The National Association of Manufacturers is promoting the idea that unemployment is not all that bad.

While the NAM would never be expected to know the depths of despair unemployment causes for a worker and his family, I think that many in Congress may have also forgotten.

If you think your representative or senator needs to be reminded when he next comes home for a visit, take him with you to the unemployment office.

Invite him to stand in the cold with those in the unemployment lines and shiver. And to wait in line for hours to sign up for benefits, only to have to return to stand in line for hours to get the check.

Maybe those Administration advisers who call for balanced budgets should go home with an unemployed worker, and sit at the dinner table with the worker's family while they figure out how to balance their budget.

Maybe an Arthur Burns or an Alan Greenspan can figure out which is more important: medicine or milk. Maybe they can figure out which kid is the sickest, so that he can go to the doctor and get a prescription that will be divided among the other children.

Maybe these same advisers should go with the unemployed worker seeking work. Let them have the door slammed in their face. Let them hear—over and over again—"We're not hiring."

Maybe—just maybe—if the people's representatives in the Congress and the Administration's policymakers see, feel, touch and taste the people's problems, then jobs will be created for Americans.

—From AFL-CIO President George Meany's address to the AFL-CIO General Board, Jan. 23, 1975.

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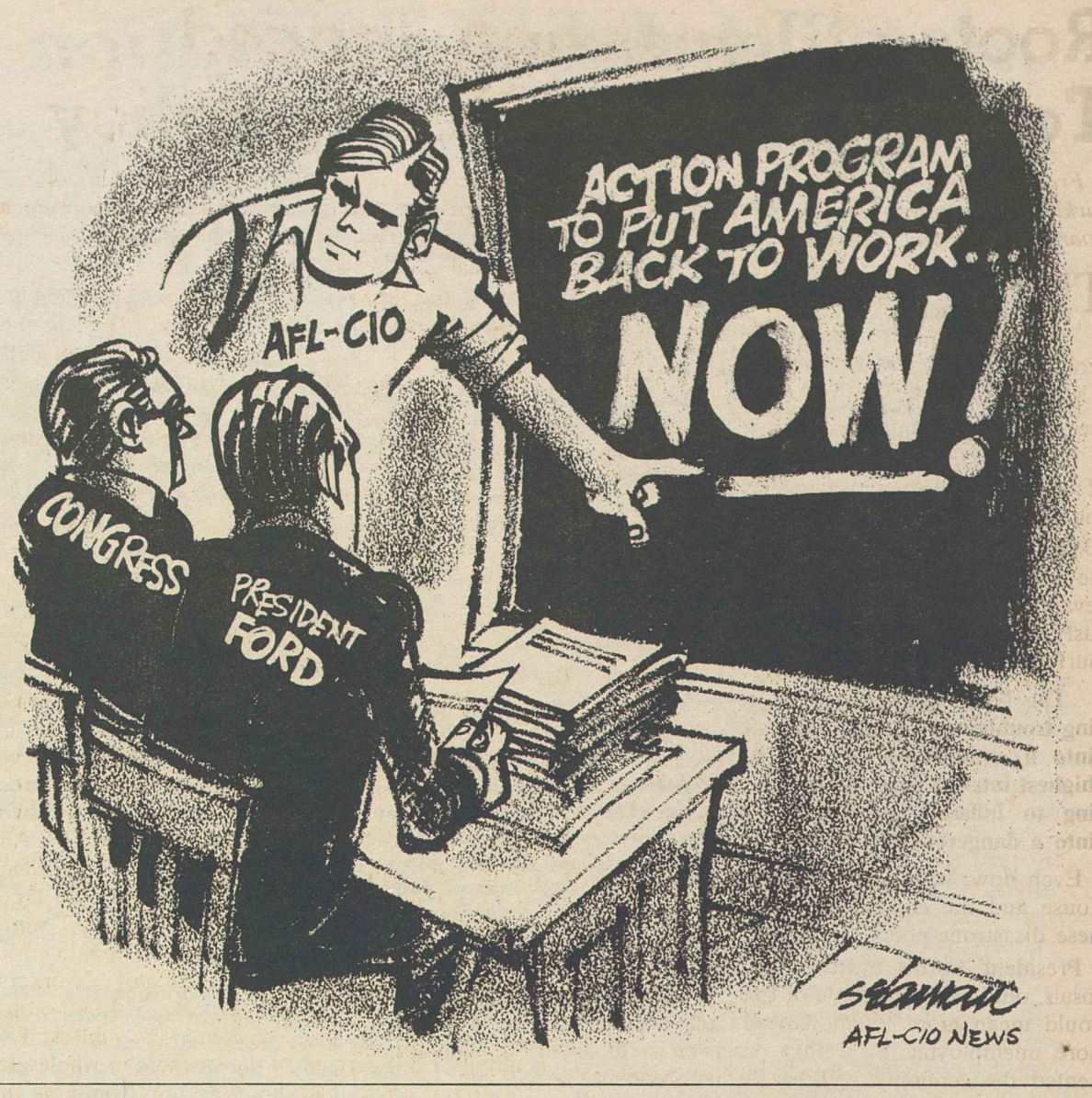


A Word Edgewise:

'Efficiency' Not Only Criterion In White House Organization

By John P. Roche

EVERY YEAR a number of extremely valuable books appear . . . then vanish, go down the well without a splash. My candidate for the lost book of 1974 is Dr. Milton Eisenhower's account of his 50 years of service to the republic.

"The President Is Calling" (Doubleday) is inherently interesting as a chronicle of American public administration (usually at the highest level) in an epoch which saw, first, prosperity, then depression, war and finally cold war. It is hard today to realize that until about 1941 "Ike" was "the other" Eisenhower.

However, far more interesting than the splendid record of accomplishment that Dr. Eisenhower achieved in every position he held—at least he left Scotland and the Foreign Service in 1926 with a "historic hangover" (an unusual departure from grace caused by friends deciding a Kansas boy should learn to drink and spiking his wine with brandy)—is the paradox hidden in his book.

On one hand, he is constantly urging bureaucratic reform, efficient tables of organization, the creation of "executive vice presidents" for this and that. On the other hand, it is perfectly clear that, despite his modesty, Milton Eisenhower could get a job done in the midst of chaos.

Belonging to the school that believes reorganizing the bureaucracy is what political leaders do as a substitute for policy, I have little sympathy for the Erector set devotees who generally dominate government thinking in these matters. It is very well to say that in the interest of "efficiency" (an elusive concept if ever there was one) the President should delegate more authority to, say the Secretary of State. Or set up the Nixon labyrinth in which a presidential aide with a national reputation had to be cleared by four members of the praetorian guard before he could talk to "his" boss.

However, the consequence of this devolution of authority is inevitably a mushroom growth of mini-Presidents. I once pointed out to President Johnson in a rather chilly discussion of our Vietnam strategy that never in American history had anyone been elected Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Milton Eisenhower would reply that the presidency today is simply too big for any one man to handle. This counsel of despair may make some sense, but the alternative—in terms of the key democratic principles of responsibility—seems worse.

WATERGATE, AFTER ALL, featured a number of characters playing President, and look how long it took to find out who, under those orders, did what to whom. There has to be one desk where the "buck stops."

No, playing with boxes on charts is not the route of salvation. And ironically Milton Eisenhower's career is strong evidence for this point. In the 18th Century it was observed that "the Men of Massachusetts could make any Constitution work." In the same sense, Eisenhower's record indicates that his precise location on somebody's chart was fundamentally irrelevant. Would he have had any less influence on his brother as a "Counsellor to the President" than he had in a wholly unofficial capacity?

In this connection I hope that somewhere in Milton Eisenhower's safe is an "unsanitized" version of who said what to whom. Anybody in Washington who could get from the White House to the Hill without a Seeing Eye dog knew Milton was very influential. But he ain't talking; and—in an odd way—given the flood of "Me and Kennedy," "Me and Johnson," to say nothing of the impending torrent of "Nixon and Me," volumes, his reticence is refreshing. Yet I would still love to know what Ike said to Milton, after a couple of relaxed libations, about Richard Nixon.

Finally, in a political universe where the muck is still being washed from the walls, it is reassuring—even moving—to read this low-keyed report by a man of transparent decency and integrity. Dwight Eisenhower was not the only good soldier in the family: When the President called, Democratic or Republican, he knew that Milton would answer—and deliver.

Kirkland to General Board:

Roots of Recession Traced To Nixon-Burns Money Policy

From the text of AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland's remarks to the AFL-CIO General Board meeting, Jan. 23, 1975:

THE RECESSION IS DEEPENING, dragging down production, destroying public confidence in the government's ability to manage the economy.

Unemployment is mounting daily. The ranks of the discouraged and disillusioned are growing.

The roots of recession are deep in six years of economic mismanagement by Richard Nixon and Dr. Arthur Burns.

The current inflationary wave, touched off by the huge Russian grain deal in mid-1972 and devaluations of the American dollar, was dangerously compounded by the worldwide oil crisis and fourfold increase in the price of crude oil.

The Nixon-Burns response to these mounting troubles was to put the American economy into a stranglehold of tight money and the highest interest rates since the Civil War—adding to inflation and throwing the economy into a dangerous recession.

Even now, with a new President in the White House and the economy in a headlong decline, these disastrous policies remain essentially intact.

President Ford's most recent economic proposals, outlined in his State of the Union message, would mean more inflation, more recession and more unemployment. If that program is implemented the economy will be further depressed. Retail sales will drop even further, because most American families would be left with less buying power, after paying much more in energy-related prices and tax increases than they would receive from the President's proposed tax cut.

Evidence of the grim condition of the American economy abounds:

● The buying power of the average worker's weekly take-home pay dropped 5.4 percent in the past year and 8.6 percent from the peak reached in October 1972. Consumer buying power has fallen so sharply, an increase of nearly $60 billion in the rate of total after-tax personal income would be required to bring the average buying power of every man, woman and child in America back to the level of a year and one-half ago.

● Residential construction, devastated by the Nixon-Burns policies, has been in a depression for over a year. Housing starts are down 64 percent from the early months of 1973. Production and employment in the various supply industries, from lumber to home appliances, have been falling.

● Reflecting the drop in buying power and high prices of autos and fuel, the auto industry, too, has been plunged into a depression. Auto sales are now down about 50 percent from the beginning of 1973, with huge inventories of unsold cars and severe cuts in production.

● Retail sales generally are also declining, after accounting for inflation. This drop in volume of retail sales affects a wide range of consumer goods industries, from textile and clothing to electrical goods and furniture.

● The real volume of business investment in plant and equipment, which moved ahead in the first half of 1974, has been declining since mid-year. High interest rates and inflated fuel prices forced many companies—particularly public utilities—to cancel or postpone plant expansion and modernization programs during 1974.

● Declining sales caught business with the high costs of huge inventories in warehouses and on the shelves. These inventories, accumulated during the past two years in an attempt to profit from rising prices, are now being liquidated—further cutting back orders, production, working hours and employment.

● Employment is dropping. Part-time work schedules are spreading, and unemployment is soaring. By early December the official number of unemployed was 7.1 percent of the labor force or 6.5 million workers—up one million in two months and 2.4 million since October 1973. An additional 3.4 million workers were compelled to work part-time in December, because full-time work was not available. Another 845,000 were so discouraged they have given up looking for work. Unemployment among factory workers was 1.9 million or 8.6 percent, 664,000 construction workers or 15 percent were jobless; 1.4 million or 8.3 percent of the workers in wholesale and retail trade had no work; 1.3 million or 12.8 percent of blacks and other minorities were unemployed.

● **Large-scale layoffs, since mid-December, have resulted in much greater and more widespread unemployment at present. For example, in the final week of 1974, more people received unemployment insurance benefits than in any week since the unemployment insurance program was established in 1937.**

● The nation's banking system is under severe strain and pressure. The lax regulation of recent years and the pursuit of quick profits further weakened the system. The rapid growth of international banking operations—to 750 branches of U.S. banks abroad and 143 foreign bank branches in the United States—also aggravated the situation. In addition, the floating of the world's major currencies, following two formal devaluations of the American dollar in 1971 and 1973, has been accompanied by gambling in foreign currencies. The results were losses of tens of millions of dollars, several bank failures overseas and the failure of a large New York City bank.

This crisis represents a national emergency, with the wellbeing of the nation and the American people at stake. Immediate emergency action is required to halt the deterioration, restore public confidence and turn the economy around towards balanced growth and full employment.

On Labor's Program:

Legislative Action Pressed To Avert Economic Collapse

THE AFL-CIO IS COMMITTED to an all-out fight for "drastic and immediate action" to head off "the worst depression since the 1930s," Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said.

Steps ranging from a quick tax cut to embargo of all oil from "blackmailing" Arab nations, spelled out in the action program shaped by an emergency meeting of the AFL-CIO General Board, are the nucleus of what it will take to pull the U.S. economy back from the brink, Biemiller declared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

He said Congress could enact the bulk of labor's program within 60 days, and that large parts of it "could be done tomorrow morning" through White House action.

Neither the President nor the Democratic leaders in Congress have laid out an effective plan to stimulate the economy and create jobs, Biemiller said, and the AFL-CIO program was shaped to fill that void. The President's so-called tax rebate "is nothing but a gesture toward the higher income groups," with low- and middle-income taxpayers getting little or nothing, he charged.

"Rather than this phony business of the President concentrating on a $1,000 rebate to people of means and peanuts for the poor," America needs a quick tax cut that will reduce withholding "anywhere from $3 to $8 a week" in the low- and middle-income tax brackets, the former congressman declared. He said the President should also cut loose the $19 billion of impounded funds under his control, which would give great stimulation to the economy through the construction of sewer systems, disposal plants and other badly needed public works projects.

Biemiller said the President's energy program is "a Rube Goldberg-type plan," holding out the lure of a tax rebate that it "then takes away from you about five times over by inflating the price of every kind of oil-related product—everything affected by oil."

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THIS NATION moves into 1975 governed, for the first time, by leaders selected under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

For some, the amendment has worked well—just as its authors hoped. For others it undermines the democratic fabric, seating in the nation's two top officials who were not selected through the democratic election process.

A Senate Judiciary subcommittee under the chairmanship of Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), author of the 25th Amendment, will hold hearings on the subject and many proposals are expected.

President Ford, of course, became the first Vice President under the provisions of the amendment when he was nominated by Richard Nixon following the resignation of Spiro T. Agnew. And when Nixon resigned last August Ford moved up to chief executive. Ford nominated Nelson A. Rockefeller for Vice President; he was confirmed in December.

"It is easy to find fault with the 25th Amendment," says Bayh. "It is more difficult to envision an alternative solution that does not present further faults."

At the hearings, Bayh's subcommittee will deal with the entire amendment but it seems unlikely that sections dealing with a disabled President will come under serious question. And this was the initial focus of the amendment.

The second section, relating to how the office of Vice President should be filled, is still subject to considerable debate. The section specifies that in the event of a vacancy the President shall nominate someone to fill the post "who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both houses of Congress."

With two vacancies being filled under the 25th Amendment, Congress seems divided on whether it is a good procedure or not. There are demands for repeal of the amendment, in part or in its entirety.

Rep. John H. Dent (D-Pa.) has called for repeal of Section 2, saying that it was prompted by "an undue concern with the consequences of a vacancy in the office . . . To allow the 25th Amendment to stand as it is leaves the electorate of this nation open to the possibility of being governed by persons who have never been publicly elected . . . a precedent inconsistent with the fundamentals of our democratic society."

Bayh said that in approving the amendment special elections were discarded in consideration "because of concern about delay, the departure from our system of quadrennial presidential elections, the cost involved, the divisive partisan effect it would have . . . and, most important, the possibility of a Vice President of a different party or basic philosophy who would be unable to work effectively with the President."

URGING THE ELECTION route, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) has expressed concern "whether two more years . . . under appointed and not elected leaders is consistent with our democracy and the principle of government by the people."

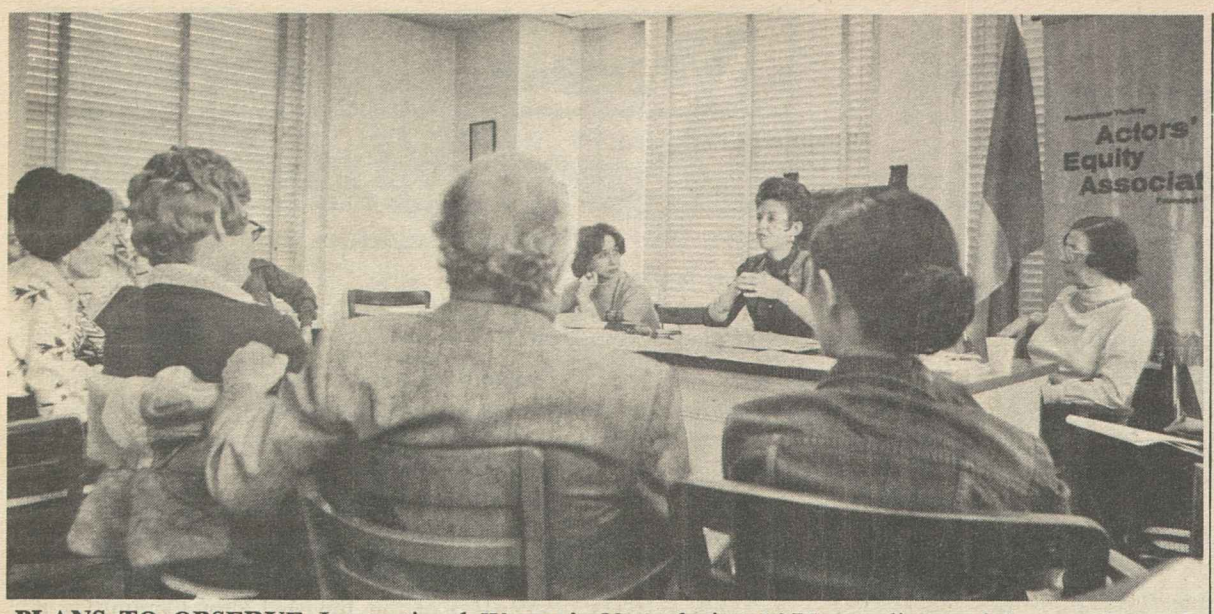
Sen. John O. Pastore (D-R.I.) would limit the circumstances under which an election would take place. He has proposed that Congress provide that once a vice president appointed under the amendment succeeded to the presidency—and more than 12 months remain in the term—a special election be held to fill both the presidency and vice presidency.

A new election would unquestionably be the most democratic approach but no one denies that there will be some difficulties in working out the steps leading to the election, including a nominating convention. Possibly election campaigns could be telescoped, something that political scientists have urged for all elections.

It may well be that we will not have a situation comparable to the disasters of 1974 when both the President and Vice President were forced to resign but the question of succession, throughout U.S. history, has never been resolved to national satisfaction.

The Bayh subcommittee may not come up with any better answers but it is expected to consider a number of possibilities.

LABOR'S ALL-OUT FIGHT for "drastic and immediate action" to head off a deep depression was spelled out on Labor News Conference by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, center. He was questioned by Tom Joyce, left, of Newsweek magazine and Richard Strout of the Christian Science Monitor. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.



PLANS TO OBSERVE International Women's Year during 1975 are discussed by members of the Women's Performing Arts Coalition at a New York meeting in Actors' Equity offices. Joan M. Goodin, a national board member for the U.S. observance and a staff official of the Railway & Airline Clerks, is shown addressing the group. Union women are actively involved in the program.

FCC Urged to Curb Spate of TV Reruns

A "rerun epidemic" afflicting network television has resulted in an annual payroll loss of nearly $320 million, the Federal Commuications Commission was told in a union brief supporting a call for the reduction of reruns to 25 percent of prime-time programs.

The brief notes that over the year, the monthly rerun rate averages 41 percent of prime-time programming, excluding newscasts.

And in five months of the year, the Hollywood Film Council, the Screen Actors and the Writers Guild pointed out, there are more reruns aired than original material.

Reruns take up more than 80 percent of prime-time programming during June and July, more than 75 percent in May and August, and about 67 percent in April, the brief stresses.

The extensive use of reruns has resulted in a severe loss of jobs and earnings among members of the film industry's production workforce, the unions noted. They said the average rate of unemployment in the Hollywood Film Council unions is 39.3 percent.

The brief further charges that reruns are a disservice to the public interest, because they "restrict the viewing choices for millions of American families who rely on television broadcasts as their principal source of entertainment."

While there is overwhelming public support for the limitation of reruns, the brief points out that opposition has come almost exclusively from broadcasters.

If the FCC adopts the 25 percent restriction on prime-time reruns, the unions said, payroll losses could be trimmed from $320 million to $194 million and still leave reasonable network profits.

Noting that combined network profits were $184.9 million in 1973, the unions said that under the proposed 25 percent limitation profits still would have exceeded $38 million, well above the $30.1 million annual average in the 1959-61 period—the last three years before the "rerun epidemic" broke out.

The brief urges the FCC to exercise its statutory authority to regulate chain broadcasting "by dealing directly with such network practices affecting programming which are inimical to the public interest."

The brief also refutes the network contention that viewers must like reruns, since the shows command a substantial share of viewers. It charges that because the networks have a "stranglehold" over prime time programming, television audiences must watch the reruns or nothing at all.

Shanker Invites Marchenko to U.S.

New York — Anatoly Marchenko, the Soviet dissident who has been threatened with rearrest, has been invited to the United States by Teachers President Albert Shanker.

Shanker announced at a press conference that he had extended the invitation through the Soviet Embassy and had also written directly to Marchenko himself. He said Marchenko's only chance to avoid imprisonment for the third time would be emigration to the United States.

The author of "My Testimony," an account of prison life in post-Stalin Russia, Marchenko is a self-educated worker who was imprisoned for the "treason" of asking for the right to emigrate. His book was smuggled to the West and published in 1968. His second arrest followed protests against the mounting Soviet pressure against Czechoslovakia several weeks before Russia invaded that country. In all, he spent nine years in Soviet prisons.

Unionists Join Women's Year Observance

Women in the trade union movement are taking part in the United States observance of International Women's Year, a world program under United Nations sponsorship keyed to promoting equal opportunity for women in all fields.

Joan M. Goodin, assistant international affairs director of the Railway & Airline Clerks, is the labor member of the advisory board on U.S. participation.

A number of unions have endorsed the International Women's Year concept—in convention resolutions and in proclamations. The Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees is participating through its new Union Committee for Salaried & Professional Women. Other cooperating union groups include the Coalition of Labor Union Women and the Women's Performing Arts Coalition.

In addition to special programs at the local, state and national levels during 1975, the U.S. participants are pressing for completion of the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. Five more states are needed to reach the required three-fourths approval.

Pilots Ratify Contract With United Air Lines

Chicago—The Air Line Pilots' master executive council for United Air Lines approved a new 31-month agreement providing substantial wage gains and fringe-benefit improvements for some 5,400 pilots and flight instructors.

Meanwhile, in an effort to resolve a nine-week contract dispute with Texas International Airlines, ALPA urged leaders in affected states and cities to demand that the carrier resume negotiations.

The United pact, ratified by the council on Jan. 18, averted the possibility of a strike called for Feb. 3. The council is an executive body, empowered by United's pilots to approve or reject an agreement.

The settlement is retroactive to June 1, 1974, when the old contract expired. It increases the pay of senior pilots and second officers by 21.5 percent over the life of the contract. First officers over the same period will receive a 24 percent boost in pay, while flight instructors will receive a 32.2 percent increase.

In December, the council rejected an original tentative agreement because of pilot objections to certain work-rule changes whose effect would have been to cut back 100 jobs. The revised pact will produce "no significantly measurable impact on the airline's manpower requirements," the council noted.

The union also successfully turned back a company attempt to remove the third man from the Boeing 747 cockpit crew.

On the dispute with Texas International Airlines — grounded since Dec. 1 by 2,000 striking employes —ALPA President J. J. O'Donnell charged that the carrier "has no incentive to reach an agreement since it stands to profit from Mutual Aid Pact funds made available by competitors during this normally low-traffic period."

The two sides were near agreement on Jan. 15, but the company suddenly reversed its position and refused the National Mediation Board's suggestion of arbitration. The Air Line Employees Association, an ALPA affiliate representing the striking workers, accepted the board's offer.

For 1975:

Scheduled List of Union Conventions

Below is a preliminary list of conventions scheduled for 1975 by AFL-CIO national and international affiliates and state central bodies. Change and additions will be reported.

DATE	ORGANIZATION	PLACE
Feb. 8	State, County & Municipal Employees	Washington, D.C.
Apr. 13-16	Coopers	St. Louis
May (No date)	Plate Printers	New York
May 5	Railway & Airline Clerks	Washington, D.C.
May 26	Insurance Workers	Miami Beach
June 2	Flint Glass Workers	Miami
June 2-5	Postal Workers	Kansas City
June 6-8	Mississippi	Jackson
June 9-11	Idaho	Twin Falls
June 9-12	New Jersey	Atlantic City
June 9-13	Communications Workers	San Diego
June 10-14	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia
June 11-14	Utility Workers	New York
June 22-25	Musicians	Shreveport, La.
June 23	Grain Millers	Minneapolis
June 23-27	Aluminum Workers	Las Vegas
July 7-11	Newspaper Guild	Denver
July 10-15	Teachers	Honolulu
July 20-25	Pottery Workers	Miami Beach
July 23-26	Texas	Dallas
Aug. 4-8	Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers	Denver
Aug. 17-22	Plasterers & Cement Masons	Las Vegas
Aug. 18-22	Graphic Arts Union	Toronto
Aug. 21-23	Montana	Great Falls
Aug. 25	Sleeping Car Porters	Chicago
Aug. 30-Sept. 5	Typographical Union	Honolulu, Hawaii
Sept. 4-5	Public Employees Dept.	Washington, D.C.
Sept. 5	Allied Industrial Workers	Kansas City
Sept. 8	United Transportation Union	Miami Beach
Sept. 8-10	Minnesota	Minneapolis
Sept. 8-12	Oregon	Seaside
Sept. 10-11	Industrial Union Dept.	Pittsburgh
Sept. 11-13	Colorado	Colorado Springs
Sept. 11-13	North Dakota	Bismarck
Sept. 15-17	Tennessee	Nashville
Sept. 15-19	Bricklayers	Atlantic City
Sept. 15-19	Woodworkers	Montreal
Sept. 17-19	Iowa	Dubuque
Sept. 22-24	Building & Construction Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 22-25	Illinois	Springfield
Sept. 25-26	Metal Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 28	Amalgamated Transit Union	Calgary, Alberta Canada
Sept. 29-30	Union Label & Service Trade Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 29-Oct. 1	Maritime Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 29-Oct. 1	International Labor Press Association	San Francisco
Oct. 1-3	Kansas	Topeka
Oct. 1-4	AFL-CIO National Auxiliaries	San Francisco
Oct. 12-18	Rubber Workers	Anaheim, Calif.
Oct. 13-15	Alabama	Montgomery
Oct. 18-22	Telegraph Workers	Quebec
Oct. 20-22	Train Dispatchers	Chicago
Oct. 20-24	Roofers	New Orleans
Nov. 9-14	Flight Engineers	Sydney, Australia

RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS provide free coffee and cookies to hundreds lined up to file unemployment insurance claims in Elizabeth, N.J. The program was set up through Charles Walano, AFL-CIO community services representative in Union County. A Red Cross volunteer termed it "our way of saying thanks to the many workers who helped us with contributions in the past and who now find themselves in troubled times."

To Overcome Wage Lag:

Bargaining Rights Awaken Hopes of Hospital Workers

Hospital workers have paid with inferior wages and benefits for their 27-year exclusion from the National Labor Relations Act.

This exclusion, dating from the 1947 Taft-Hartley law, ended last summer when Congress extended bargaining rights to nearly 1.5 million employes of private, non-profit hospitals. Previously, only workers in the substantially smaller group of hospitals operated for profit were protected by federal labor law.

Rudy Oswald, research director of the Service Employees, explores the potential impact of the new coverage in an article in the January issue of the American Federationist, the AFL-CIO magazine.

The health care field has been one of the big expansion areas of the economy, Oswald notes, and among the least organized in the absence of collective bargaining legislation. While some union contracts date back 30 years or more, only in recent years has collective bargaining in health institutions become significant.

Also a factor in subpar wage scales has been the high percentage of hospital workers from traditionally underpaid groups—women, blacks and the Spanish-speaking.

Even when non-supervisory professionals such as nurses and doctors are included, the average hospital wage is substantially less than the average factory wage. A survey more than two years ago found nurses' aides in typical cities earning from $1.03 to $1.85 an hour less than laborers and the gap has widened since then.

Over the past three years, Oswald says, hospital workers' wages have advanced only 19 percent, while food prices have soared 43 percent and the overall price level is 25 percent higher. Hospitals and nursing homes have had to pay the higher market prices for food and fuel, Oswald notes. They have economized by underpaying their workers, he points out.

A number of unions have won collective bargaining rights at hospitals and nursing homes. Oswald cites election wins for the Hospital & Nursing Home Division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, Laborers, Communications Workers, Retail Clerks, Firemen & Oilers, State, County & Municipal Employees, and the Service Employees. Even associations of doctors have been certified as bargaining agents.

A legislative compromise that brought coverage of non-profit hospital workers also amended the basic federal labor law as it applies to all employes of health care institutions, including those in profit-making hospitals and nursing homes.

Thus, Oswald notes, notice of contract termination which generally marks the start of bargaining must be given 90 days in advance as compared with the 60-day requirement in other industries.

The Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service may impose mandatory mediation in the health care sectors. Likewise, the FMCS must be given a 30-day notice in negotiations for a first contract in the health area.

Under the new law, there must be 10 days notice before a union can strike or picket a health care institution. If the deadline is postponed, at least 12 hours new notice must be given, and if more than 72 hours have elapsed, a new 10-day strike notice must be served. As an additional move, the FMCS may convene an impartial Board of Inquiry to help settle the dispute.

All of these are time-delaying, cooling-off mechanisms designed to lessen the likelihood of strikes at health care institutions. Actually, one of the big steps to avoid strikes was to enable workers to choose union representation through the traditional NLRB recognition procedure. As union witnesses had pointed out in congressional testimony, a high proportion of strikes in the health care field have been for the right to organize and bargain collectively. Only a handful of states had collective bargaining laws that covered health care workers excluded from federal labor law.

Labor Studies Center Lists February Schedule

The AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center will be operating at capacity throughout February, conducting four institutes on campus and one off campus. The center will also be host to the Building & Construction Trades, Government Employees, Flight Attendants and the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees who will use the campus for institutes, training sessions or conferences.

The schedule:

Union Administration—An institute on methods and techniques of effective union administration for business agents and full-time local presidents. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, through Friday, Feb. 7.

Labor Law—An institute on the legal aspects of organizing, collective bargaining and the regulation of internal union affairs for business agents, full-time officers and staff members. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, through Friday, Feb. 14.

Labor's Role in Cable TV—An institute on how the labor movement can use this new medium with a tour of cable television industry, equipment and production techniques, programming opportunities, hands-on video workshop for full-time officers and staff. From 9 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 18, through Friday, Feb. 21.

Women in the Labor Force—An institute to explore the economic facts of life for women who work, sex discrimination and the law, changing attitudes toward women, with a workshop on problem areas in jobs and careers, the Equal Rights Amendment, steps to action through the union. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, through Friday, Feb. 28.

Building Trades—An institute planned in cooperation with the Building & Construction Trades Dept. on problems facing business agents in labor law, safety and health, the new pension law, open-shop and double-breasted contractors, leadership and communication skills and contracts economics. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, through Friday, Feb. 28. This institute also will be conducted at the University of Illinois, Champaign, from Feb. 2 through Feb. 7.

Government Employees—AFGE will use the center Feb. 8 for a day-long meeting on bargaining and contract administration for local officers and negotiating committees and for a five-day training program for its field staff from Feb. 10 through Feb. 14.

Flight Attendants—An institute planned in cooperation with the Airline Flight Attendants on grievance processing and System Board hearing (arbitration) for AFA System Board members and grievance chairpersons. From 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, through Friday, Feb. 21.

Professional Employees—The Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees will use the center Feb. 1 for a day-long seminar on the Occupational Safety & Health Act for 50 university faculty members and trade union officers.

An off-campus institute on collective bargaining techniques is scheduled for the University of Alabama, Birmingham, from 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, through Friday, Feb. 14.

Twenty students enrolled in the center's college degree program will be on campus for one week, Feb. 2-8, to work up their degree plan, attend a mini-course in study skills and lectures on economics, collective bargaining and labor statistics.

Further information about these and other programs can be obtained from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903 Phone 301/431-6400.

Illinois Congressman John Kluczynski Dies

Chicago—Rep. John C. Kluczynski (D-Ill.) died at his home here of a heart attack at the age of 79.

Kluczynski was elected last November to his 13th term in the House from the 5th Congressional District, in Chicago. He was chairman of the transportation subcommittee of the House Public Works Committee and the most recent COPE tally showed him with a career total of 127 "right" and only five "wrong" votes by AFL-CIO standards.

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD of the Jewish Labor Committee is presented to President Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers by New York Gov. Hugh L. Carey and AFL-CIO President George Meany. ACWA Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman is at right. The award was presented at a dinner sponsored by the JLC's National Trade Union Council for Human Rights.

Emil Rieve Dies at 82, First TWUA President

Lauderhill, Fla.—Emil Rieve, founding president of the Textile Workers Union of America and a former vice president of the AFL-CIO, died of a heart ailment at his home here. He was 82.

Rieve, who had been active in the trade union movement since the early 1900s, served as an official of the United Textile Workers, the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, and the TWUA. He was a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council for 10 years.

In a message to his wife Wanda, a former area director of the TWUA, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said that Rieve served his fellow workers with honor and distinction.

"All of his colleagues on the Executive Council who shared his friendship and knew of his great contribution to democracy and unionism join with you in mourning his death," Meany and Kirkland said.

The union's executive council in a resolution adopted at its winter meeting in Atlanta cited Rieve's extensive contributions to the welfare of textile workers and the development of the TWUA.

"We pledge to carry on in the tradition that he and the other TWUA pioneers established when they founded our organization four decades ago," the council said.

Rieve was born in Poland in 1892 and came to the United States as a teenager. He went to work in a Pennsylvania hosiery mill for $2.50 a week. He joined the United Textile Workers in 1907 and went on to become a vice president of the Hosiery Workers in 1915 and president of the union in 1929.

He led the Hosiery Workers into the CIO in 1937 and concentrated on building wider representation for textile workers as the executive director of an organizing committee.

With the financial support of the Clothing Workers and ACWA President Sidney Hillman, Rieve's efforts led to the formation of the TWUA as a permanent union in 1939. He was elected the union's first president and continued to serve in that position until 1956 when he became chairman of the union's executive council. He also was a vice president of the CIO, and following merger with the AFL, he became a member of the federation's Executive Council in 1955, retiring in 1965.

Besides his wife, survivors include one son, Harold.

TWUA President Sol Stetin and Sec.-Treas. William DuChessi recessed the union's executive council session to lead a 10-member delegation to attend funeral services for Rieve in Ft. Lauderdale Jan. 29.

Sheet Metal Settlement Ends 177-Day Strike

St. Louis—Sheet Metal Workers here were pulling down their picket signs and returning to work after negotiators reached agreement on a new contract to end a 177-day strike.

The 31-month contract, retroactive to last Aug. 1, provides for a total hourly wage increase of $2.67 in five steps and an optional program of supplemental unemployment benefits.

A ratification vote was scheduled for Feb. 1 on the agreement covering 1,400 members of Sheet Metal Workers Local 36 here. The local had been on strike against the St. Louis Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors Association since July 31.

A key element in the settlement is the program for payment of additional jobless benefits through an employers' fund as provided in the union's Stabilization Agreement for the Sheet Metal Industry (SASMI).

At the international's convention last year, SASMI was made a top-priority bargaining item for all local contracts. It provides employer contributions of 3 percent of payroll into the supplemental unemployment benefits fund.

Under the St. Louis agreement, Local 36 members will vote on whether to adopt the pattern SASMI formula or take the 3 percent contribution as wages.

The local wage package calls for an increase of 70 cents an hour effective last Aug. 1; 32 cents Jan. 1; 50 cents next July 1; 35 cents Jan. 1, 1976, and 80 cents July 1, 1976. The contract would expire Apr. 30, 1977.

Sheet Metal Workers President Edward J. Carlough reported that the stabilization agreement has now been negotiated by about 50 bargaining units and is currently in effect in 40 locations.

Issue Put to Congress:

Buying Power Need Keys Tax Cut Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

1975 taxes that are currently withheld from workers' pay. The rebate proposed by Ullman would earmark 94 percent of tax cuts for those earning less than $20,000 a year, with a maximum rebate of $300.

Ford's proposal would give 57 percent of rebates to persons making more than $20,000 with the top of $1,000 going to persons in the over-$40,000 income brackets.

Under the labor-management panel's plan, a tax cut of up to $375 a year would be accomplished through lowered withholding. A family of four with a $7,500 income would have its tax bill of $484 reduced to $194 under this plan.

In addition, the AFL-CIO General Board pledged labor's support for "a program to give relief to those working poor who pay no income taxes because their earnings are too low."

Goldfinger suggested that one way to accomplish this would be to reduce the social securtiy tax paid by low-wage employes—"with the revenue loss to the social security trust fund to be offset by an equivalent contribution from general revenue."

He stressed that "a program to give relief to the working poor . . . would help to stimulate the economy by giving added purchasing power to those who need it most."

He expressed the AFL-CIO's support for the rise in the investment tax credit for business proposed by the labor-management panel, but not for the additional cut in corporate taxes sought by the President.

Goldfinger termed Ford's tax rebate plan "upside down in terms of economic logic and human needs." Further, he said, the Administration plans for higher fuel taxes would leave most families with less buying power, paying out more in price increases than they would receive from a tax cut.

While stressing the emergency need for a tax cut, Goldfinger strongly urged the Ways & Means Committee to follow through with permanent legislation to close "loopholes of special tax privilege for the wealthy and corporations."

Conway Appointed To AFSCME Post

Jack T. Conway has been appointed executive director of the State, County & Municipal Employes, President Jerry Wurf announced.

Conway, who will join the AFSCME staff in February, has been president of Common Cause, the non-partisan lobbying group, for the past four years.

He served as director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. from 1963-65 after having been deputy director of the Office of Economic Opportunity under President Johnson and deputy administrator of the Housing & Home Finance Agency under President Kennedy. For 15 years, Conway was administrative assistant to the late Auto Workers President Walter Reuther.

Labor Dept. Proposes Arsenic Restrictions

Labor safety experts are examining a proposed federal standard that would reduce worker exposure to inorganic arsenic, but not to the lowest detectable level sought by unions and the government's occupational health agency.

Government and industry studies have linked arsenic to cancer even at extremely low concentrations of the chemical.

The Labor Dept. proposal calls for limiting the concentrations in workplaces to .004 milligrams of inorganic arsenic per cubic meter of air over an eight-hour period from the current limit of .5 milligrams.

Organized labor had petitioned for a non-detectable level, which with current monitoring devices would be no more than .002 milligrams. The National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health also had called for the lower level.

The Labor Dept. proposal, which was developed by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, would also permit a surge in the arsenic level to .01 milligrams for any 15-minute period during a work shift.

However, the OSHA recommendation sets an "action level" of .002 milligrams at which workers must be provided with protective clothing and given regular medical examinations. Workers with 10 years on jobs involving the use of arsenic would be examined every six months, while workers with less service would get annual examinations.

NIOSH has estimated that about 1.5 million American workers are exposed directly or indirectly to inorganic arsenic. The chemical is used in a number of industries, including agricultural chemicals, glassware, paints and some medicines.

The OSHA proposal would prohibit any direct skin contact with liquid arsenic trichloride and repeated skin contact with other liquid or solid forms of inorganic arsenic compounds that cause skin irritation.

The proposal would establish regulated areas where inorganic arsenic exceeds the action level. Access to these areas would be limited and records would be kept on all persons entering the areas.

A final standard is still several months away, since hearings on the proposal will not open until Apr. 8. A Mar. 3 deadline was set for comments on the standard.

2-1-75

EXCLUSION OF ISRAEL from UNESCO programs is protested at a New York rally of trade union representatives from entertainment and theatrical fields. President Theodore Bikel of Actors' Equity, center, is the focus of a television interview after the rally was forced out of Shubert Theater by a bomb threat. Bikel was chairman of the protest rally.

New York Theater Unions Assail UNESCO's Exclusion of Israel

New York—Representatives of 120,000 union members—including actors, musicians, stage hands, publicists, costumers and theatrical house personnel—rallied here to condemn the recent action of UNESCO excluding Israel from all facets of its work.

An anonymous bomb threat telephoned to WCBS-TV and relayed to New York police failed to halt the rally, which began at the Shubert Theater. The protesters filed from the theater at the request of police—who searched the building and did not find a bomb—into Shubert Alley and contined the lunch-hour meeting there in biting cold.

UNESCO—the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization—was warned by Actors' Equity President Theodore Bikel, chairman of the rally, that it must: Clean your own house—until you do, you'll have to do without the American theater.

Actress Julie Harris read a declaration of protest, adopted unanimously by the rally, which said:

"In response to purely political pressure UNESCO has seen fit to exclude Israel, a member state, for all practical purposes from its work. As a result of politically inspired maneuvers, she is now the only state which has been excluded from any regional grouping. Geographical considerations could have played no part in this move, for Canada is part of UNESCO's Europe and Australia is part of UNESCO's Asia.

"An arm of the United Nations which by its very charter is devoted solely to scientific, educational and cultural advancement has no right to play politics no matter what pressure some of its constituents may bring to bear. This perverts the very essence of UNESCO's existence; it serves neither the promotion and spread of knowledge nor the quest for scientific truth nor the flowering of culture and the arts. Indeed, it makes a mockery of scholarship, science and artistry.

"We of the American theater—actors and technicians, dramatists, producers, managers, musicians, singers, dancers, publicists, stage hands, scenic designers, directors and choreographers — add our voices, some 120,000 of them, to those which have already been raised in protest against the capricious actions of UNESCO's General Conference.

"We call upon all our colleagues the world over to join us in this protest action and challenge UNESCO to rescind its November resolutions regarding the State of Israel. This declaration is not a political act on our part. On the contrary, it protests the politicizing by pressure groups of a body hitherto confined to the non-political arena of culture, education and science.

"We pledge—individually and collectively—to withhold our services and our cooperation from any event sponsored by or connected with UNESCO until that body recognizes Israel's right to be included in the family of nations once more."

Endorsing the resolution in addition to Equity were the New York locals of the Musicians, Theatrical Press Agents & Managers, the Directors Guild, Theatrical Stage Employes, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Legitimate Theatre Employes, Make-Up Artists & Hair Stylists, the Theatrical Costumers Local 38, Treasurers & Ticket Sellers, Scenic Artists and the United Hebrew Trades.

Meany to Appear On 'Face the Nation'

AFL-CIO President George Meany will be interviewed on the CBS television program "Face the Nation" on Sunday, Feb. 9.

While the program is aired by the network at 11:30 a.m. EST, individual stations may schedule it at different times and local listings should be checked.

Senate Panel to Count New Hampshire Ballots

New Hampshire will be represented by only one senator until the Senate Rules Committee completes a tally of disputed ballots cast in last November's election and the Senate acts on its findings.

An official recount gave a 10-vote victory to Democrat John A. Dirkin, but a review of challenged ballots by a State Ballot Commission switched enough votes to declare Wyman a two-vote winner.

The Senate defeated a Republican motion to seat Wyman temporarily and then rejected another GOP proposal to have the seat filled by a new election. Both votes closely followed party lines.

It then voted 58-34 for the motion by Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield to send the dispute to the Rules Committee. Mansfield took the position that the Senate has a constitutional obligation to determine the winner of the election since it is the final judge of its own membership.

On the House side of the Capitol, a battle over committee chairmanship that erupted in the Democratic caucus carried over into the selection of two subcommittee chairmen.

In both cases, liberal Democrats were chosen to replace other liberal Democrats by close votes that apparently reflected a mixture of motives, including a contention that no person should have more than one key post.

Thus, Rep. Leonor K. Sullivan (D-Mo.), who became chairman of the House Merchant Marine Committee this year, was dropped from the chairmanship of a consumer affairs subcommittee of the House Banking Committee which she had held for 12 years. She was replaced by Rep. Frank Annunzio (D-Ill.).

And in the House Commerce Committee, after a five-ballot deadlock, Rep. Harley O. Staggers (D-W. Va.) was replaced as chairman of the Investigations subcommittee by Rep. John E. Moss (D-Calif.).

Staggers is chairman of the full Commerce Committee and had earlier been confirmed in that post by the Democratic caucus.

Congress Blocks Ford on Food Stamps

House Acts To Suspend Oil Tariff

Congress blocked the Ford Administration's attempt to make the poor pay more for food stamps in order to hold down the budget deficit.

The vote was overwhelming—378-38 in the House and 76-8 in the Senate.

If Congress hadn't acted, persons eligible for food stamps would have to pay 30 percent of their net income instead of the present 23 percent or less. This would have "saved" $215 million during the balance of this fiscal year. And the President's budget proposals for fiscal 1976 include it as a $615 million savings.

In human terms, an elderly person with a net income of $146 a month would have had to pay out $13 more for food. Under present rules, such a person's cost for $46 worth of food stamps is $30. Under the new Agriculture Dept. rules that Congress blocked, the cost would have risen to $43 and the total benefit would be only $3 a month.

Rep. Thomas S. Foley (D-Wash.), the new chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, charged that raising the price of food stamps would hit hardest the group that has already suffered most from inflation and recession.

So strong was the congressional feeling that it was hard to find anyone to defend the Administration on the issue. Rep. Steven D. Symms (R-Ida.) made an argument that the food stamp program was "inflationary" and suggested that the availability of food stamps might be deterring people from looking for work. But he was almost alone, and other conservative Republicans were content to urge future "reform" of the food stamp program—such as disqualifying needy families of strikers.

Congress, meanwhile, moved towards another challenge to the President's economic and budget policies.

The House voted 309-114 to suspend for 90 days the President's power to impose a higher tariff on imported oil. The legislation, drawn up by the Ways & Means Committee, would nullify the $1 a barrel special tariff Ford already has imposed and block his plan to add an additional $2 charge.

Ford's actions, whether or not Congress went along for his call for a comparable tax on domestic oil,

(Continued on Page 8)

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Grim Report on Economy Projects Long Recession

CONSUMER AND FARMER activists from throughout the country explored mutual problems at Consumer Assembly, an annual national forum sponsored by Consumer Federation of America. Above, Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. introduces members of a panel who debated the adequacy of competition in the energy industry. **(Story, Page 7)**

8% Jobless Outlook for Two Years

By James M. Shevis

At least another year of recession, replete with high unemployment plus double-digit inflation, faces the American people, President Ford warned in the annual Economic Report to Congress.

The unusually grim report, gloomier than any issued in the past 30 years, noted "unemployment is too high and will rise higher."

The nation's jobless rate will average 8 percent this year and next, and won't drop below 7 percent before 1978, the Administration said.

The President's report also forecast that real gross national product this year will fall about 3 percent and prices will soar over 11 percent.

If the President's forecast is correct, the decline in the growth rate this year would be the second consecutive annual fall-off in the country's total output of goods and services since the end of World War II. Real GNP in 1974 slid 2.2 percent.

In a set of "economic assumptions" which are the underpinnings of both the Economic Report and the President's 1976 budget, the exact real GNP decline for 1975 is pegged at 3.3 percent. A modest growth rate of 4.8 percent is seen for 1976.

"The economy is in a severe re-

(Continued on Page 2)

Recession Deficit:

'Bad News' Budget Keyed To Less for Poor, Aged, Ill

By David L. Perlman

President Ford's "bad news" budget calls for sacrifices by the poor, sick and aged but bars new or expanded federal programs to pull the nation out of recession.

The President projected a $52 billion federal deficit for the fiscal year starting July 1—the largest peacetime shortage in the nation's history—and warned that it would be higher if Congress did not make the cutbacks and changes the Administration is asking.

But Ford acknowledged that the deficit would disappear if unemployment could be significantly reduced, and the red ink could turn into a multi-billion dollar surplus if full employment were achieved.

Just going back to the 1973-1974 unemployment rate of about 5 percent, Ford noted, would add some $40 billion to the anticipated tax revenues and reduce spending for federal benefits to the unemployed by $12.7 billion.

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger cited this evidence that Ford's budget totals amount to a "recession deficit" and not an "expenditure deficit."

In program terms, Goldfinger said, it combines "austerity for the poor, the retired, veterans and the disadvantaged" with "vast amounts of tax relief for corporations."

Thus the President proposed to limit the automatic cost-of-living increases in social security, civil service and railroad retirement benefits to 5 percent—even though his budget assumes that the consumer price index will rise more than double that figure this year.

But it won't happen unless Congress votes to change existing law.

Ford asked Congress also to suspend the "comparability" pay adjustment for the government's white collar workers and the prevailing wage pattern for blue-collar workers. He wants both groups held to a 5 percent pay ceiling, and the President called on workers in the private sector to "follow this example." He also asked Congress to economize by repealing a section of the prevailing wage law that widens the area of a wage survey when there are insufficient private industry jobs in the immediate locality of a government installation.

The President was insistent that national health insurance legislation should wait until "our current economic problems are behind us." At that time, he said,

(Continued on Page 3)

Labor Backs Bill to Ease Money, Allocate Credit for Priority Needs

A House bill to lower interest rates by increasing the growth rate of the nation's money supply and to assure credit for high priority needs was strongly endorsed by the AFL-CIO which described it as "one of the most significant bills of recent years."

Among its provisions, the measure would direct the Federal Reserve Board and the Fed's Open Market Committee to maintain in the first half of 1975 an annual money supply growth rate of no less than 6 percent. Any deviation from this target would have to be reported to the House and Senate banking committees.

Andrew J. Biemiller, director of the federation's Dept. of Legislation, told a House Banking subcommittee on domestic monetary policy that the bill's objectives are in line with policies adopted two weeks earlier at the AFL-CIO General Board's emergency meeting on the economy.

"In fact, we believe a more rapid rate of growth in the money supply and a speedier decline in long-term interest rates is needed," Biemiller declared. He was accompanied by AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger.

Biemiller recommended stronger language in the measure mandating, rather than requesting, the Federal Reserve Board to pursue the stipulated monetary growth policy.

"General tight money and high interest rates have brought America into several economic recessions and have now trapped the nation in the current recession, the worst economic mess since the Great Depression," he observed.

The House bill, introduced by

(Continued on Page 8)

State Bodies Urged to Spur Jobs Program

AFL-CIO central bodies in every state have been urged by Federation President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to hold emergency conferences on economic problems at the state level.

In a letter to the state officials, Meany and Kirkland transmitted copies of the "Action Program to Put America Back to Work" adopted by the General Board and said:

"We are asking you to arrange a similar conference of all affiliates in your state as soon as possible within the next few weeks. Such a conference can mobilize the labor movement in support of the AFL-CIO's program to get jobs for

(Continued on Page 8)

MACHINISTS PRESIDENT Floyd Smith, keynoting the 1975 IAM Legislative Conference in Washington, told some 900 delegates "our most crucial objective" is full employment. Outlining other top legislative goals for 1975, Smith listed a fair taxation system, national health insurance, protection against the export of American jobs and technology and the outlawing of the airline industry's so-called mutual aid pact.

Jobless Unionists Share Worries Along with Trimmed Budgets, Diets

Los Angeles—Mike Palmer, 30, a plumber 6½ years, hasn't worked at his trade for three months.

He reports to his union's hiring hall every morning—Local 545 in Santa Monica—but there hasn't been any work.

Is he discouraged? Profoundly no.

Weldon Greenlee, 36, a truck driver 15 years, hasn't worked at his job since mid-November. He'll draw his first unemployment check this week. He's already applied for food stamps and Medi-Cal —California health insurance program for the needy.

Is he discouraged? Another profound no.

Michael Basaric, 34, a native Yugoslavian, has been here 15 years and a journeyman Plumber six years.

He's been out of work four months, since he last plied his trade on a condominium job along California's "golden coastline" near Malibu.

He checks in every day at his hiring hall—also Local 545.

How's he feel? He's "hanging tight" with the union.

If there's a common denominator here, it's that they share in America's growing problems —unemployment, inflation.

But they share another element —while they have never crossed paths—a modicum, ever so slight perhaps, of optimism.

And there's another, more important bond among this trio. Although they've never had dialogue on the subject, it's union affiliation.

Mike Palmer:

"The union's been good to me. I'm going to be good to the union. I'd never think about taking a fink (under union scale) job.

"Sure, it's been tough, and I'm looking for something worth more than unemployment pay ($90 a week maximum) I can do at nights so I can go on checking for work every morning at the union hall.

"The union gave me my chance to build a future. I have that now, no matter how bleak things look. My wife just got out of the hospital, since she had surgery on Dec. 23.

"Without the union benefits we couldn't have made it. I've got no real complaints."

Mike, his wife and three children—ages 10, 9 and 7—live in an attractive section of Redondo Beach. Their two-story, three-bedroom house has a monthly mortgage payment of $268.

How're they making it?

"We've cut down. You name it. We've cut down everywhere."

"We're on sort of a bean diet. We mix in some hamburger and that other 'junk' they call helper. But the kids get their milk and other things important for their diet.

"Instead of all of us spreading out in the house to do things like we used to, now we all get together in the front room, turn off the rest of the lights and heat, play some games with the kids, watch TV or read.

"My wife and I haven't been going out—especially with her being in the hospital—so we've saved on car and other expenses, which we couldn't afford anyway."

Mike hedged against this eventuality. He saved up three months' expenses. That's about run out.

When he worked he brought home about $250 net pay a week.

Weldon Greenlee carried home $350 a week until just before Thanksgiving.

He and his wife, Connie and sons, 7 and 4, live in a comfortable three-bedroom and den ranch house, endemic to Southern California's San Fernando Valley—an area called Canoga Park. The mortgage is $380 a month.

Until now they've managed to live off savings and income from a few 2-3 days a week jobs Weldon got and Connie brought in from a bookkeeping job.

Savings are now down to $900, and $300 of that will come out this month for various expenses.

Aunt Grace in Bakersfield came up with a large food freezer, and Weldon struck a deal for a hind quarter of beef.

"That's what we been living on. The food stamps will go for staples and milk."

"The one thing we really have going is faith."

Mike Palmer too expressed faith. He said he thought things would "continue to be slow" but he feels that things will pick up, even if it takes the next year."

Michael Basaric, his wife and daughter, 4, have been living off unemployment compensation and what's left of their two-bedroom and den home in West Los Angeles.

The mortgage payment is $368 a month.

With still a trace of his eastern European accent he tells of "a good six years" as a journeyman Plumber which has helped him "get this far."

"How do the Basarics manage?

"We buy less meat, eggs and milk for my wife and me. The child still gets the best."

Plea to Ford: 'To Thine Own Actors Be True'

President Ford has been asked to look into the use of federal funds to finance a tour of a British theatrical group in the United States.

The Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees in a message to Ford condemned the spending of $250,000 to pay for the appearances of a foreign company at a time when "unemployment among American musicians, actors and other artists is disastrous."

The council is questioning a grant announced by the National Endowment for the Humanities to the Royal Shakespeare Co. It said there is no objection to the British troupe appearing in the United States since "it is a fine organization, rich in talent and tradition."

But the council said that while the Humanities Endowment is giving $250,000 to the British group, the National Endowment for the Arts limits its annual expenditure to any American theater company to $200,000.

The council's acting president, George Gill, and Hal C. Davis, chairman of its Entertainment & Media Industries Committee, suggested that if such funds are available for foreign groups, then some of the money should be shifted to aid beleaguered American cultural groups.

Ford's Forecast:

8% Unemployment To Hold for 2 Years

(Continued from Page 1)

cession," Ford declared at the very start of his economic message.

In a lengthy analysis of economic conditions accompanying the President's message, the Council of Economic Advisers said "the economy is likely to continue its downward course in the first half of 1975 and to move onto the road to recovery in the second half."

The Economic Report also said inflation will be very high through June but will subside in the second half of the year.

The Administration forecasts prices this year will rise at an average rate of 11.3 percent, even more than the 11 percent rate estimated for 1974.

The thrust of the report indicated the President and his advisers still view inflation as the main economic ill afflicting the nation. This view was reinforced by Treasury Sec. William E. Simon who told the Joint Economic Committee of Congress a day after the report was released that the long-range problem is not recession but achieving greater price stability.

Simon, the Administration's chief economic spokesman, suggested that the nation should be prepared to put up with high rates of unemployment for years to come. He said that "some margin of economic slack must remain for a period of years to ensure that inflation can be squeezed out gradually."

The nation's jobless rate will average 8.1 percent in 1975, dropping slightly in 1976 to an average 7.9 percent, the Administration predicted. The report of the President and his advisers indicate the December unemployment rate, originally announced as 7.1 percent, actually reached 7.2 percent, a rise of six-tenths of 1 percent from the previous month.

Nat Goldfinger, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, noted the Administration's assumptions are for "a prolonged recession with the highest level of unemployment since the Great Depression of the 1930s."

"This is a very clear indication from the White House that the AFL-CIO action program is an utter necessity" if the economy is to be turned around, he said.

At a news briefing on the details of the 359-page Economic Report, CEA Chairman Alan Greenspan said he does not believe the jobless rate will rise as high as 9 percent at any time during 1975, but he acknowledged "we're dealing with an inexact science" in econometric forecasting.

Last October, when the rate reached 5.5 percent, Greenspan told reporters joblessness would rise to 6.25 or 6.5 percent by late this spring and that the rate of inflation would drop to about 8 percent by early spring.

Both in the report and at the briefing, the three-member economic advisory council somewhat qualified its predictions for the economy's performance.

"The uncertainties are so great at the present time that the projections cited above, although presented as specific numbers, are subject to an unusually wide margin of error," the CEA noted in one caveat in the report.

"The past several months have witnessed a progressive scaling-down of output projections and a scaling-up of unemployment projections."

The long-range outlook for the economy is as dreary as the short-term. Although the President and his advisers see slight and gradual improvement after 1976, their forecast is for hard times through the remainder of the decade.

The Administration's economic assumptions show the jobless rate hanging high at an average 7.5 percent rate in 1977, falling off to an average 6.9 percent in 1978, to 6.2 percent in 1979 and dropping to 5.5 percent in 1980. By comparison, the unemployment rate averaged 5.6 percent in 1974 and 4.9 percent in 1973.

The inflation rate, as measured by the consumer price index, is expected to average 7.8 percent in 1976. In 1977, the CPI rise is forecast at a still-high 6.6 percent. Increases of 5.2, 4.1 and 4 percent are seen for 1978, 1979 and 1980, respectively.

Real GNP — total output after removal of the effects of inflation— would rise to 5.6 percent in 1977 and to 6.5 percent in each of the next three years, if the Administration's projections are on target.

Again qualifying his predictions, Greenspan told newsmen "it's quite possible that, if we proceed in a very circumspect and prudent way . . . and restore public confidence, we can arrive at more acceptable levels of unemployment and inflation than are suggested" in the assumptions.

But restoring confidence was something for which Greenspan would offer no remedy, aside from pushing the President's economic and energy proposals which face rough sledding in Congress.

The Economic Report, which is required by the Employment Act of 1946 to indicate what progress the Executive Branch is making to assure growth and stable unemployment, observed:

"The most pressing concern of policy is to halt the decline in production and employment so that growth of output can resume and unemployment can be reduced."

The report acknowledged that the Administration's complicated energy program "will raise prices at a time when inflation is serious," but it argued that the program would provide important benefits, chiefly independence from foreign countries for oil.

The President said his proposed one-year $16-billion tax cut was "an essential first move" in restoring the nation's economic health, and that without it the year-to-year decline in real output in 1975 would be one-half of 1 percent to 1 percent steeper than the predicted 3.3 percent slide.

In his message, Ford cautioned against an over-reliance on fiscal and monetary policies to support the economy. While such policies might increase business activity, they may also "allow victory in the battle against inflation to slip beyond our grasp," he said.

Yet, his advisers stressed, "the uncertainties that underlie the outlook for 1975 add to the importance of a flexible monetary policy. . . ."

"Toward this end, reasonable growth in money and credit will be required—growth which, one hopes, will encourage a freer flow of credit and lower interest rates in private credit markets."

The CEA's economic analysis also observed that "the prospect of a sharp (housing) upturn appears small at this time," predicted real consumer spending in 1975 may fall for the second year in a row, and forecast a sharp contraction in new plant and equipment investment.

Recession Deficit:

'Bad News' Budget Keyed To Less for Poor, Aged, Ill

(Continued from Page 1)

a "high national priority" should be given to devising "a system that we will be able to afford."

His budget "economizes" on federal payments for health care through two devices: elderly persons on Medicare would be required to pay a larger share of their hospital and doctor bills, and 13 so-called "high income states" that have 70 percent of the low-income persons eligible for Medicaid would be required to pay a larger portion of the cost, with the federal share decreased. New York, California, Illinois, Michigan and New Jersey are among the states on the supposedly "affluent" list.

Another Medicaid "savings" proposed by Ford is elimination of federal matching funds for adult dental care.

The budget savings on the Medicare program would come through requiring the elderly to pay an additional $1.3 billion a year in hospital and doctor costs.

Under present law, a hospitalized person over 65 pays for the first day of hospital care but then has no further payment through the 60th day. Ford wants Congress to require the patient to pay 10 percent of the cost after the first day up to an annual ceiling of $750. He also asked that persons with the supplemental doctor bill insurance of Medicare be required to pay 30 percent of their physician fees, up to $750, instead of the present 20 percent.

Most government programs are budgeted for higher funds, although in most cases the rise is less than the projected inflation rate. Overall federal employment would be almost identical with current levels, with increases and cutbacks balancing out.

There will be a pickup in funds for housing and water treatment funds over the reduced level of recent years, although the President still wants Congress to rescind part of the money already appropriated. And the Administration has fought the type of expanded public works programs used during past recessions to create employment while assisting communities.

The President made a strong appeal to Congress to go along with his proposed $8 billion increase in military spending—to $92.8 billion during fiscal 1976.

In line with the Administration's dismal economic forecast, the budget tickets an additional $3.5 billion for federal unemployment compensation payments—on top of the hefty increase in the current year's spending.

The budget assumes that Congress will enact Ford's proposed fuel tax and will not rescind his authority to raise the tariff on oil imports.

Both assumptions are certainly open to challenge. Yet the fuel tax is a key factor in a wide array of budget assumptions, including both the rate of inflation and the projected deficit.

Also questionable is the budget's premise that a heavily Democratic Congress will make the cuts in social programs demanded by a conservative Republican President.

The same week the budget was delivered to Capitol Hill, Congress voted overwhelmingly to prohibit the Administration from making the poor pay more for food stamps, thus throwing out of kilter a $650 million "saving" in the President's budget.

Most school children would pay more for their lunches under a budget proposal that would limit federal subsidies to the neediest children.

The only new programs that received the President's budget endorsement were in the energy field. A total of $2.1 billion was budgeted for research into such matters as conversion of coal into liquid fuel and gas; new methods of extracting oil from shale; solar energy development and nuclear power research.

One government agency took the almost unprecedented step of defying the President and looking openly to Congress for more funds.

The chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Richard Simpson, wrote Ford that failure to give the relatively new agency the added money it had sought amounts to "a devastating blow . . . to the cause of consumer health and safety." Without more funds, he complained, the agency would be reduced to marking time.

Despite the vastness of the overall budget figures, there has been relatively little change in total outlays as a percentage of the nation's gross national product—the value of goods and services produced. Over the past decade, it has hovered just over the 20 percent mark and is estimated at about 22 percent for fiscal 1976.

The breakdown of the budget totals can be misleading. Thus social security payments—budgeted at $74.4 billion for the 1976 fiscal year—are second only to national defense in terms of federal spending. But the money comes from payroll taxes paid by workers and their employers, and currently brings in more "income" than the government pays out in benefits.

It is the custom of presidents to speak of budget figures as if they were cast in iron. Yet just two weeks before the 1976 fiscal year budget was made public, the Administration said its deficit would be $5 billion less than was ultimately projected. The director of the Office of Management & Budget, Roy L. Ash, was asked about the discrepancy.

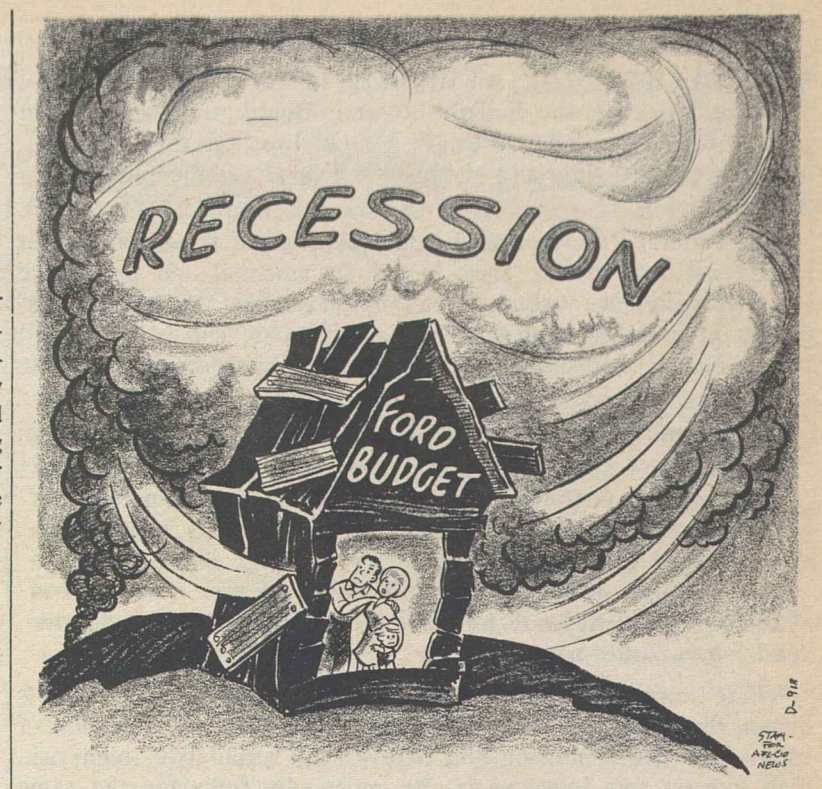
He told newsmen that last-minute changes in the economic projection —for a year that would not begin until July—indicated $4 billion less in income tax receipts and $1 billion additional in jobless payments.

Last year's budget projected a deficit of $9.4 billion. But the economic tailspin makes the current estimated deficit $34.7 billion.

For the 1976 fiscal year, the proposed budget shows the federal government taking in $297.5 billion and paying out $349.4 billion.

Thirty percent of the income would come from individual income taxes, 26 percent from the social security payroll taxes, 14 percent from corporation income taxes, 15 percent from borrowing, 9 percent from excise taxes and 6 percent from other sources.

The payouts would go 39 percent to individuals—mostly through social security—and 27 percent to national defense, 11 percent in grants to states and cities, 11 percent for other federal expenditures, 5 percent in individual grants and 7 percent in net interest payments.



Adams Named as Head Of House Budget Panel

The House Democratic Caucus picked Rep. Brock Adams (D-Wash.) to be chairman of the House Budget Committee—a post that could become one of the most influential in Congress if the budget reform law passed last year lives up to expectations.

Two liberals—Adams and Neal Smith of Iowa—contended for the post. The committee was established last summer with Rep. Al Ullman (D-Wash.) as chairman. But Ullman had to give it up to succeed Wilbur Mills as head of the Ways & Means Committee.

Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Me.), one of the original sponsors of budget reform, is head of the counterpart Senate committee.

The Democratic caucus also named the party's 17 members on the 25-member House Budget Committee, of whom three were required to be members of the Ways & Means Committee and three drawn from the Appropriations Committee. The others came from various legislative committees and nominations of party leaders.

The committee, including its Republican members, is considered somewhat more conservative than the House as a whole. But fears that the conservative coalition might end up with a majority were largely allayed when Jamie L. Whitten, a Mississippi conservative, withdrew as a nominee from the Appropriations Committee and was replaced by Louis Stokes, a liberal from Ohio and a leader of the black caucus.

One of the first jobs of the House and Senate panels—and particularly of their chairmen—will be to pick a director for a new congressional budget office that is supposed to give Congress a professional staff comparable to the expertise available to the Executive Branch through the President's budget office.

The budget reform law sets out a detailed procedure and timetable, but it won't apply until next year.

This is a transitional year for the federal budget, the last time it will be keyed to a fiscal year that starts July 1.

Starting next year, Congress will have three additional months to act on the budget requests. The President's budget will still be due in late January. But it will be drawn up for a fiscal year to start the following Oct. 1.

The budget submitted this year includes a separate estimate of the additional money needed to cover the gap between the June 30, 1976, end of one fiscal year and the Oct. 1, 1976 start of the new one The funding estimate, however, merely assumes continuation of ongoing programs unchanged and is almost certain to be modified closer to its effective date.

After the President's budget for fiscal 1977 is submitted next January, these are the major steps outlined in the budget reform law:

With input from the congressional budget office and recommendations from legislative committees, the House and Senate budget committees would prepare an overall target dealing with levels of spending, taxation, anticipated surplus or deficit and including breakdowns of appropriation goals by major functions, such as national defense, health or housing. Congress would have to adopt such a resolution by May 15 of each year.

There would be timetables for appropriations bills and by Sept. 15, Congress would be required to adopt a second budget resolution making any desired changes in the targets established the previous spring.

And finally, before the new fiscal year began, there would be a reconciliation bill in which the appropriations already enacted would be modified as needed to stay within the framework of the final budget resolution.

Both Muskie and Adams have indicated that their committees will try a "dry run" of some of the procedures to be more rigidly applied next year, including adoption of overall budget goals in resolutions to be brought before the House and Senate.

Adams noted that until the congressional budget office is in full operation, any spending targets would have to be "very crude." He gave the new budget process an even chance of succeeding, cautioning that it conflicts with "all the established ways of doing business" in Congress.

Meany Stresses Unity With UAW on Job Needs

About 10,000 jobless Auto Workers converged on Washington Feb. 5 for a rally dramatizing the unemployment situation, particularly in their industry which is in a state of collapse.

UAW President Leonard Woodcock noted that about 300,000 Auto Workers currently are out of work at the nation's four major auto manufacturing companies, General Motors, Ford, Chrysler and American Motors.

"There is vast human suffering and frightening insecurity behind the cold statistics of massive, still-rising layoffs," he said.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, in a message to the rally, said "it is a national disgrace that so many in leadership positions in this country have so forgotten the human misery of unemployment that workers must hold rallies to focus attention on the need to get America back to work and spare the nation another depression."

The AFL-CIO and the UAW "are fully united in this battle to put America back to work," Meany wrote Woodcock.

"We share not only a common concern about the problem, but a common economic and tax program, and we will be lobbying side by side in Congress for the jobs this country must have to avoid certain economic collapse.

"Our joint efforts can insure a congressional program, conceived in compassion and common sense, that will give America what it needs—a stable, healthy economy with full employment, restored purchasing power and confidence in the future."

The emergency rally, held at the D.C. Armory, drew auto workers from all over the country, but mostly from Detroit.

A six-inch snowstorm on the eve of the rally did not deter them from going ahead with their plans.

The union members carried placards and buttons reading, "We want jobs" and "We want work, not words." They drew up a program calling upon Congress for substantial tax cuts for low- and middle-income workers, more public jobs and federal standards for unemployment insurance, among other forms of assistance.

Josephine Piccolo Dies, D.C. United Way Aide

Josephine R. Piccolo, labor consultant to the United Way of the Washington, D.C., area, died of cancer Feb. 1. Mrs. Piccolo, 48, who had been active in trade union and community affairs more than 20 years, also was an executive board member of the Virginia AFL-CIO.

She was a former official of Communications Workers Local 2300 and served as its president in 1952-54. She also had been COPE women's activities director for the Greater Washington Central Labor Council since 1971.

Survivors include her husband, Tony, and a daughter. Services were held in Alexandria, Va., Feb. 5 and burial was in Arlington National Cemetery.

Hemisphere Entertainers Elect AFTRA Official

New York — Sanford I. Wolff, executive secretary of the Television & Radio Artists, has been elected treasurer of the Inter-American Federation of Entertainment Workers (FITE).

President Hal C. Davis of the Musicians is the president of the international trade secretariat representing actors, musicians, technicians and craftsmen in the Western Hemisphere.

Priorities for Credit

WE BELIEVE THE AMENDMENTS to the Credit Control Act, directing the Federal Reserve Board to allocate credit toward national priority uses, is a new direction that has been needed for some time and is urgently needed for the present and the future.

The Federal Reserve Board would be directed to allocate credit toward national priority uses, including: essential and productive capital investment, normal operations of established business customers in order to overcome lack of adequate capital, low- and middle-income housing, small business and agriculture, and state and local governments.

Such allocation, according to priority uses and away from non-productive speculative investments, would have avoided the discriminatory method of credit allocation that America has experienced in the last 20 years. That method has been to rely upon a tight general monetary policy and high interest rates to allocate funds when they were in short supply. The Federal Reserve tight money policies made the credit funds supply shorter and interest rates rose.

There have been five repetitions of this sequence of events during the past two decades. The result has been an allocation of funds away from housing and in favor of speculative, high risk, high interest rate investments. By repeatedly following the same policies, the Executive and Legislative Branches have permitted, and the Federal Reserve has mandated, an allocation of credit that has caused deep declines in residential construction, curtailments in state and local construction and in utility plant construction. Every time, marked declines in construction have been followed by economic recession.

Over the past two years, with some brief interruptions, money has been tighter, interest rates higher and the housing decline steeper than in earlier performances of the scenario. From the peak seasonally adjusted rate of 2.5 million housing starts in October 1972, there was a 65 percent decline to a rate of 868,000 unit starts in December 1974.

The concentrated adverse effect has led to high unemployment in the directly affected industries, such as 15 percent among construction workers, and as their purchasing power was decreased, overall unemployment snowballed above 7 percent—and will probably approach 8 percent.

It is primarily the high interest rates which choke off housing demand. Although more than $10 billion was committed by the government under special programs for purchases of home mortgages bearing interest rates of 7¾ to 8¾ percent during 1974, only about one-fifth of the funds had been used by the end of the year. Most families cannot afford to buy homes financed at such high interest rates, let alone at 9 to 10 percent rates prevalent in the private market.

More and effective selective measures for the allocation of credit and the achievement of lower interest rates are needed to avoid the severe depressions in construction activity that have resulted from reliance on tight money and high interest rates to combat inflationary pressures.

—From AFL-CIO testimony before the House Banking Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy on the Lower Interest Rate Act of 1975.

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A Word Edgewise:

Reneging on Ziegler Invitation Compounds Original Inanity

By John P. Roche

THERE ARE TIMES when I really wonder at the human capacity for autohypnosis. If in 1970 the student body at Boston University had invited a pro-Hanoi speaker and a dean had chastised the choice, the whole place would have gone up in smoke. The American Civil Liberties Union would have issued a press release condemning this repressive act and, in the Times, Anthony Lewis would have had one of his bouts of hysterics.

For my part, I would have taken a dim view of the speaker's position, but defended the right of the students to invite anyone they damn please. Indeed, I was recently asked how I felt about an invitation by a nearby university to a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organization: There was some feeling that his talk might constitute a "provocation." My reply was that I consider the PLO to be a bunch of ideological gangsters, but that if its speaker appeared (unarmed) he deserved to be heard. And anybody who tried to break up the meeting or shout him down should be tucked in the slammer.

Recently, however, Ronald Ziegler has been put through the mill at Boston University's School of Public Communication. Originally the students unanimously voted to invite him to lecture on the "Use and Abuse of Power" at a $2,700 fee. The dean then intervened, protesting the fee. In fairness, he did add that he would defend Ziegler's right to speak—for nothing. The faculty unanimously supported this suggestion and, when the matter returned to the student government, the latter disinvited Ziegler.

The nub of the attack was that by paying Ziegler, the school was endorsing the whole "immoral" Watergate sequence. (Presumably paying a pro-Hanoi speaker in 1970 did not involve any endorsement of the North Vietnamese dictatorship—to have that would have been to engage in guilt by association.)

What is raised by this assault on Ziegler is the whole question of double-moral bookkeeping. Let me say, for starters, that I think the student assembly was out of its mind to invite Ziegler to talk at a School of Public Communication. It is comparable to inviting a color-blind individual to lecture on the French Impressionists. Ziegler's specialty was non-communication. Second, the $2,700 fee is mind-boggling. (By the way, if Ziegler has a good agent, I suspect he will get his money whether he speaks or not: high moralism does not void the law of contract.) In short, I believe the original offer was inane.

However, once the invitation was out, it seems to me that the dean and his faculty behaved in a quite outrageous fashion. One can make a case—a number of conservatives do—that the faculty and administration of a school should act ideologically in loco parentis to the students, effectively straightening the children out when the little dears go astray. But the liberal view, as I understand it, is that the students are not to be treated as non compos infants, that they have wide areas of free choice, and that customarily in a liberal institution one of these areas is who they want to listen to on issues of the day.

BETWEEN 1968 AND 1971 it was hard to turn around without finding some left-wing militant whooping up the campus revolution. In my personal judgment a number of them were taking "immoral" positions and collecting substantial sums in the process. One of the prize kooks, who was incapable of uttering an English sentence without five "you knows" tucked into it, was picking up $2,000 a shot. (I once did a computation and figured he got $10 for each "you know" and $5 for each "like, man, it . . .") If anyone asked me what I thought of the performance, I was delighted to unload. But—and this is the vital point—I could never in conscience demand prior censorship on moral or any other grounds (short of the likelihood he might shoot up the audience).

To this, a conservative (like, I presume, the dean of Boston University's School of Public Communication) will reply, "Why don't you take your morals seriously?" I do, but I also have a haunting sense of fallibility and deep suspicion of obsequious piety.

One of the students at the school, commenting on the decision, said, "We have a chance to tell the entire country that we don't want a deceitful person to speak from a public platform. No one in America had a say in the pardon of Nixon, but this is our opportunity not to pardon Ziegler." I suppose it's uplifting to have students with such a prophetic afflatus, but this sinner's reaction is simply to gag.

Drive for Ratification:

1975 Viewed as Crucial Year For Equal Rights Amendment

The following is excerpted from "ERA: Ratifying Equality," by Carolyn J. Jacobson, in the January 1975 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

EQUALITY OF RIGHTS under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

This is the fundamental statement of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment, passed by an overwhelming vote in both houses of Congress in March 1972, but needing ratification from five more states before it becomes the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Although the proposed amendment has until 1979 to be ratified, 1975 may be the crucial year. Historically, when the ratification of an amendment takes too long, its chances of success dwindle.

The pro-ERA groups have gained organizationally in recent months and as a result of the November elections, the political climate for ratification has brightened. All 17 state legislatures that have still not ratified the ERA will be meeting in 1975.

ERA supporters number more than 75 national organizations, including the AFL-CIO, the American Bar Association, the League of Women Voters, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Democratic and Republican Parties and every President of the United States since Eisenhower.

When the AFL-CIO endorsed the amendment at its 1973 convention, it urged all state federations in states that had not ratified the ERA to lobby their legislature to support it. The AFL-CIO came out in support of the ERA after court decisions made it clear that protective laws for women workers were being removed when tested against the equal employment section, Title VII, of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Thus labor's historic support of the protective laws—which it was instrumental in enacting in many states—had been rendered moot, and the federation endorsed ERA as a replacement for its previous case-by-case fight against discrimination.

Under the English common law, on which the U.S. legal system is based, women have had few rights and have undergone a long and hard struggle over the years to secure an equal legal status with men. It was not until 1920 that women won the right to vote. Although the 14th Amendment to the Constitution states a guarantee of "equal protection of the law," courts did not apply this protection universally to women.

Not until 1971 did the Supreme Court knock down a law which discriminated against women. In Reed v. Reed, the court nullified an Idaho law which favored men over women as administrators of estates, but it did not invalidate earlier decisions upholding sex discrimination cases under other laws. The court left to every woman plaintiff the burden of proving that government actions perpetuating discrimination are "unreasonable."

In May 1973, in Frontiero v. Richardson, relating to spouse's benefits in the armed services, the Supreme Court came closer to applying a constitutional basis for outlawing sex discrimination. Four justices held the opinion that sex, like race, was a "suspect classification" and should be subject to strict judicial review. But three justices held that categorizing sex as a suspect classification was unnecessary and premature since the state legislatures were currently considering the ERA.

Since the ERA's jurisdiction is restricted to government action, it is not applicaple to private employment. It would prohibit discrimination by the government as an employer, as in federal, state, county or city jobs. It would require equal pay for equal work for all government employes.

In finding that various state protective laws for women are discriminatory—incompatible with the 1964 Civil Rights Act's Title VII prohibition against sex discrimination in employment where sex is not a "bona fide occupational qualification"—the courts have ruled that these laws, originally enacted to prevent women from being exploited, actually were working against women. They were restricting employment opportunities by keeping women out of jobs which offered higher pay or advancement. In addition, to the extent that these laws provided actual protections, men have been arbitrarily denied benefits they need and deserve.

ALTHOUGH 33 STATES have ratified the ERA, two of them, Nebraska and Tennessee, rescinded their votes the following year. Debate continues as to whether this can be done legally. The Constitution empowers states only to ratify constitutional amendments; it says nothing about rescinding. The U.S. Supreme Court, however, refused to make a final decision on the question, calling it a "political" issue and referring it to Congress. (Note: Since this article was written North Dakota became the 34th state to ratify the amendment.)

Proponents of the Equal Rights Amendment are hoping that when four more states ratify, the momentum will grow and many more states than the required 38 will ratify, making the question of rescinding moot.

Passage of the ERA would represent political realism. It would acknowledge that equal rights for all is long overdue, for until now such equality has only been symbolic. The ERA will finally guarantee both men and women equal protection under one uniform legal system. The present dual system of justice is no justice at all.

As the AFL-CIO said in its 1973 convention resolution, the Equal Rights Amendment is "precisely the kind of clear statement of national commitment to the principle of equality of the sexes under the law that working women and their unions can use to advantage in their efforts to eliminate employment discrimination against women."

Influx of New Members:

Prospects for Consumer Bills Brighter in 94th Congress

CONSUMER BILLS that took a back seat to other issues in the last Congress will move faster this year with the influx of more "consumer-minded" members as a result of the 1974 elections, a union lobbyist predicted on Labor News Conference.

Evelyn Dubrow of the Ladies' Garment Workers said creation of an independent Consumer Protection Agency to ride herd on the various regulatory agencies charged with consumer area responsibilities is likely to win approval in the new Congress. She said that while there might be some risk of a veto as part of the White House budget-cutting effort, the cost argument just doesn't stand up and has never been a serious obstacle to the measure in Congress.

President Ford would be hard-pressed to "stand on a decision" that the Consumer Protection Agency would increase the federal deficit by very much, Miss Dubrow declared. She said the actual cost would be no more than "a drop in the bucket compared with other sections of the federal budget"—but the benefits to consumers would be great.

No-fault auto insurance is another long-sought consumer-protection measure that should move well in the new Congress, Miss Dubrow said. She noted the sharpest controversy over the issue has centered in the question of whether no-fault insurance should be a federal or state program, an issue that has to be "resolved by Congress."

Miss Dubrow scored the Administration for singling out for harsh budget-cutting those programs that are aimed at helping fixed-income citizens, low-wage workers and disadvantaged Americans, such as the now-aborted attempt to hike food stamp prices.

"They don't look with the same kind of eagle eye on the other agencies in the government as they do at teh agencies that service the poor, the low-income families, the minority groups," she declared.

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE OTHER DAY President Ford signed an order for a $1 increase in the import fee on a barrel of crude oil which is certain to be immensely costly to the American people.

He signed the document, acknowledging almost universal opposition to the move by noting that no one was asking for extra pens used for his signature.

Ford's attitude on this issue and on a number of other Administration policies may have reached the point of diminishing returns.

Take the President's record on vetoes. He has vetoed 10 bills, an astounding number for a President in office only since last August when Nixon resigned. Of the 10 vetoes, four were overridden by Congress. They involved better benefits for veterans, extension of the Rehabilitation of the Handicapped Act, Freedom of Information Act, and important improvements in the Railroad Retirement Act.

Of the vetoes that stuck, all six were pocket vetoes after the 93rd Congress died. The six involved tighter regulations on strip mining, a program for extension of nurse training, a flood control bill, a number of health program improvements, an effort by the Tennessee Valley Authority to hold down prices through deferring or offsetting pollution control costs, and a major maritime bill that would have countered the runaway ship problem by compelling the use of a percentage of American-flag ships to transport oil.

In virtually all cases, the President used the argument that the programs would cost more money.

Although Congress has overridden his vetoes every time it has had the opportunity, Ford is talking about more vetoes of bills that he doesn't like. He is doing this despite the fact that his vetoes are likely to face tougher fights in the new Congress.

In a recent press conference he was asked about his relations with Congress. He replied that he would have to be "pragmatic" and work with the Democratic leadership, yet he later said that he "would not hesitate to veto any additional spending programs or new programs that would cause new spending."

A PRESIDENT WHO TAKES such a position for the future is placed in a bind. Before the current session of Congress is out, there are certain to be "spending programs" that are new if only to combat unemployment. Is the President going to veto them all? Is he going to veto blindly without examining the needs for the "new spending programs?" Is he going to engage in a perpetual fight with a Congress that is trying to find solutions to mounting unemployment and a threatening full-blown depression?

Many of the Nixon vetoes were of the same stripe as the Ford vetoes. Nixon, for example, in 1973 vetoed disaster relief funds, continuation of Public Health hospitals, an increase in the minimum wage, the Older Americans Act, rural water and sewage grants and the Vocational Rehabilitation Act. Nixon even vetoed an Energy Emergency bill in March of 1974 and was sustained by the Senate 58 to 40. It was a veto that was prophetically described as meaning that oil prices would "go up, up and up," as they have.

Ford may be striving to reassert the power image of the presidency after the shattering it received during the Watergate scandal that drove Nixon to disgrace and resignation. It may also be that Congress, especially this new one, is determined to reassert its own power after a long period of the "imperial presidency." Nevertheless, vetoes as a technique of governing are self-defeating when they are used carelessly or as displays of stubborn power.

NO-FAULT INSURANCE and a Consumer Protection Agency are issues likely to get high billing in the "more consumer-minded Congress" that resulted from the 1974 elections, Ladies' Garment Workers Washington Rep. Evelyn Dubrow, center, said on Labor News Conference. She was questioned by John Reistrup, left, of the Washington Post and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

LATINO POLITICAL WORK is reviewed by the administrative committee of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, which undertook its first voter activities in the 1974 elections. The committee also mapped plans for LCLAA's first convention in April.

Latino Labor Council Maps Program for '75

Efforts to help labor's political activities and to solve the problem of illegal aliens were pledged by the administrative committee of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

The 14-member committee met in Washington, D.C., to finish mapping plans for its first national convention—to be held in Albuquerque, Apr. 10-13 — and adopt a 1975 program to be submitted to the convention.

Founded in November 1973, the LCLAA is designed to coordinate trade union activities in the Latin community in much the same fashion as the A. Philip Randolph Institute does among blacks.

The administrative committee heard a membership report indicating a growth from 50 members from 10 unions at its founding convention to 551 members in 25 chapters now organized in 12 states.

Voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives were conducted in the 1974 elections in 13 states with large concentrations of Latin-Americans. Communications Workers President Glenn Watts and COPE Director Al Barkan addressed the two-way committee meeting. Both praised the LCLAA's role in the 1974 elections as outstanding for a newly formed organization.

Kenneth Young, the AFL-CIO assistant legislative director, briefed the gathering on labor's overall legislative goals for 1975. The group appointed a special committee to draft a resolution for the April convention calling for legislation to strengthen curbs on illegal aliens who fill U.S. jobs at the expense of jobless citizens.

Manuel Fierro, executive director of the National Congress of Hispanic American Citizens (RASSO), also worked with the group on legislative proposals. The committee heard a presentation from the National Council of La Raza, which has already started a statistical profile of the Latino community similar to the one the LCLAA committee judged essential for future political activity.

Ray Mendoza of the Laborers, J. F. Otero of the Railway & Airline Clerks, Maria Portalatino of the Teachers, Franklin Gracia of the Clothing Workers and Maclovio Barraza of the Steelworkers make up the LCLAA executive board, with Mendoza serving as chairman and Paul Montemayor of the Steelworkers as executive director.

The administrative committee meeting included the board plus Aris Gonzalez of the Texas AFL-CIO, Chano Merino of the COPE field staff, Al Rodriguez of the Carpenters, Julius Ramirez of the Ladies' Garment Workers and Hank Lacayo of the Auto Workers.

Church Body, IUD Launch Safety Drive

The AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. and the United Church of Christ have begun work on a joint program aimed at reducing occupational health and safety hazards.

As a first step, some 40 representatives of church groups attended a joint conference at Airlie House in Warrenton, Va., where they received details of a proposed program and agreed to seek support from their various religious denominations.

The program, on which staff members of the IUD and the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries are working, includes alerting the religious community to occupational health problems, reaching unorganized workers, arranging demonstration projects, and legislative action.

IUD Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman told the conference that collaboration between labor and church organizations could help reverse a rising trend of deaths from occupationally related causes.

Among medical experts taking part in the discussions were Dr. Irving Selikoff, Mount Sinai School of Medicine; Dr. Samuel Epstein, Case-Western Reserve University; Dr. Norton Nelson, New York University; and Dr. David Rall, director of the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences.

Labor representatives, besides Clayman, included Jack Sheehan of the Steelworkers, Anthony Mazzochi of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, Angelo Cefalo of the Machinists, Louis Beliczky of the Rubber Workers, and Sheldon Samuels and Howard Hague of IUD.

Mrs. Murphy Confirmed For Labor Board Seat

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Betty Southard Murphy to a five-year term on the National Labor Relations Board, and President Ford has already announced his intention to designate her as the NLRB chairman.

Mrs. Murphy, who once worked as an NLRB attorney, has been the Labor Dept.'s wage-hour administrator. She is a Republican and succeeds Edward B. Miller, the previous chairman, whose term expired in December.

Unions Send Drought Aid Via CARE

Labor contributions channelled through CARE are helping to drill desperately needed wells in drought-stricken areas of the world, AFL-CIO Vice President Lee W. Minton reports.

The complete cost of one water well is $1,500, including pipes, pumps, labor and machinery. Three international unions have each contributed a well while other labor contributions have been pooled to drill a total of seven wells, Minton said.

Minton, president emeritus of the Glass Bottle Blowers who also serves on the board of CARE, said that so far the wells have all been drilled in Africa, mainly in Niger.

In all, CARE's contributions in the past 12 months have been $109 million, with most of the emphasis on the famine-stricken areas of Africa and Asia.

CARE gifts are multiplied, Minton pointed out, by food and other commodities from the U.S. government and private U.S. food processors and by the involvement of local labor, suppliers and government contributions.

In addition to the drilling in drought areas, Minton also reported on labor involvement in such projects as housing construction in Bangladesh, hurricane relief in Honduras and children's nutritional programs in India, Colombia, Niger and other countries.

Goals Unmet:

Housing Hardest Hit By Economic Crisis

Housing construction—battered by inflation, recession, tight money and the industry's up-and-down cycles—is at its lowest ebb of the current decade.

The downswing of 1973-74 was the fifth and sharpest in the last 20 years, Henry B. Schechter writes in the January issue of the Federationist, the AFL-CIO magazine. Housing starts dropped from 2.4 million in 1972 to an estimated 1.4 million last year.

The floor fell out, Schechter notes, as the Nixon Administration's suspension of subsidized housing programs coincided with a periodic cyclical downturn in the housing market.

Coupled with a decline in shipments of mobile homes, Schechter points out, the number of housing units produced in 1974 is well below basic national housing requirements. With the resulting shortages of housing in many localities, the upward pressures on home prices and rents are contributing to inflation.

Schechter, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Urban Affairs, also points out that fewer American families can afford to buy homes at inflated prices and execessive interest rates because of the cost-to-income relationship.

In 1972, about one-third of the families were able to buy homes at the median price of $27,600, but in 1974 only one-fifth were able to buy a similar home selling from $35,500 to $36,900.

Using the rule of thumb that a family can afford to buy a home when the total housing expenses don't exceed 25 percent of its income, Schechter calculates that a family needed an annual income of $12,960 to buy a house at the median price of $27,600 in 1972. This is based on an FHA insured 30-year mortgage loan of $25,600 at 7 percent interest.

However by late 1974 when the median price had increased to $36,900 calling for a 30-year mortgage loan of $34,800 at 9 percent, the necessary annual income was up to $20,419, Schechter points out.

A major cause of more families being shut out of the housing market is the higher monthly principal and interest payment, which increased $102.50 from 1972 to 1974 for homes selling at the median price.

"If the interest rate had remained at 7 percent and only the house price and mortgage amount increased, the increase in the monthly principal and interest payment would have been only $51.55," he observes.

"The required annual income would then be $17,455, and an additional 7.5 percent of all families, or over 4 million additional families, could qualify to buy a median priced home."

During the first half of 1974, only 4 percent of the new homes on the housing market sold for under $20,000, while 71 percent sold for $30,000 and above, the article notes.

Opportunities for purchasing older homes for middle- and lower-income families are not good either.

"To buy a moderate priced existing home, with a $23,500 mortgage loan of 30 year maturity at an 8.5 or 9.5 percent interest rate would require an estimated income of roughly $13,000 to $14,000. About 55 to 60 percent of all families would not be able to afford such a house," Schechter asserts.

Because homes are beyond the economic reach of most American families, and the availability of rental units is limited, they are being forced to pay high rents.

Schechter notes that vacancies are limited because of a steep drop in rental housing production. In the first nine months of 1974, multi-family housing starts totaled 389,000, a 48 percent drop from the comparable 1973 period.

Shipments of mobile homes also have declined significantly in recent months, he observes. But here, too, financing costs are exorbitant —running from 12 to 14 percent.

"For a typical $8,000 mobile home loan with a 10-year maturity, the monthly loan payment would be $113 at 12 percent and $122 at 14 percent," Schechter points out.

"In addition, site rental in a mobile home park costs about $60 per month, utilities about $25 and insurance, maintenance and repair add an additional $15 per month in expenses. Total monthly payments, therefore will be in a range of $213 to $222 per month."

There is still a basic national need for the production of 2.6 million housing units annually, Schechter declares in citing goals established by Congress in 1968 that called for the production of 26 million units over a 10-year period.

But during periods of tight credit like the one that is now gripping the nation, he notes that housing bears a disproportionate share of the burden. What money is available flows largely to other sectors of the economy because of the present unregulated allocation of credit. A reordering of national priorities to assure an adequate supply of mortgage credit could ease the crisis, Schechter observes.

Stanley Ballard Retires, AFM Elects Emerson

Palm Beach, Fla.—Musicians Sec.-Treas. Stanley Ballard has retired after serving as an international officer of the union for 25 years, AFM President Hal C. Davis announced at the union's mid-winter executive board meeting here.

Ballard, who is leaving his post for health reasons, will be succeeded by J. Martin Emerson, secretary of the union's Washington, D.C., local. Emerson, a 45-year member of the AFM, was named to fill the secretary-treasurer's post by the board.

A number of other shifts in union officers and executives were announced by Davis, including the retirement of President-Emeritus James C. Petrillo as head of the union's civil rights department.

Petrillo, who will be 83 on Mar. 16, came out of retirement as president of the union in 1964 to direct AFM's civil rights department.

Ballard will continue to serve the union as a consultant in matters of foreign secretariats and civil rights and as a hearing officer in cases requiring hearings east of the Mississippi, Davis said.

Emerson was elected to the board of the Washington local in 1944 and became secretary in 1950. He has been a member of the AFM executive board since 1966.

Eugene Frey, president of the union's Cincinnati local and chairman of its law committee, was named to fill the vacancy on the executive board created by Ballard's resignation and Emerson's appointment to succeed him.

Ballard became secretary-treasurer in 1965. He had also served as editor of the Union's official journal. Before becoming secretary-treasurer, he served as secretary for six years. He had been a member of the executive board since 1950.

Seafarer Appointed To Port Commission

Houston—Paul Drozak, a vice president of the Seafarers, has been appointed to the five-member Houston port commission.

Drozak also is a vice president of the Texas AFL-CIO.

At Consumer Assembly:

Oil, Food Monopoly Called Key Factor in Price Surge

Overconcentration in such basic industries as food and energy is cheating Americans out of billions of dollars, two trade union officials told a national gathering of consumer leaders.

Speaking at the annual assembly of the Consumer Federation of America in Washington, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger decried the monopolistic practices of the giant oil companies which have pushed up the price of petroleum products.

James Wishart, research director for the Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen, noted that similar monopolization in the food industry has driven prices to their highest levels on record.

Both joined other speakers in calling for more vigorous enforcement of federal antitrust laws.

Goldfinger charged that the seven biggest international petroleum firms control and manipulate the world's oil supply at the expense of the consumer.

"We are prisoners of the OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) cartel dominated by the Arabs, and these companies are their agents," Goldfinger declared. He identified the firms as Gulf, Mobil, British Petroleum, Royal Dutch Shell, Texaco, Standard of California and Exxon.

Besides controlling the world's oil supply, these same companies have become dominant in other energy areas, such as shale oil and nuclear power, and their controlling influence there is increasing, Goldfinger warned.

Earlier, Federal Energy Administrator Frank Zarb outlined the Ford Administration's energy program, which Goldfinger termed "a monstrous rip-off of the American people."

Goldfinger said the President's plan would deepen the current recession, increase unemployment and add to inflationary pressures in the economy.

He said Zarb tried to "put the best face on" Ford's energy proposals, but the truth is the Administration program would cost American consumers more money for everything produced from or related to oil—fertilizers, food, transportation and a host of other goods and services.

Describing the President's plan as a "Rube Goldberg monstrosity" so complicated it is impossible to calculate its exact cost, Goldfinger noted that a study by the economics department of the Library of Congress nonetheless gave it a price tag of $50.3 billion.

"We in the AFL-CIO estimate it's going to cost $55 billion, and that's before the ripple effects spread through the economy," he said.

Goldfinger urged the assembly delegates to contact members of Congress and press for defeat of the Ford plan. In its stead, a consumer-oriented energy program based on proposals adopted last month by the AFL-CIO's General Board should be advanced, he said.

On the same panel with Zarb and Goldfinger, Rep. John D. Dingell (D-Mich.) observed that "evidence of inadequate competition in the gas and oil industries is plentiful." He cited studies by the Federal Trade Commission showing vertical integration in the energy field among the 14 top producers.

"Monopoly exists in the oil industry," he said. "And the trend toward concentration of energy holdings among a few companies is increasing."

The Democratic congressman said he favors a comprehensive divestiture plan for the oil and related industries where overconcentration exists.

Members of the panel on energy were introduced by Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

In his remarks on inadequate competition in the food industry, Wishart noted that 17 major food chains reported a 94 percent rise in profits over the first nine months of 1974. The profits climb followed gains in 1973 that were "by no means minimal" and came even as farm prices were falling, Wishart said.

Wishart and other speakers accused the middlemen — the big food chains and processing companies—of failing to pass on to consumers the decline in farm prices. Instead, they racked up huge profits, he charged.

"Economists say that when four companies control over 50 percent of a market, an oligopoly exists," Sen. Jim Abourezk (D-S.D.) told the assembly. "In the food industry, four firms control 90 percent of the breakfast cereals, 75 percent of the bread and prepared flour, 56 percent of processed meats, 65 percent of sugar, 80 percent of canned goods and 90 percent of soups."

Abourezk called for a coalition of consumers and farmers to stop the growth of monopolies and oligopolies "whose only interest in our two most basic resources—people and food—is filling corporate coffers with ever more inflated profits."

The two-day meeting was the first time consumer activists and farm leaders had formally met at a national forum to explore mutual problems.

Carole Tucker Foreman, CFA's executive director, noted that the two groups, though not in agreement on all issues, shared an identity on many consumer interests. One area of agreement, she said, was the need for strong antitrust action to break the stranglehold large corporations have on farmer and consumer alike.

The need for greater communication between farmers and consumers was stressed by several speakers, starting with keynoter Gov. Patrick J. Lucey of Wisconsin.

"I have always been puzzled when I hear people say that the farmer and consumer are natural enemies," Lucey noted. "It has always seemed to me that in fact both have suffered much greater harm from large corporate and government interests."

Others addressing the gathering were consumer advocate Ralph Nader, Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.) and Vice President Pat Greathouse of the Auto Workers. Gordon Cole, editor of the Machinist, the IAM's weekly newspaper, was chairman of the two-day meeting.

Ellen Hoats, executive director of the New York Consumer Assembly, was elected president of CFA. She succeeds George Myers of the Credit Union National Association.

Consumer Federation of America is the largest national organization of consumer-oriented groups, and includes many state, local and national unions and central labor bodies.

Abel Cites Job Dividend From Basic Steel Pact

The historic 1973 agreement in basic steel is an "unchallenged success" that has saved jobs, buying power and communities, Steelworkers President I. W. Abel told a Washington press conference.

Pointing out that steel production has held up during the current recession, Abel said the United States is importing about 4 million fewer tons "than we used to and we are exporting about 3½ million tons more than we used to."

All in all, he said "it's a record we can be proud of."

Abel's comments came in response to questions and in remarks broadly surveying his 10 years as president of the USWA. Looking back to 1965 he noted that the union was a "dispirited organization" with a membership that had dropped nearly 200,000 in the previous 10 years and a union treasury that "was leaking badly."

Today, he stressed, there is a membership of more than 1.3 million members, an increase in general treasury funds of 50 percent to nearly $30 million and a fivefold growth in net worth.

Detailing changes in the union's structure to broaden decision-making powers, Abel said that the most important factor, perhaps, was the union's collective bargaining record in leading the way in wage and benefit gains.

The 1973 Experimental Negotiating Agreement in basic steel reduced the need for tremendous stockpiling of inventory and of accelerated imports in anticipation of possible strikes and justified "our faith in the fact and the feeling that we have found a 'better way,'" Abel said.

And the USWA has not given up the right to strike, he emphasized. "Where conditions warrant, we strike."

Other factors contributing to the stable conditions in the industry, Abel said, were the support for a system of "fair trade" international voluntary quotas for steel and joint productivity efforts that have eliminated waste and unnecessary costs.

Abel made the point also that democracy is "alive and well" in the union with a "lot of turnover of officers" at the district and local levels. About one-third of local officers are replaced at each election, he said, and in the last 10 years, covering a span of three elections, there have been contests in 19 of the 24 districts.

Pilots Name Pike As General Manager

President J. J. O'Donnell of the Air Line Pilots announced appointment of Howard W. Pike as general manager of the union. Pike will be responsible for ALPA's financial operation as well as its headquarters staff support in Washington. He joined the Air Line Pilots in 1971.

AMERICAN WORKERS were represented at an International Labor Organization conference in Geneva by Bricklayers President Thomas F. Murphy, left, and Woodworkers President Keith Johnson. It dealt with technological and social problems in woodworking industries.

Meeting Spurs ILO Role In Woodworking Trades

Geneva—Trade union leaders won the support of employers and governments at the International Labor Organization for stepped-up ILO activities to meet the social and technological problems of the woodworking industries.

The call was sounded by President Keith Johnson of the Woodworkers when he told a 21-nation ILO conference that it was a "matter of utmost urgency" that the United Nations agency give "priority consideration" to establishing a permanent committee on the woodworking industries.

Johnson and President Thomas F. Murphy of the Bricklayers formed the AFL-CIO team that spoke for American labor at the two-week technical meeting on these industries.

The worker delegates elected Johnson as their chairman and designated Murphy to represent them on the key steering committee that charted the conference's program and meetings.

In response to the workers' demands the conference unanimously adopted a resolution urging the ILO executive council to establish a standing industrial committee for the woodworking industries.

Such a committee is needed, the resolution said, because of the "steadily increasing" importance of these industries the world over. It urged that the proposed committee meet at "sufficiently short" intervals to be able to keep pace with developments and deal with "new technological and social problems." Specifically, it said the committee should address itself to on-the-job protection of the safety and health of workers and policies designed to secure full employment.

The emphasis on employment was on the creation of jobs in the woodworking industries of the developing countries. Although these industries should seek to keep down production costs, wages "should be fair and not fall short of those in manufacturing generally," it was stressed.

The conference saw no reason why the development of exports by the woodworking industries of the developing countries should hurt employment in the already industrialized nations.

However, it was agreed that the situation should be kept under ILO review because it would be "undesirable for the creation of employment in some parts of the world to lead to the creation of unemployment in others."

On training, the worker delegates urged that the ILO give more attention to research on education problems and make maximum use of modern training technology through the employment of audio visual aids and similar techniques.

Unions Warned On Extremists' 'Press' Ploy

All AFL-CIO affiliates and state and local central bodies have been warned against issuing press credentials to the so-called U.S. Labor Party, whose representatives gain entry to disrupt labor gatherings.

AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack wrote to all affiliates recounting the group's tactics and pseudonyms. While the AFL-CIO continues to admit legitimate press, Zack said, it was forced to ban U.S. Labor Party representatives from the recent General Board meeting.

Several of the names the group uses to gain press credentials are deliberately designed to be confused with legitimate organizations, Zack said. The Auto Workers have filed suit to stop the group from using the name "New Solidarity" for its newspaper in an attempt to confuse it with the UAW publication.

Similarly, Zack said the legitimate International Press Service of Washington, D.C., has been embarrassed by the group's use of the same name. Members of the extremist group have also been known to use the names of bona fide reporters in telephone calls seeking information from union officials.

In addition to "New Solidarity" and "International Press Service," the group has been known to use such names as "Campaigner Publications," the "National Caucus of Labor Committees," the "New Solidarity International Press Service," "National Unemployed and Welfare Rights Organization," and "North American Labor Party."

Van Arsdale Appointed To Bicentennial Panel

Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., president of the New York City AFL-CIO, was appointed by President Ford to the American Revolution Bicentennial Advisory Council.

The 25-member council will advise the administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration on matters relating to the observance of the nation's 200th anniversary.

Orders Enforcement:

Court Rejects Delay In Vinyl Standards

New York—A three-member federal appeals court panel has turned down an industry attempt to stop enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's rules on workers' exposure to vinyl chloride.

The court's consideration of the case has already amounted to an effective 90-day delay in the enforcement of the new standards. The decision, handed down Feb. 1, gave employers 60 days to comply. The OSHA standard was supposed to be effective Jan. 1.

Spokesmen for the Society of the Plastics Industry were uncertain whether the decision would be appealed to the full U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

The OSHA standard calls for reduction of vinyl chloride exposure to 1 part per million parts of air (1 ppm). That standard was issued by OSHA in October 1974, with an immediate reduction to 50 ppm ordered at that time. As recently as April 1974, exposures of 500 ppm were allowed.

The judges noted that "we are dealing here with human lives and the record reveals that 11 manufacturing plant workers and two fabrication plant workers have already died from the effects of this potent chemical."

Those deaths, from a rare liver cancer called angiosarcoma, touched off the reduction in exposure levels enacted in 1974.

In response to the company contention that it was "infeasible" to meet the Jan. 1 effective date, the court said the companies "need more faith in their own technological potentialities," noting that it took plastics companies only a matter of weeks to conform to the intermediate stanrard of 50 ppm.

The industry had also argued that the order on the new standard was "too vague" to be complied with, but the court said it found the "directions are clear, definite and certain and they are also entirely feasible, since the goal of the lowest detectable level can definitely be attained through the combination of technological means and respirators."

The use of respirators is currently optional for workers exposed in excess of 25 ppm, but would be mandatory at any exposure level after Jan. 1, 1976, under current OSHA requirements.

After the requirements were posted last October, the companies filed suit to stop their enforcement almost immediately. The AFL-CIO and its Industrial Union Dept. filed as intervenors in November, and in December the judges issued a temporary stay on enforcement until they could study the case.

Retired Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark wrote the unanimous decision. Frederick van Pelt Bryan and Kevin T. Duffy were the other two judges.

The new OSHA rules affect an estimated 6,500 workers in vinyl chloride production and 350,000 others in plastics fabricating.

FARM WORKERS take on the dual task of promoting their consumer boycott of non-UFW grapes and lettuce while picketing vineyards in California's Arvin-Lamont and Bakersfield areas that are being pruned. Other "huelguistas" marched at food stores protesting the sale of grapes and lettuce.

State Jobs Conferences Urged to Spur Program

(Continued from Page 1)

American workers and, at the same time, make elected officials and the general public even more aware of the crisis facing the unemployed."

The AFL-CIO General Board meeting, which was open to the press, began with factual reports on the economic situation in each industry. The state meetings are expected to follow a similar format.

The federation's eight regional directors will assist the state central bodies in organizing their conferences. The Action Program, which is national policy, has several aspects that require state implementation.

For example, statewide emergency conferences are designed to:

- Draw attention to the millions of dollars in federal funds for highway, housing, water and waste-treatment facilities and other state and local projects that are impounded by presidential order.
- Persuade governors and mayors to work with labor in demanding the immediate release of such impounded funds.
- Insure that state and local officials fully implement public-service jobs programs for the unemployed.

As part of its program, the General Board called on local central labor bodies to enlist, through their community services programs, the aid of government, voluntary and private agencies to help speed the handling of applications, complaints and special needs of the unemployed.

State federations were urged to expand efforts to inform newly-covered jobless workers of unemployment insurance benefits available to them and to prod state employment security offices to provide better services for the jobless. Local central bodies have been urged to use union halls as emergency centers for processing claims to reduce the long lines at overloaded employment service offices.

The General Board also urged central bodies to work with the Human Resources Development Institute in developing jobs and providing counseling.

In their letter urging the state emergency conferences, Meany and Kirkland concluded:

"There is only one real solution to unemployment and that is jobs —real jobs at decent rates of pay —and these can only be provided in a healthy economy. Statewide AFL-CIO conferences will be an excellent forum to bring that message to our members, the general public and elected officials all across America."

2-8-75

Food Stamp Cost Boost Knocked Out

(Continued from Page 1)

would increase consumer costs, particularly in the Northeast where oil imports are important for heating requirements.

The House Rules Committee had separated the measure from a "must" bill to raise the debt limit ceiling. Originally, the Ways & Means Committee had tied the two together in an effort to avoid a veto.

Republican leaders had sought to keep the margin of passage below the two-thirds needed to override a veto. But the House vote was 27 above the two-thirds mark.

After a Lincoln's Birthday recess, the House is expected later this month to act on a tax cut bill that the Ways & Means Committee was putting in final shape.

Its initial decisions pointed to a permanent tax cut for low-income individuals and families, with some benefits for middle-income taxpayers who take the standard deduction. A one-time tax rebate plan, in contrast with Ford's proposal, would phase out at the higher income levels instead of increasing.

There was less uniformity among Democrats on the details of the tax legislation and the committee rejected a proposal to repeal the oil depletion tax allowance as part of the tax cut bill.

The Senate decided not to take a recess during the traditional mid-February period of political speeches and fund-raisers.

It still has before it a decision on the biennial attempt to change the Senate rules so as to make it earier to halt a filibuster.

34th State Ratifies Equal Rights Plank

Bismarck, N.D. — North Dakota became the 34th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, which would nullify laws that deal unequally with men and women.

The labor-supported amendment will become part of the Constitution when it is ratified by three-fourths of the states, or 38.

North Dakota's House of Representatives voted 52-49 for ratification. Earlier, the state Senate had approved ratification, 28-22.

Labor Endorses Move To Ease Credit Supply

(Continued from Page 1)

Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), chairman of the full Banking & Currency Committee, would also direct the Fed to allocate credit toward national priority uses, including low- and middle-income housing, state and local governments, farms and small businesses.

"Such allocation, according to priority uses and away from non-productive speculative investments, would have avoided the discriminatory method of credit allocation that America has experienced in the last 20 years," Biemiller noted.

"That method has been to rely upon a tight general monetary policy and high interest rates to allocate funds when they were in short supply," he said. The result has been an allocation of funds away from housing and in favor of speculative, high-risk, high-interest rate investments.

By repeatedly following this policy, Biemiller said, the Executive and Legislative Branches have permitted, and the Fed has mandated, an allocation of credit that has caused deep declines in home-building and curtailments in state, local and utility plant construction.

"And every time, marked declines in construction have been followed by economic recession," he noted.

Recognizing that the Federal Reserve Board would face "technical difficulties" in achieving an exact target percentage rate of growth in the money supply—"especially after they have brought the economy to the brink of disaster" —Biemiller called upon Congress to exercise more influence over monetary policies.

He urged enactment of measures to make the Fed more responsive to the people and their representatives. To this end, the AFL-CIO statement proposed amendments to the Reuss bill that would:

- Allow for representation of consumers, farmers and labor, as well as banking and industry, on the Federal Reserve Board.
- Make the board chairman's term four years and concurrent with that of the President who appoints him.
- Subject the board's operations to auditing by the General Accounting Office, an arm of Congress.

With several other lanuage-strengthening recommendations, Biemiller said the amended bill would greatly help in furthering stable economic growth.

TWUA Seeks 'Stamp Plan' For Clothing

Atlanta — The Textile Workers Union of America has called on the Ford Administration and Congress to expand the federal stamp program to make clothing available at low prices to the unemployed and the working poor.

A resolution adopted by the TWUA executive council pointed out that the federal stamp program already enables the nation's poor to purchase food products at significant discounts.

"Clothing also is a major necessity of life," the TWUA statement declared. "In our view the federal stamp program should be expanded as soon as possible to make apparel, as well as food, available to poverty-stricken people at low prices.

"With unemployment compensation benefits proving grossly inadequate in this period of runaway inflation, misery and hardship are on the rise. This critical situation calls for supplementary measures," the council said.

TWUA President Sol Stetin said a clothing stamp program would serve another valuable purpose.

"The textile-apparel industry is in the doldrums. The result is general layoffs and a constantly increasing number of plant closings and liquidations which are contributing to the national recession. A clothing program would help to move surplus products to market and start looms and sewing machines humming once more in textile and garment factories," Stetin said.

Driscoll to Head Construction Panel

New York City contractor Fred Driscoll, Jr., has been named chairman of the Impartial Jurisdictional Disputes Board for the construction industry.

Driscoll, 45, succeeds William J. Cour, who died last August. The panel is made up of four members each from labor and management.

He has served as chairman of several contractors' groups in his native New York and previously served on the national disputes panel in 1969 and 1970.

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New Jump in Jobessness Deepens Economic Crisis

Fast Action On Tax Cut Called Vital

By David L. Perlman

AFL-CIO President George Meany called for quick passage of a $20 billion tax cut and asked the House not to encumber the anti-recession bill with controversial amendments.

Even though labor wants the oil depletion allowance repealed, Meany said, it would be "a serious mistake" to try to close that loophole through an amendment to the emergency tax cut bill approved by the Ways & Means Committee.

If the House adopted such an amendment, Meany warned, it would "almost certainly lead to a filibuster in the Senate" and "delay getting the tax cut into the hands of consumers."

He stressed that the tax rebate and cut "must be passed as quickly as possible" to stimulate the economy and generate jobs. But "as soon as the emergency tax package is passed, the Ways & Means Committee should begin work on comprehensive tax reform, with repeal of the oil depletion allowance a 'must' item."

Meany's letter, sent to all House members, termed the Ways & Means tax package "a substantial improvement" upon President Ford's proposal.

While Ford's plan would have given the biggest tax rebates to the affluent, Meany noted that the committee bill would increase the buying power of low- and middle-income families, "thus greatly stimulating the economy." He termed such a stimulus "of overriding importance."

The Ways & Means Committee agreed on a two-part tax cut package before the House took a 10-day recess, but held up formal approval of the bill until the staff could work out the technicalities.

The first step would be an $8 billion tax rebate this spring, with most persons entitled to 10 percent of their 1974 tax payment up to a maximum of $200. Persons with incomes over $20,000 would receive a smaller rebate, dropping to a minimum of about $100 at the $30,000 level. At the bottom of the scale the minimum tax rebate would be $100 or the total amount of taxes paid on 1974 income, whichever was smaller.

By contrast, Ford's rebate plan would have given the bulk of refunds to those with higher incomes, with the top of $1,000 going to persons with incomes over about $41,000.

An additional $8.4 billion in tax cuts on 1975 income would be

(Continued on Page 3)

Aerospace Holdout Hit By Strike

St. Louis—About 12,000 Machinists at the McDonnell Douglas Corp. plant here and another 7,000 at the aerospace firm's facilities in California struck after negotiations for a new contract broke down. A unit of 200 others has struck the firm's Cape Canaveral, Fla., facility.

The workers here are represented by District 837. Those in California are members of IAM District 720. Each district is negotiating separately.

Cosimo (Gus) Troia, president and business manager for District 837, charged that the walkout was provoked by the company's refusal to bargain. He described McDonnell Douglas's latest offer as a "takeaway proposal."

The union is asking for a 5.5 percent wage increase and total cost-of-living protection immediately, plus 3 percent in each of the next two years. That is in line with settlements reached last fall with other major aerospace companies, including Boeing, Lockheed and United Aircraft.

McDonnell Douglas's first offer amounted to nothing the first year, a 2 percent increase the second year and 2 percent the third year, plus a cut in the cost of living setup, the union reported.

Facing a strike threat, the company came up with a revised proposal that included increases of 16 cents the first year, 3 percent the second year and 3 percent the third year.

Troia said the union's bargaining committee voted unanimously to reject that proposal. The negotia-

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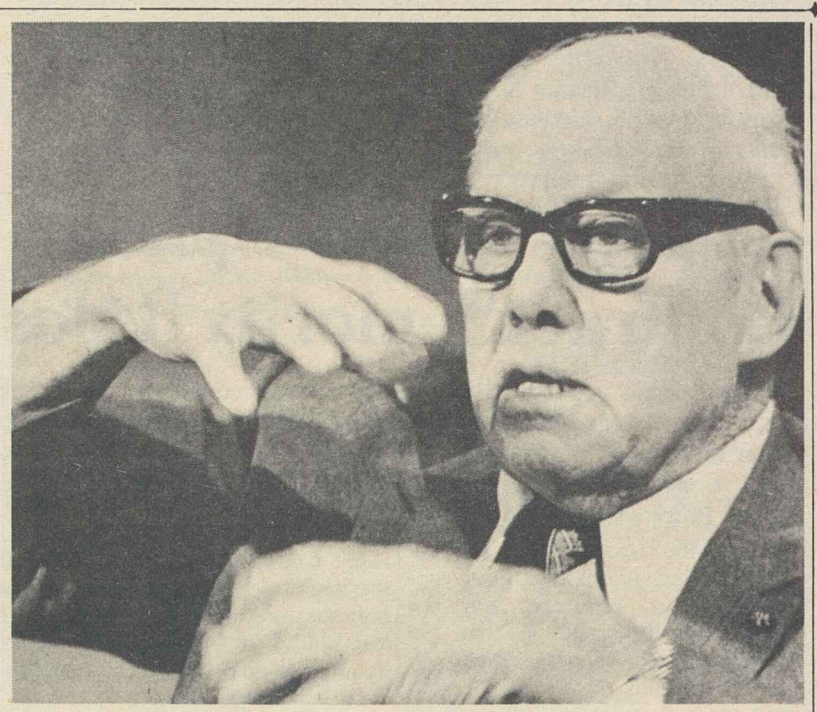


NATION'S ECONOMIC WOES and organized labor's programs for recovery are detailed by AFL-CIO President George Meany in response to questions from reporters on the CBS network TV program, "Face the Nation."

Meany Sees 8.2% Rate As Tragedy

By James M. Shevis

The United States is sliding into a depression, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned as the January jobless rate soared a full percentage point over the previous month to 8.2 percent, the highest unemployment level the nation has seen since 1941.

"We're past the recession stage," Meany declared, adding that "the problem is getting worse every day.

Meany's reaction to the latest surge in joblessness came in a nationwide television interview (CBS's "Face the Nation") in which he predicted that unemployment may go as high as 10 percent by July.

In a statement earlier, Meany declared the January increase and the new unemployment level "spell tragedy for American families and disaster for the American economy."

"Nothing the President or the Congress has done to date will put America back to work and ensure economic stability," he charged.

Unemployment last month totaled 7,529,000, an increase of 928,000 from December. Not since December 1953, when the country was in another economic downturn, has the jobless rate increased in a single month by as much as it did in January.

Last month's 8.2 percent unemployment level was three full percentage points above the year-earlier rate, and even Administration economists acknowledge that it will climb even higher. Alan Greenspan, chairman of President Ford's Council of Economic Advisers, told the Joint Economic Committee of Congress recently

(Continued on Page 8)

'Way of Life' at Stake:

Congress, Ford Hit For Lack of Urgency

The country is fighting "a war to preserve our way of life," AFL-CIO President George Meany told a nationwide television audience, yet neither the White House nor Congress understands the gravity of the situation.

Meany said he sees no hope in the programs or philosophy of either President Ford or Chairman Arthur Burns of the Federal Reserve Board to end the inflationary recession gripping the economy.

And "what's happening over in Congress is disappointing," he noted. "The problem is much worse now than when Congress met six weeks ago, and it's getting worse all the time."

Meany told a panel of interviewers on CBS's "Face the Nation" that the country's economic afflictions require more action and initiative by the federal government than has been shown to date.

He called for 1 million public service jobs, a $2 billion accelerated public works program, a reduction in home mortgage interest rates, and release of $19 billion of presidentially impounded funds, among other proposals, to get the economy moving again.

Meany chastised Congress for its delay in enacting a tax reduction bill.

"We're in an emergency," he said, "and I don't think the members of Congress realize the dimensions of the problem we have." He said he is worried that "it'll be months before we get this relief that we need."

The federation president said the housing construction industry could be revived if Congress were to enact a measure making 6 percent mortgage loans available to prospective homebuyers, and he assailed Burns for pursuing a tight-money, high-interest policy in the past.

"What we've been through here in the last five years is Arthur Burns's plan," Meany said. "It's his blueprint. He's the architect, and he is still running the show. He doesn't understand people.

"All he understands is his economic theories, and they are completely out of date." Burns, he said, is "a national disaster."

(Continued on Page 8)

Social Security Held 'Sound and Durable'

A bipartisan group that includes five former Cabinet members defended the social security system against a new wave of "destructive" criticism.

It issued a "white paper," affirming that the system remains "sound and durable." Signers included all three former social security commissioners.

The group emphasized the desirability of continued public debate on methods of financing the program and the equity and adequacy of its benefit and tax structures. In fact, some differences on future financing emerged during a news conference held by the authors of the statement.

But the "white paper" sharply contradicted some recent newspaper and magazine articles that have portrayed the social security system as "bankrupt" or "a deception foisted on the American people."

Joining in defense of the system were these former Secretaries of Health, Education & Welfare: Arthur Flemming, who served in the Eisenhower Administration; Wilbur J. Cohen and John W. Gardner, who held office under President Johnson, and Robert Finch and Elliot L. Richardson from the Nixon Administration. The former social security commissioners who

(Continued on Page 2)

Crafts Slate Conference To Spur Jobs Programs

Bal Harbour, Fla.—A "crisis" conference to deal with "massive unemployment" in the construction industry has been called by the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. for Apr. 14 in Washington.

Department President Robert A. Georgine said that about 3,000 representatives of building and construction tradesmen from across the nation will attend to:

- Develop an action program and bring directly to the attention of Congress and the Executive Branch the severity of the unemployment crisis.
- Advise building tradesmen of immediate steps they can take to improve their own situation in terms of unemployment compensation, food stamps and other methods of aiding the unemployed.

At a press conference announcing the action of the BCTD executive council in authorizing the conference, Georgine cited the severe impact of unemployment in a

(Continued on Page 8)

19,000 Strike Holdout Firm In Aerospace

(Continued from Page 1)

tors considered it so inadequate that they would not submit it to the membership.

Picket lines went up at the giant aerospace firm about shortly after midnight Feb 10. Strike preparations began seven days earlier when Troia notified the company of the union's intention to walk out unless management made a sincere effort at collective bargaining. The seven day notice of intention to strike was required under the union's previous contract.

Among fringe benefits being sought are fully paid health and welfare services, including dental care and a vision care setup that follows the National Vision Institute program.

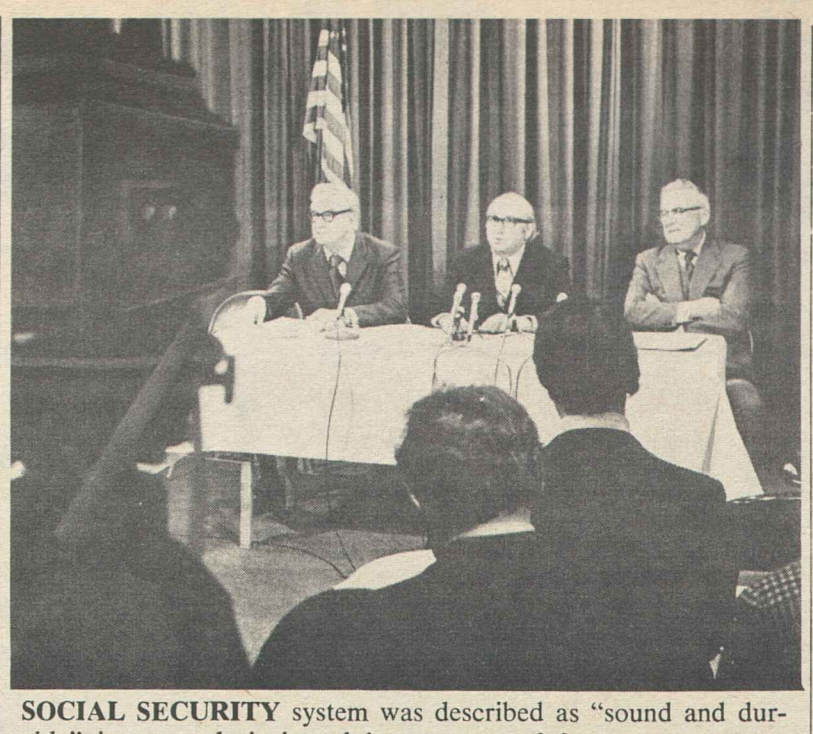
The company's request for cost of living cutbacks included a proposal to change the base. The current cost of living package is based on 1957-59 equals 100 and provides a one-cent hourly increase for every increase of four-tenths of 1 percent in the cost of living.

The company wants to change the base period to 1967 with no immediate increase until May. It also proposes a cut in the second and third shift bonuses and no improvement in the number of holidays and other fringes.

Troia said there would be no problem in negotiating any part of the contract if the company meets with the union and bargains in good faith.

The machinists said its members at West Coast installations of the company voted by a 77 percent margin to strike. Auto Workers' contracts at other California plants of McDonnell Douglas expired last September.

Eighteen F-4 Phantoms and three F-15 Eagles, military jet aircraft, are manufactured here monthly. Troia predicted a shut down in production of the fighter planes would occur swiftly.



SOCIAL SECURITY system was described as "sound and durable" in an analysis issued by a group of former government officials. Answering questions at a Capitol Hill news conference are, from left, former Social Security Commissioner Robert Ball, former Health, Education & Welfare Secretary Wilbur Cohen, and former Social Security Commissioner William Mitchell.

Appeals Court Upholds Contract Seniority Rules

Philadelphia—A three-judge federal appeals court here ruled that a company can't violate seniority provisions of its union contract in order to keep the percentage of women and minority group workers from dropping below targets established in an agreement with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

It was the latest in a series of appellate court rulings that have generally refused to tamper with the basic seniority principle that the worker with the longest service will be the last put on layoff. In general, steps to overcome the effects of past discrimination have been limited to hiring and promotion opportunities.

All aspects of the controversy have not been firmly settled, however, and at least one case is awaiting review by the Supreme Court.

In the most recent case, the three-judge panel from the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals overturned an order issued by a federal district judge in New Jersey.

The Jersey Central Power & Light Co., professing neutrality on the issue but seeking to avoid costly lawsuits, asked the federal court last fall to determine its legal obligations in carrying out a reduction in its workforce.

Locals of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers argued the layoffs should be in reverse order of seniority, with the usual bumping rights when higher-level jobs are eliminated.

But the lower court ruled that an affirmative action agreement signed by the company and the unions, although it didn't deal with seniority after hiring, barred any regression in the effort to increase the minority ratio in employment. It said the seniority principle in layoffs had to be modified so that the percentage of women and minorities would not be reduced.

The unanimous appellate court rejected this conclusion.

It held that there was no conflict between the affirmative action hiring and promotion agreement and the contract provisions dealing with layoffs. The EEOC agreement, in fact, specified that the collective bargaining agreement was to cover "wages, benefits, other conditions of employment and seniority date" of the minority workers hired.

The opinion, written by Judge Leonard Garth, stressed that the agreement with the EEOC "sought an increase in the proportion of female and minority group workers by 'hires' and not by 'fires.' "

System 'Sound, Durable':

Panel Hits Critics Of Social Security

(Continued from Page 1)

signed the report are Robert M. Ball, William L. Mitchell and Charles I. Schottland.

They described as "most vicious" the efforts of some critics to raise doubt as to whether the worker who pays a social security tax on his current wage will ever receive benefits when he retires many years from now.

The document stressed that payment of earned social security benefits is required by law and enforceable in court. It found it "inconceivable" that some future Congress would vote to repudiate this compact between the people and their government.

Complaints that social security is not truly "insurance" because the funds come from a payroll tax and not a premium deal with semantics, not substance, the paper suggested. While social insurance differs from private insurance, "it embodies the central element of financial protection against defined hazards, through a pooling of contributions and a sharing of risks, with benefits payable as a matter of legal right."

As for the adequacy of the social security trust funds, the paper notes that currently the amount the program takes in and the amount it pays out in benefits is approximately equal. Unlike a private program, there is no danger that the government will go out of business and not be able to tap a future workforce for continued funding of the program.

The document does acknowledge the need to deal with short-term financing problems resulting from the current inflation and the future impact on the system of lowered birth rates which will in time result in fewer persons of working age financing the retirement of a larger group of older persons.

The report notes that the funding problem over the next 25 years is "easily manageable." And while additional financing will be needed, there will be offsetting factors in the future. Thus, if the burden of supporting older people is increased, the burden of supporting and educating children will be reduced. And with smaller families, more women will be able to work.

A repeated charge that a worker could do better by privately investing the amount of his social security payroll tax just isn't so. the document contends, unless the proposal is made that the money should be invested in speculative investments such as stocks whose value can go down as well as up.

It concludes that "the individual under the social security system receives better value from the government than he could obtain elsewhere."

The report explores also legitimate questions that have been raised dealing with the retirement test and whether the tax and benefit structure is sufficiently "progressive."

While the authors of the report do not advocate such measures as paying full benefits to persons who continue to work beyond 65 because of the substantial additional cost, they point out that the social security system is flexible enough to accommodate change.

"Abolition of the retirement test would aggravate somewhat the problem of financing," but it would "have no bearing on the soundness or durability of the social security system," the report notes.

But the authors were insistent that benefits under social security must continue to be paid as an earned right and not as a form of charity for the needy.

The social security system is designed "to prevent poverty from occurring," the report stressed.

Biemiller Appointed To Oil Advisory Body

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller is one of 22 new members added to the National Petroleum Council in what Interior Dept. officials termed an effort to bring consumer and environmental representation to the advisory body. The 155-member council in the past has been made up largely of oil industry representatives.

Paul Phillips Dies, Led Paperworkers' Merger

Flushing, N.Y.—Paul L. Phillips, a former vice president of the AFL-CIO and a long-time trade union official in the paper industry, died Feb. 6 at Leesburg, Fla.

Phillips, 70, had been president of the Papermakers, an AFL affiliate, when it merged with the CIO-affiliated Paperworkers in 1957. He continued to head the merged United Papermakers & Paperworkers until he resigned for health reasons in 1968. The UPP merged with the Pulp, Sulphite & Paper Mill Workers in 1972 to form the United Paperworkers.

Phillips served on the AFL-CIO Executive Council from 1957 until his retirement in 1969.

In a message to President Joseph P. Tonelli of the Paperworkers, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland cited Phillips's role as a trade union leader in the paper industry.

"His contributions as a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council and as an architect of the unity that culminated in the merger of the paper unions will never be forgotten," Meany and Kirkland said.

Phillips helped organize a local of the Papermakers in 1932 in Camden, Ark. He served as president of the local until 1937 when he joined the union's staff as an international representative. He was elected second vice president in 1942, first vice president in 1944 and president of the union in 1948.

Phillips's efforts were instrumental in bringing together the Papermakers and Paperworkers that led to the 1957 merger, the first to take place between former AFL and CIO unions.

Tonelli said Phillips was a great labor statesman who "served the members of his union over 20 years as president with dedication and devotion that few could equal. His death leaves a void which can never be filled."

Phillips had served on a number of AFL-CIO committees and governmental panels. He also was a vice president of the Industrial Union Dept.

He was born in Strong, Ark., in 1904 and attended Arkansas A&M College and Louisiana Polytechnic Institute. He left college during the depression to work as a sawmill hand, an oil field worker and a railroad clerk before becoming a pulp mill operator in Camden.

He is survived by one son and a daughter. Memorial services were held in Camden and in Voorheesville, N.Y., where he had lived before moving to Florida recently.

JOHN T. DUNLOP

Ford Slates John Dunlop To Be Labor Secretary

President Ford has announced his intention to nominate John T. Dunlop to succeed Peter J. Brennan as Secretary of Labor.

Brennan's resignation, after two years in office, will be effective in mid-March. Brennan told reporters that he had declined an offer of appointment as ambassador to Ireland and planned to return to New York. He had been head of the city and state Building & Construction Trades councils when former President Nixon named him to the Cabinet.

Dunlop, a Harvard University economics professor, was director of the Cost of Living Council during the final period of wage-price controls and also served as chairman of the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee. In the CISC post, he won plaudits from both labor and management for a practical approach based on knowledge of the industry.

Currently, Dunlop is impartial arbitrator to resolve any jurisdiction disputes that arise in the construction of the Alaska pipeline. He has in the past had major roles in settling disputes in industries as diverse as coal, railroads, atomic energy, missile sites, steel and airlines.

Dunlop, 60, has been on the Harvard faculty since 1938 and has been chairman of its economics department and dean of the faculty of arts and sciences.

AFL-CIO President George Meany noted in a television interview that he has known Dunlop for some 25 years "and I've never had any problem getting along with him." As for his appointment to the Cabinet, Meany doesn't consider Dunlop a political figure and doesn't anticipate any problems in their relationship.

The Labor Dept. will also be losing its Number 2 official, Under Sec. Richard F. Schubert, who announced that he will be returning to the Bethlehem Steel Corp. Schubert had formerly been the department's solicitor.

Reform Bill Next:

Meany Urges House To Speed Tax Cut

(Continued on Page 8)

pumped into the economy through lowered withholding taxes. The bulk of the funds here would go to persons with lower incomes and to middle-income taxpayers who take the standard deduction rather than itemize their expenses. It could include cash payments of up to $200 for those with poverty-level earnings, too little to benefit from a tax reduction.

Business and industry would benefit from a $3.8 billion tax reduction, mostly through an increase in the investment tax credit from the present 7 percent to 10 percent and a modification in the corporate tax structure.

The committee bill would pump into the spending stream about $4 billion more than Ford had proposed in tax cuts and rebates for individuals. Business would get about $200 million less than the President had proposed.

Still to be fought out is whether the 1975 reductions will be swallowed up by higher fuel costs resulting from Ford's imposition of a stiff tariff on imported oil and his call for a comparable tax on domestic fuel. The Administration conceded that the cost of living would shoot up 2 percent under the President's plan.

The Senate Finance Committee voted 11-2 approval of a House-passed bill that would rescind the $1-a-barrel tax on imported oil that Ford imposed Feb. 1, and block for 90 days the President's declared intent to raise the special tariff to $2 on Mar. 1 and to $3 on Apr. 1.

The bill passed the House 309-114 on Feb. 5, a margin greater than the two-thirds that would be needed to override a threatened presidential veto. In a reversal of the usual coalition pattern, only 16 Democrats broke with their party to support the President's position, while 42 Republicans joined 267 Democrats in opposing the Administration.

There had been some concern that a Senate filibuster would block action while the President continued his efforts to drum up support in his battle against a supposedly "do-nothing" Congress. But later "readings" of Senate sentiment indicated that the bill was headed for early passage.

Senate Democrats, meanwhile, are working to develop an alternative energy program to counter Ford's political attacks.

Despite the President's stepped-up criticism of Congress, most observers didn't think he would veto the bill barring the Agriculture Dept. from putting into effect a scheduled sharp rise in the price poor persons have to pay for food stamps. More than two-thirds of his own party, as well as nearly all Democrats, opposed the President on the 378-38 vote in the House and 76-8 vote in the Senate.

CONTRACT RATIFICATION VOTE is taken by Service Employees Local 399 in Los Angeles, whose 4,500 members won a new 26-month contract in a three-day strike against a chain of Kaiser Permanente hospitals and clinics. The contract was approved by a 10-to-1 margin.

State-County Revises Boost In Per Capita

A special one-day convention of the State, County & Municipal Employees approved an increase in per capita payments to the union after hearing a report on the impact inflation has had on AFSCME's budget.

Last June, the regular AFSCME convention had approved a two-step raise in per capita, then $1.50 a month. The first step, to $1.80, went into effect last October. But the second step, to $2.15, was not scheduled to take effect until January 1976.

Under the new schedule adopted by a decisive voice vote of the 1,400 delegates, the $2.15 rate will take effect this April, nine months earlier than scheduled. A further increase, to $2.40 a month, will be effective next January.

AFSCME Sec.-Treas. William Lucy said the increase was needed to maintain services to the membership.

The convention was held in Washington, D.C., and delegates represented some 600 locals in 36 states.

Budget Scored On Education Fund Slashes

The Ford Administration's budget would shortchange education, the American Federation of Teachers charged.

AFT President Albert Shanker noted that less than 2 percent of the $349 billion in expenditures would go for education—a level he termed "absolutely unacceptable."

Shanker cited lack of funding for the program enacted by Congress last year for children from public housing projects, no budget recognition that the current recession will add to the number of poor children, and backward steps in "vital programs such as bilingual education and adult education."

The President's proposed "recissions" of spending authority, noted, includes an attempt to cut in half federal funds appropriated for handicapped children.

He cited also proposed budget cuts for aid to school systems trying to cope with desegregation problems.

Kaiser Hospital Pact Ends 3-Day Walkout

Los Angeles—Agreement was reached on a 26-month contract covering 4,500 Service Employees to end a three-day strike at six hospitals and 26 clinics operated by Kaiser Permanente in the Los Angeles area. The contract was approved by a 10-to-1 margin.

The settlement, worked out by negotiators for SEIU Local 399, provides for wage increases totaling 21 percent — 11 percent effective Feb. 1 and 10 percent Feb. 1, 1976.

SEIU members had set up their picket lines Feb. 3 after more than 75 percent of the membership voted 6 to 1 to strike. The strike vote came after 22 fruitless bargaining sessions with the Kaiser management, the union said.

The striking SEIU local encouraged members of other unions to cross its picket lines to get medical treatment or to demand comparable care to which they are entitled under their union contracts. Kaiser was forced to provide the services at other area hospitals unaffected by the dispute.

Meanwhile, nurses and other Kaiser medical technicians not covered by union contracts chose to honor the picket lines.

Kaiser issued dismissal notices to the nonunion personnel, but SEIU got the discharged employes reinstated as part of the settlement.

Agreement came after 40 hours of intense bargaining coordinated by the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

In addition to the general percentage increase, the agreement guarantees that all SEIU members will receive a pay boost of at least 42 cents an hour in the first year.

Shift differential pay was increased by 5 cents in each year to 30 cents in 1975 and to 35 cents in 1976. Employes with 10 or more years of service also will get an additional 5 cents an hour each year, increasing the longevity differential to 15 cents this year and to 20 cents in 1976.

The agreement also provides for an additional floating holiday beginning in the second year of the contract. The contract expires Mar. 31, 1977.

In the opening days of the strike, the first ever called against the Kaiser health group, picket lines at some hospitals swelled to close to 1,000 persons but a court injunction later reduced the number of pickets.

A key issue in the dispute was the failure of Kaiser to bring wages of the hospital and clinic workers in southern California up to parity with those paid its employes in other parts of the state.

Three days before the Los Angeles agreement, Kaiser hospitals and clinics in Fontana, Calif., reached a settlement without a strike covering 850 members of Steelworkers Local 7600.

Furniture Workers Win 3 Elections

New York—The Furniture Workers were chosen as bargaining agent for a total of about 300 employes at three different furniture plants in National Labor Relations Board elections held last Dec. 20.

The organizing victories were scored at Green Mountain Industries in Burlington, Vt.; Heywood-Wakefield in Newport, Tenn., and Shawnee Cabinets in Shawneetown, Ill., and set a record for the union, UFWA President Carl Scarbrough said.

"Although they are widely separated geographically and working for different employers, the people in these plants have much in common," Scarbrough noted. "They all need union protection."

$2 Billion Released for Highways Only Fraction of Impounded Funds

President Ford's decision to release up to $2 billion in impounded federal highway construction funds is a start toward stimulating the depressed economy but the funds are only "a drop in the bucket," President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. observed.

Georgine, at a news conference during the department's executive council meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla., said he is "hopeful that the Administration is finally coming to grips" with the problem of soaring unemployment in the construction industry.

However, he pointed out, the $2 billion represents but a fraction of the total $19 billion impounded by recent administrations, mostly former President Nixon's. In general, Georgine observed, neither the Ford Administration nor Congress has acted quickly enough.

Ford said the $2 billion would be allotted for various highway projects between now and June 30 and estimated it would create 125,000 jobs directly or indirectly.

A day after the President released the funds, a federal judge ruled the White House had no right to impound the money in the first place. The government is expected to appeal.

While Ford made his announcement, the Labor Dept. was issuing its weekly unemployment insurance claims report which showed nearly three-quarters of a million workers signed up for benefits for the first time during the week ended Feb. 1

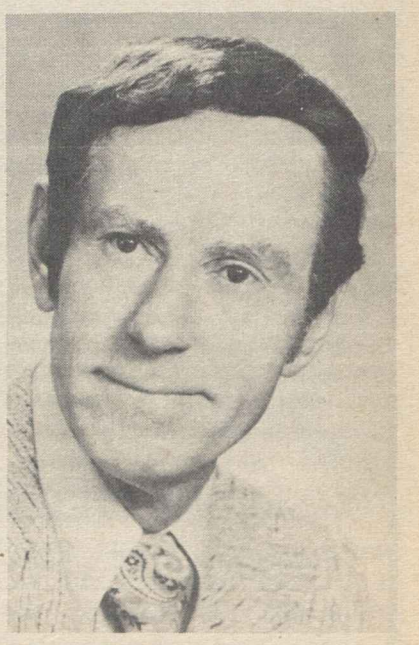
The 749,700 initial claims included 47,600 from persons who became eligible for benefits under new unemployment assistance programs enacted by Congress last December. These include newly discharged servicemen, federal employes, domestic and farm workers.

The Labor Dept. also reported 4,882,700 workers receiving jobless benefits in the week ended Jan. 25. The comparable figure a year earlier was 2,566,910. However, when recipients under the new programs are added — plus those under three others not previously included in the weekly figures — the overall number of people drawing benefits was 5,611,800.

Meanwhile, in testimony before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, Chairman Arthur Burns of the Federal Reserve Board continued to press the Administration's view that the dangers of inflation are overriding. He urged Congress to limit any anti-recession tax cut to the current year.

Among the new industrial layoffs was American Motors Corp.'s announcement that it will idle 8,500 workers for one week starting Feb. 17. AMC, the nation's fourth-largest auto maker, said the move was taken to lower its inventory of unsold cars.

Black & Decker Mfg. Co. said it will lay off about 450 workers indefinitely and furlough 5,000 others for two weeks starting Feb. 24. Carrier Corp. will close down its BDP division for six weeks beginning Feb. 17, putting some 1,200 workers out of jobs.



D. A. BOBO is the new secretary-treasurer of the Railway & Airline Clerks. He was named to fill the vacancy left by the death of Daniel Sullivan.

The Attack on Social Security

NEARLY EVERY AMERICAN has a personal stake in the social security system. Many millions rely on it to safeguard themselves and their families against economic catastrophe when earnings stop because of old age, disability, or death.

Attacks on the system designed to create doubts of its soundness and durability are a disservice to the nation.

Several elements of the system, to be sure—the level of benefits, for example, the test of retirement, the benefit rights accorded to women, the adequacy and equity of financing—are quite properly subjects of continuing public debate. Social security has not been and should not be a static structure, for it best serves its purpose if it is adapted to changing times and conditions. Public discussion addressed to improvement of the system is necessary and helpful.

But discussion of that kind is very different from assertions that the system is basically unsound, that it is bankrupt, or for some other reason doomed to collapse, or that it is a deception foisted on the American public. Charges similar to these have recurrently been made in the past, and as often have been found baseless. They have no more foundation now than they had when first made nearly 40 years ago.

Social security has been probably the most thoroughly and continuously studied, both within and outside government circles, of any program ever enacted by Congress.

On five occasions, from 1938 to 1971, the system has been exhaustively reviewed by advisory councils established under congressional auspices and composed of economists and other social scientists and leaders of labor and business, including distinguished actuaries and leaders of the insurance industry. In each instance, the integrity of the system has been vigorously reaffirmed. This history, if it does nothing more, should foster a healthy skepticism toward the current destructive attacks.

THE ULTIMATE QUESTION posed by current attacks on social security is whether the American people should continue to support contributory social insurance which is designed to prevent poverty from occurring, or should place basic reliance on measures to relieve poverty after it has become a fact. Necessary as relief programs are, most of us think them a poor second to prevention.

Critics who say that social security is nothing but a "welfare" program probably intend the remark to be pejorative. If so, in using this word they speak more truly than they know. Social security is indeed "welfare" in the true sense of the word, which is the sense also in which the Constitution uses it.

The system was created by an exercise of the power of Congress to raise and spend money to "provide for the . . . general welfare of the United States"—the welfare of all the millions of people who, though now self-supporting, would without social security quickly face destitution if or when earnings cease because of old age or disability, or support ceases because of death of a family breadwinner; as well, of course, as the welfare of the other millions who have already suffered one of these deprivations.

"The hope behind this statute," said Mr. Justice Cardozo in 1937, "is to save men and women from the rigors of the poorhouse as well as from the haunting fear that such a lot awaits them when journey's end is near." That hope has been too largely fulfilled to make for tolerance of those who would now destroy it.

—From a White Paper on Social Security signed by former HEW Secretaries and Social Security Commissioners

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'Turn It On!'

A Word Edgewise:

Soviet Rejection of Trade Pact Described as a Break for U.S.

By John P. Roche

I HAVE WATCHED WITH INTEREST the orchestration of the "Jackson Ruined Detente" symphony. At the moment it is in three movements:

First, Secretary of State Kissinger—and sources close to the secretary's thinking, and sources close to his views—are bemoaning Congress's unstatesmanlike intervention in the delicate game of statecraft.

Second, the anti-Jackson activists in the Democratic Party, who believe in detente mainly because Jackson can't be right, have broken out their somber saxophones.

And third, the Soviet press is merrily intervening in American domestic politics by drumrolls against Jackson and implied praise of President Ford and Secretary Kissinger for their transcendent vision of a peaceful future. (This mix of drums and saxophones is a bit polytonal — Stalin shot composers for less.)

The first thing that has to be understood about the Soviet repudiation of the trade agreement is that, in cold economic terms, it is a break for us. What Moscow obtained was an arrangement whereby we would loan them the money at low-interest rates to hire our technology to develop their resources. In return they had agreed to make token repayments on the $18 billion we sent them in Lend-Lease during World War II. (The figure has been scaled down to about $800 million.)

Now the Soviet press has been making the point that we really didn't contribute much to the war effort and, besides, it is "blood money" we are demanding. Before one breaks into tears, he should recall that Stalin was peacefully allied to Hitler until the latter double-crossed the Soviet dictator.

What were we to get in return? An end to the Cold War through detente. There has been a great deal of wishful thinking about detente, but what evidence do we have that there has been any "linkage" (to use Secretary Kissinger's favorite concept); that is, since the agreement was made with Moscow in 1972 have the Soviets turned off the tap on their militant clients in Southeast Asia and the Middle East? If they had, the situation in Vietnam would be very different and the Israelis would not be grimly referring to military cemeteries as "youth hostels."

Secretary Kissinger admitted there would be little economic payoff in the agreement. He told Business Week: "The Soviet Union was much more interested in credits than it was in trade because, for the next four or five years, it will have very little to give in reciprocal trade." In other words, only after American credits and technology had gotten into action would the Soviets have anything for export—except persecuted minorities. (And, of course, weapons for its Arab and Indo-Chinese clients.) Why then did Moscow suddenly reject the trade agreement?

TO ANSWER THIS, one must engage in some speculation about the attitudes of the Politburo. General Secretary Brezhnev had apparently sold his colleagues a package in which the key factor was credits. In return for the cash he was willing to make "assurances" that the USSR would permit the exodus of persecuted minorities.

At the Senate Finance Committee hearing on Dec. 3, 1974, Kissinger said flatly that these "assurances" had been made by Brezhnev, Gromyko and Dobrynin, not only to him but to President Ford. (This was after he had, on Oct. 26, received a secret letter from Foreign Minister Gromyko saying all bets were off. When Tass later published the letter, the State Dept. noted that it "does not in our view change the understandings" on emigration.) The trade bill was passed on Dec. 20; the Senate vote was 88-0.

Also passed by Congress was a limit on loans to the Soviets by the Export-Import Bank to a total of $300 million over the next few years. The amount could always be increased by Congress, but the feeling was that in dealing with Moscow it was wise to keep the gun behind the door. If the "assurances" were not fulfilled, the funds could be cut off. If they were fulfilled, increases could be authorized.

Doubtless it was this combination that infuriated the Politburo. A number of hardliners probably had reservations about the "assurances"—the minority problem in the Soviet Union is dynamite—and when the Congress proceeded to indicate it was not playing games by putting the credits on a short leash, the sponsors of the package found themselves accused of submitting to blackmail.

So now, for their own reasons, the Administration, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and the Soviet press are jumping on Jackson for ending the honeymoon. Yet, given the record, how could any sane American object to "blackmail?" Sending valentines to Moscow is hardly a viable means of enforcement.

Muddled Criticism:

Labor's Role Badly Distorted In View From the Ivory Tower

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

A SURPRISING NUMBER of liberal and self-styled radical economists and social reformers have become completely disenchanted with the American labor movement. To hear them tell it, you would think that organized labor has sold its soul for a mess of pottage—or, if you will, "in return for a junior partnership with big business in shaping the national consensus."

That's the way that economists Richard J. Barnet and Ronald E. Muller put it, rather condescendingly, in a recent book titled Global Reach: The Power of the Multinational Corporations. "Since World War II," they casually assert, "the labor agitator has been replaced by the labor statesman who hopes for more from White House dinners than from the picket line. Big labor, represented by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO, has worked hard over the last generation to integrate the unions into American life in return for a junior partnership with big business in shaping the national consensus."

As one who has spent the past 30 years studying the American labor movement at rather close range, I am bewildered by this kind of exaggerated ivory tower rhetoric. It doesn't make sense to me at all. I realize, of course, that the labor movement is far from being a perfect institution, but to accuse its leadership of playing footsie with the White House and with big business in return for a junior partnership in the political and economic establishment is a rather supercilious distortion of the record.

The record speaks for itself. It clearly shows that organized labor, far from currying favor with the establishment, is currently engaged in a very direct confrontation with the Administration, with big business, and with the leadership of both political parties on ways and means of solving the depression. This was made abundantly clear at the emergency meeting of the General Board of the AFL-CIO on the economic state of the nation. I have never attended a meeting of any organization which was more brutally critical of the political and economic establishment.

Rightly or wrongly, the delegates (the presidents of all AFL-CIO affiliated unions, plus the officers of state federations of labor) tore the Administration's economic program to smithereens. The action program unanimously adopted by the delegates is a very progressive document by any reasonable set of standards. It clearly gives the lie to those who say that organized labor is willing to make a deal with the White House and with big business in return for a junior partnership in the establishment.

For the life of me I can't understand why so many liberals and self-styled radicals in the intellectual community persist in peddling this particular line or why they think it's fashionable or chic to ridicule the movement and its leadership or to underplay its effectiveness as a force for constructive economic change at a time when the nation is faced with a serious depression.

Many of them, I suspect, are unwitting victims of their own ideology and will never be completely satisfied until the labor movement opts for their particular form of national economic planning, call it what you will. I myself would be happy to support a viable program of long-range planning.

In the short run, however, the labor movement, so far as I am concerned, is the nation's most effective force for progressive economic change. For this reason, among others, I don't know whether to laugh or cry when I hear sophisticated economists like Barnet and Muller belittling the importance of organized labor and condescendingly talking down to its leadership. My instinctive reaction is to cry, but my better judgment tells me to laugh at them for taking themselves and their own beleaguered profession so seriously.

IN REFRESHING CONTRAST to their particular brand of academic elitism—which, frankly, gives me the willies—is the more balanced and more realistic judgment of another young economist, Andrew Levison, who has this to say about the labor movement in his recent book, The Working Class Majority.

"One can be sharply critical of the failings of American unions and fault them for falling short of their own ideals, while at the same time totally rejecting the idea that they are objectively conservative or reactionary. Granted, anyone seeking an American counterpart of the Chinese Red Guard will be deeply disappointed, but in a realistic and practical perspective the role of unions is basically positive both in national politics and in workers' daily lives.

"In fact, in more than a few important areas, it can be demonstrated that unions are one of the most progressive forces in American society. . . . There is simply no way to avoid the conclusion that unions . . . play an essentially progressive role . . . in American politics, and in American society itself."

I am confident that they will continue to play this role effectively in the critical months that lie ahead—with or without the endorsement and support of Barnet and Muller and other learned scholars in the liberal and self-styled radical intellectual community.

Unemployment Mounts:

Reckless Nixon-Ford Policies Depress Construction Industry

THE NEAR-DEPRESSION state of the nation's construction industry is the direct result of reckless policies fostered by the Nixon Administration and continued by President Ford, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. charged.

Refusal to relax the tight money, high interest rate game plan laid out by Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns has brought housing starts, highway and utility expansion to a near standstill, Georgine said. He deplored the "vise" that has forced "cutbacks in the construction of utility plants . . . at a time when the nation is facing an extreme crisis in energy."

Georgine stressed that unemployment among construction workers is now nearly double the national rate, and that in some big city areas has soared to 35 and 40 percent, "far beyond what unemployment was in the Great Depression."

He said that even if the Administration reversed its tight-economy policies tomorrow, and cut loose the $19 billion appropriated by Congress but impounded by the White House immediately, several months would pass from the time the money "hit the streets" until it was "realized in actual jobs." He pointed out that the White House has kept some of these appropriated funds locked up since 1973.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Georgine said the Administration's argument that tight money, high interest rates and impoundments, even if they led to more unemployment, were needed to fight inflation, just doesn't stand up. The situation got "all out of hand," and while "unemployment has grown by leaps and bounds," it has not had any "great impact on the inflationary spiral," he asserted.

Georgine renewed the call for credit allocation for essential construction, such as housing, utilities, sewage facilities, streets and highways, and reduction of interest to rates that people can afford. He was questioned by John Fialka of the Washington Star-News and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced interview was broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

NOT TOO MANY months ago economists were chiding President Ford and his advisers for refusing to admit that we were in a deep recession.

Now, with the 1976 Budget Message and the Economic Report of the President, Ford has presented a picture of such suffocating bleakness that it has produced a pall over the nation that few, if any, budgets have equaled.

"This is a budget that shows no faith in this country," said one top trade union leader.

The new budget, writes one knowledgeable columnist, "is unusually honest, but not very bright . . . Mr. Ford goes the total hangout route. He announces to the world that his program means inflation at a high rate for a long time and recession for almost ever."

The President calls for sacrifice—but fundamentally the sacrifice must come from the worker, the poor, the elderly and the needy. And with cuts projected for most of the programs designed to assist these very groups, the forecast of things to come gives them little incentive to make that sacrifice.

Even if these groups do sacrifice, as he asks, we can expect dubious improvement in the near future in either inflation or recession. For 1975 he expects the Consumer Price Index will rise 11.3 percent, compared to 11 percent in 1974. The unemployment picture is even worse. It averaged 5.6 percent in 1974 but Ford forecasts an average of 8.1 percent in 1975, 7.9 percent in 1976, dropping to a still-high 5.5 percent in 1980.

Listen to the President's own words in his Budget Message:

"I am proposing no new spending initiatives in this budget other than those for energy. I am also proposing that the allowable increase in federal pay and in benefits to individuals that currently are linked by law to increases in consumer price levels be limited to 5 percent through June 30 of next year."

"I urge Congress to accept this recommendation. I especially urge the private sector—labor and management alike—to follow this example and minimize price and wage increases.

"I have proposed a similar temporary limit on the automatic increases in benefit programs linked to changes in consumer prices. These programs include social security, railroad retirement, federal employe retirement and disability systems, military retirement pay, supplemental security income and the food stamp and child nutrition programs."

The President says to the most needy in our society that prices will go up more than 11 percent this year but he will let you have only a 5 percent increase.

ANYONE WHO TRIES to plow through the 1,092 pages of the 1976 budget will not find it easy to perceive the cuts. In the food stamp program, for example, the total value of coupons issued was $4.7 billion in 1974, rising to an estimated $6.1 billion in 1975 with $7 billion estimated for 1976.

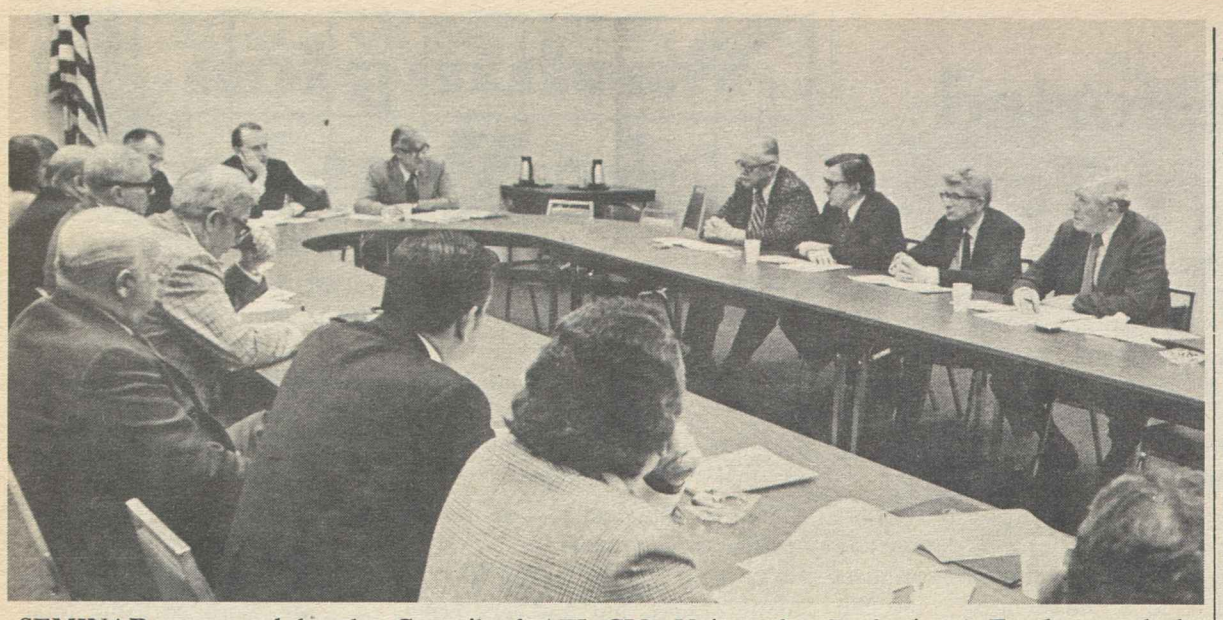
The amount paid by participants, however, rose from $1.9 billion in 1974 to an estimated $2.6 billion in 1975 and an estimated $3.4 billion in 1976. These figures would include both the cost of food and the cost of the stamps.

The citizenry is willing to sacrifice to counter the recession and inflation and to meet the energy crisis, but in the Budget and the Economic Report Ford's own advisers seem to have little confidence that his programs will do it.

Throughout the budget there is a determined tilt to those who have money—whether it is to buy fuel or in paying taxes. We hear no call for tax reform or tax justice.

When the nation's chief executive demonstrates that he wants equality of sacrifice, most believe that the country will respond.

RECKLESS ECONOMIC POLICIES fostered during the Nixon Administration and held over by President Ford have thrown the U.S. construction industry into a near-depression state, President Robert Georgine, center, of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by John Fialka, left, of the Washington Star-News and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO public affairs interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.



SEMINAR sponsored by the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees dealt with occupational safety and health standards and enforcement. George Gill, an executive vice president of the Communications Workers, is acting chairman of the council. The setting is the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center.

Meany Warns Against Exploitation Of Retirees, Affirms NCSC Support

AFL-CIO President George Meany reaffirmed organized labor's support for the National Council of Senior Citizens as he sounded a warning that older and retired workers are being exploited by some other organizations that purport to work in their behalf.

In a letter to federation affiliates, Meany urged that union members be alerted to the questionable and anti-union policies of these groups.

He noted that some of these groups have a long record of opposing organized labor's social and legislative goals, but nevertheless attempt to recruit older union members for their programs.

Citing a study conducted by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, Meany called attention particularly to the anti-labor policies of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA).

He pointed out that the National Council of Senior Citizens is the only organization for older and retired workers that has the endorsement of the AFL-CIO, and called on affiliated unions to give it their full support.

In a memorandum accompanying Meany's letter, Seidman noted that while the NCSC has worked consistently with organized labor to improve the quality of life for all Americans, "other senior citizens groups have often exploited the elderly, subjected them to subtle anti-labor propaganda and actively opposed labor's legislative programs."

He said older Americans are easy targets of so-called non-profit organizations like the AARP and NRTA which are heavily financed by commercial interests.

"These organizations are spending millions of dollars on television, radio, newspaper and direct-mail advertising, promoting themselves and commercial insurance company policies," Seidman said.

The exploitation stems from the carefully nurtured "nonprofit" image of the AARP and NRTA, he noted, as retirees are led to believe they are getting objective advice in the publications of the organizations about purchasing insurance.

However, the retirees are not made aware of the exclusive access insurance companies have to the membership rolls of the organizations, "nor the heavy financial stakes the organizations have in maintaining the profitable operations of the insurance carriers."

Seidman warned that the AARP and NRTA have made extensive efforts to enroll union retirees even though "they offer inferior insurance at high cost and provide slick publications featuring subtle anti-labor articles."

He pointed out that the two groups are opposing labor's program for National Health Security just as they fought the original plan for Medicare.

On the state level, Seidman said, AARP groups have been actively supporting "right-to-work" legislation that outlaws union shop agreements.

The "honorary president" of the AARP and NRTA is Leonard Davis, who with his family hold the controlling interest in Colonial Penn Group, an insurance firm that specializes in writing health, auto and life insurance for persons age 55 and over.

Most of the policies written by Colonial Penn are among members of AARP and NRTA, Seidman pointed out.

He cited a Colonial Penn report to stockholders disclosing that the company's premium income rose to $250 million in 1974 from $183 million in 1973.

"The report seeks to encourage investors by claiming that 1975 growth in AARP-NRTA memberships should again stimulate premium volume, but expresses concern over the possibility of enactment of national health insurance legislation," Seidman observed.

"When you learn that the AARP-NRTA organizations list in their own financial statements for last year receipts from the Colonial Penn Group of $5.8 million for 'administrative allowances' and that they receive additional amounts for advertising space in their publications," Seidman said, "it is easy to comprehend why they favor the commercial insurance approach to national health care."

To better combat the opposition of the AARP, NRTA and other similar organizations to social legislation, Seidman stressed the need for AFL-CIO affiliates to familiarize their members with the objectives and programs of the National Council of Senior Citizens.

He pointed out that the NCSC is closely aligned with the goals of organized labor and that two-thirds of its executive board members come out of the labor movement.

"NCSC is labor's kind of retiree organization," he stressed, urging that older union members should be given the opportunity to learn about NCSC programs before they get lured into organizations that do not serve their best interests.

Carlough Sees Threat In UN's 'New Majority'

The "new majority" emerging in the United Nations carries some ominous overtones for workers around the world, an AFL-CIO representative told the convention of the Japanese Confederation of Labor (DOMEI).

Sheet Metal Workers President Edward J. Carlough said that free trade unions are accustomed to problems with totalitarian governments and with the exploitation of multinational cartels.

"What's new is that capitalistic multinationals and the international Communist political machine appear to be in objective agreement, for the moment at least," Carlough told DOMEI's 10th anniversary convention.

Carlough said the so-called Third World nations were lending their support to the Soviet military might and the designs of the oil-producing nations in recent votes in the United Nations and its member agencies.

"It is a 'new majority' that should make free people everywhere very uncomfortable," he said. "Together we must make this 'new majority' understand that free trade unions are not in the habit of contributing to their own destruction."

Carlough cited impressive advances for Japanese workers in the years since he last visited in 1963, but said that oil boycotts, runaway inflation and rising unemployment were problems shared by the United States and Japan.

He also noted the increased strength of the Japanese labor federation since AFL-CIO President George Meany, whom Carlough was representing, took part in its founding convention 10 years ago.

Congressional Report:

Family Costs Soar 15 Percent in Year

Higher prices for nearly everything cost the average American family about 15 percent more in 1974 just to maintain the same modest standard of living it enjoyed the year before, a new congressional study disclosed.

The dramatic rise in the cost of living meant a family with an intermediate income of $12,626 in 1973 required an additional $1,840 last year to maintain its living standards, a report of the Joint Economic Committee points out.

For such a family, higher taxes outstripped all other price increases in the budget. While food prices rose 11.9 percent, housing 13.5 percent, and transportation 14.3 percent, personal income and social security taxes went up twice as fast.

The study found that personal income taxes jumped by 26.5 percent—from $647 in 1973 to $787 in 1974—while social security taxes increased by 21.6 percent.

"Because of our graduated tax rate system, taxes are rising faster than any other consumer expenditure in this period of rapid inflation," Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Wis.), the committee's chairman noted.

"Not only must workers cope with declining real incomes and the prospect of unemployment, but the percent of their incomes being collected by government is also rising," Humphrey said.

As usual, those families with the lowest incomes were hurt most by last year's spiraling rate of inflation, the study observed.

The committee's study noted that food prices in 1974 rose faster for low-income families than for others, for example. For a family on a low-cost diet, food prices rose 12.7 percent while increasing only 10.5 percent for families on a liberal diet.

Taxes also hit the lower-income families hardest. A family of four with an income of $9,320 last year paid an average 31 percent more for federal, state and local taxes than in 1973. The comparable increase for families with intermediate and higher incomes of $14,466 and $20,883 was 26.5 percent.

"The poor clearly have borne a greater burden," the study reported. "In a year such as 1974 when taxes, transportation and housing costs rose more rapidly than food, families whose incomes did not keep up with inflation had to substitute down to less expensive foods."

The Agriculture Dept., meanwhile, reported separately the government's food-stamp allotment for needy families failed to cover the cost of even a basic economy diet last December.

The economy diet plan for a family of two adults and two school-age children for the month of December was estimated by the government to cost $159.90. The food-stamp allotment was only $150.

The Joint Economic Committee report also noted that a family's total real disposable income declined by 3 percent last year. This is the broadest measure of purchasing power. The 1974 decline was the sharpest of any experienced in a post-World War II recession, the study said.

The drop in buying power is creating a drag on the economy that "may well dampen a recovery," the committee reported.

Ford Okays New Rules On Federal Bargaining

President Ford approved a set of amendments to the Executive Order dealing with labor-management relations within the federal government, but unions representing federal workers indicated it will not blunt their drive for a labor relations law.

The modifications, some of which had been sought by the unions, were recommended by the Federal Labor Relations Council which is an all-management group consisting of the chairman of the Civil Service Commission, the director of the Office of Management & Budget, and the Secretary of Labor.

A report on the changes noted that about 1.1 million employes, or 56 percent of the total non-postal federal workforce, are in exclusive bargaining units and 86 percent of them are working under a negotiated agreement.

Changes incorporated into the Executive Order include the following:

- The definition of supervisor was tightened so that fewer persons will be excluded from bargaining units.
- Guards at federal installations will hereafter be allowed to belong to the same bargaining unit as other workers at the agency or installation. The council noted that federal workers don't have the right to strike so there is no potential conflict of interest.
- A bargaining unit may be expanded through consolidation of separate units represented by the same union, and the council endorsed "the policy of promoting more comprehensive bargaining units." But if portions of the larger unit sought are currently unrepresented or represented by other unions, elections would be held to determine the wishes of the employes affected.
- Agencies can refuse to bargain over internal regulations that affect employes only when they can demonstrate a "compelling need" for the disputed regulation under criteria to be established by the Federal Labor Council. Refusal to bargain over regulations has been a major union grievance against management, but the significance of the changed language depends on the interpretation given to it.

In some other areas, no change was made in the requirement for an election — rather than a card check — to determine union recognition. Lawyers will continue to be considered on the same basis as all other professionals. Professional employes as a group can vote to be included in a bargaining unit. A number of other areas of controversy are left intact because the council found that the parties have learned to live with the situations and should be able to work out remaining differences in direct negotiations.

The council report did not deal with any issue that would require legislation rather than a presidential directive.

Despite Dispute Over Rules:

Group Legal Plans Show Steady Growth

While several factions are continuing to compete vigorously over the rules under which prepaid group legal plans will be set up, there seems to be unanimity from all sides that such plans will continue to grow.

Labor and consumer groups have been trying for a year to stop the American Bar Association from putting restrictions on the operation of prepaid legal plans, and the outcome of that battle is far from clear, Dave Stack writes in the January issue of the Federationist, the AFL-CIO magazine.

Still, the number of plans in the nation has grown to an estimated 3,000, Stack says, with unions, consumer cooperatives and student groups participating. Stack is an editor of Trends in Legal Services, a Washington, D.C., newsletter dealing with group legal services.

Unions are heavily represented among the existing plans, but not solely with plans that have been bargained into contracts with their employers. The AFL-CIO has endorsed such plans and urged their inclusion in collective bargaining, Stack points out.

Earl Warren, Jr., a California municipal judge who heads the labor-supported National Consumer Center for Legal Services, has urged unions not to wait to sell an employer on the idea, but to start them on their own with a dues checkoff system, Stack notes.

The recent economic climate has not been conducive to "new, exotic fringe benefits in collective bargaining," but Stack says union experts in the field still foresee prepaid group legal plans as becoming as common a fringe benefit as prepaid medical insurance.

The major battle over how the plans will develop stems from the American Bar Association's attempt in February 1974 to legislate against "closed panel" plans. The bar attempted to place restrictions on lawyers working exclusively for a group plan while making it easier to set up "open panel" plans where group participants choose any lawyer they want.

The National Consumer Center for Legal Services has filed a suit against the ABA rules in Tennessee, Stack notes, after condemning the ABA rules as "unnecessary, restrictive, chilling in effect, unconstitutional, in violation of antitrust law and the doctrine of federal preemption."

Meanwhile, Stack reports, the ABA has appeared to back away from its position by forming a committee later in 1974 to restudy the ABA's rules on open vs. closed panel plans.

Other developments in the four years since the Laborers set up a pioneering plan in Shreveport, La., are also traced by Stack:

- Inclusion in the 1974 pension reform law of a clause that reserves to the federal government the right to regulate the employer-employe relationship. Stack notes that Robert S. Connerton, general counsel of the Laborers and an officer of NCCLS, has predicted prepaid legal plans among union groups "will flourish like mushrooms in a spring rain" if the federal preemption interpretation holds.

- Attempts in Congress by Rep. Joseph Karth (D-Minn.) to give a tax exemption to benefits received under group plans.

Stack reports that there is little pattern in the cost, benefits or structuring of the plans that are proliferating across the country. He quotes Sandy DeMent, NCCLS executive director, that the variety of needs among various groups has meant that "no easy, one-size-fits-all model is available."

Stack reports that among the most innovative of recent plans are a plan in Columbus, Ohio, which is the nation's first municipally-funded open panel plan; an Arizona plan that provides seminars for participants in an attempt to practice "preventive law" and cut costs by reducing the number of cases that get to litigation; and a Maine plan with a "circuit rider" concept in which lawyers travel to various areas of the state to better serve the members of the plan.

IUE Charges Age Bias In Layoff of Engineers

Great Neck, N.Y.—Company defiance of a court order restraining the layoff of 62 senior engineers has magnified union charges of age discrimination against Sperry Rand Corp. here.

The company, claiming it failed to receive the order, refused the engineers—all over age 40—entry to the Long Island facility.

The order was issued by a state supreme court judge at the request of the New York State Human Rights Commission, which was investigating charges brought against the company by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

The commission sought the restraining order to halt the layoffs pending a full investigation of the IUE charges that Sperry Rand violated the seniority clause of the union's contract.

In appealing to the court, Human Rights Commissioner Jack M. Sable said that "the stigma and permanent career impact caused by the discriminatory layoff of professionals over 40 years of age cannot be overemphasized."

"No back-pay remedy could ever make these engineers whole for the damage they will sustain if Sperry is permitted to proceed with their layoffs," Sable added.

The company issued layoff notices to a total of 107 engineers, IUE Local 444 noted, but failed to comply with the layoff provisions of the contract.

Under the IUE-Sperry agreement, two separate seniority lists are maintained, one for senior engineers and the other for junior-level engineers. If a layoff situation occurs, the company is required to follow a one-to-one ratio in discharges from both lists. The clause also provides that only 50 percent of those laid off may be discharged out of seniority.

The IUE said Sperry has admitted that by laying off engineers with greater seniority it could lop $35,000 from monthly costs.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS dealing with health, social insurance and welfare were reviewed at a meeting of the AFL-CIO Standing Committee on Social Security, with discussions led by Committee Chairman Floyd E. Smith, top right. He was joined by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, left, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Social Security Director Bert Seidman.

Key Congressional Committees

All congressional committees deal with legislation affecting various groups of union members. The committees listed below have the broadest impact on labor's legislative program. New members are identified by asterisks.

Senate

Labor & Public Welfare

Democrats

Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (N.J.), Chairman
Jennings Randolph (W.Va.)
Claiborne Pell (R.I.)
Edward M. Kennedy (Mass.)
Gaylord Nelson (Wis.)
Walter F. Mondale (Minn.)
Thomas F. Eagleton (Mo.)
Alan Cranston (Calif.)
William D. Hathaway (Maine)

Republicans

Jacob K. Javits (N.Y.)
Richard S. Schweiker (Pa.)
Robert Taft, Jr. (Ohio)
J. Glenn Beall, Jr. (Md.)
Robert T. Stafford (Vt.)
Paul Laxalt (Nev.)*

Finance

Democrats

Russell B. Long (La.), Chairman
Herman E. Talmadge (Ga.)
Vance Hartke (Ind.)
Abraham Ribicoff (Conn.)
Harry F. Byrd, Jr. (Va.)
Gaylord Nelson (Wis.)
Walter F. Mondale (Minn.)
Mike Gravel (Alaska)
Lloyd Bentsen (Tex.)
William D. Hathaway (Maine)*
Floyd K. Haskell (Colo.)*

Republicans

Carl T. Curtis (Neb.)
Paul J. Fannin (Ariz.)
Clifford P. Hansen (Wyo.)
Robert Dole (Kan.)
Robert W. Packwood (Ore.)
William V. Roth, Jr. (Del.)
Bill Brock (Tenn.)*

Banking, Housing & Urban, Affairs

Democrats

William Proxmire (Wis.), Chairman
John Sparkman (Ala.)
Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (N.J.)
Thomas J. McIntyre (N.H.)
Alan Cranston (Calif.)
Adlai E. Stevenson III (Ill.)
Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (Del.)
Robert Morgan (N.C.)*

Republicans

John G. Tower (Tex.)
Edward W. Brooke (Mass.)
Robert W. Packwood (Ore.)
Jesse A. Helms (N.C.)*
Jake Garn (Utah)*

House

Education & Labor

Democrats

Carl D. Perkins (Ky.), Chairman
Frank Thompson, Jr. (N.J.)
John H. Dent (Pa.)
Dominick V. Daniels (N.J.)
John Brademas (Ind.)
James G. O'Hara (Mich.)
Augustus F. Hawkins (Calif.)
William D. Ford (Mich.)
Patsy T. Mink (Hawaii)
Lloyd Meeds (Wash.)
Phillip Burton (Calif.)
Joseph M. Gaydos (Pa.)
William Clay (Mo.)
Shirley Chisholm (N.Y.)
Mario Biaggi (N.Y.)
Ike F. Andrews (N.C.)
William Lehman (Fla.)
Jaime Benitez (Puerto Rico)
Michael T. Blouin (Iowa)*
Robert J. Cornell (Wis.)*
Theodore M. Risenhoover (Okla.)*
Paul Simon (Ill.)*
Edward P. Beard (R.I.)*
Leo C. Zeferetti (N.Y.)*
George Miller (Calif.)*
Ronald M. Mottl (Ohio)*
Tim L. Hall (Ill.)*

Republicans

Albert H. Quie (Minn.)
John M. Ashbrook (Ohio)
Alphonzo Bell (Calif.)
John N. Erlenborn (Ill.)
Marvin L. Esch (Mich.)
Edwin D. Eshleman (Pa.)
Peter A. Peyser (N.Y.)
Ronald A. Sarasin (Conn.)
John Buchanan (Ala.)*
James M. Jeffords (Vt.)*
Larry Pressler (S.D.)*
William Goodling (Pa.)*
Virginia Smith (Neb.)*

Banking, Currency & Housing

Democrats

Henry S. Reuss (Wis.), Chairman
Wright Patman (Tex.)
William A. Barrett (Pa.)
Leonor K. Sullivan (Mo.)
Thomas L. Ashley (Ohio)
William S. Moorhead (Pa.)
Robert G. Stephens, Jr. (Ga.)
Fernand J. St Germain (R.I.)
Henry B. Gonzalez (Tex.)
Joseph G. Minish (N.J.)
Frank Annunzio (Ill.)
Thomas M. Rees (Calif.)
James M. Hanley (N.Y.)
Parren J. Mitchell (Md.)
Walter E. Fauntroy (D.C.)
Corinne C. Boggs (La.)
Stephen L. Neal (N.C.)*
Jerry M. Patterson (Calif.)*
James J. Blanchard (Mich.)*
Andrew Maguire (N.J.)*
Harold E. Ford (Tenn.)*
Carroll Hubbard, Jr. (Ky.)*
John J. LaFalce (N.Y.)*
Gladys N. Spellman (Md.)*
Les AuCoin (Ore.)*
Paul E. Tsongas (Mass.)*
Butler Derrick (S.C.)*
Phillip H. Hayes (Ind.)*
Mark W. Hannaford (Calif.)*

Republicans

Albert W. Johnson (Pa.)
J. William Stanton (Ohio)
Garry Brown (Mich.)
Chalmers P. Wylie (Ohio)
John H. Rousselot (Calif.)
Stewart B. McKinney (Conn.)
John B. Conlan (Ariz.)
George Hansen (Idaho)*
Richard T. Schulze (Pa.)*
Bill Gradison (Ohio)*
Henry J. Hyde (Ill.)*
Richard Kelly (Fla.)*
Charles E. Grassley (Iowa)*
Millicent Fenwick (N.J.)*

Ways & Means

Democrats

Al Ullman (Ore.), Chairman
Wilbur D. Mills (Ark.)
James A. Burke (Mass.)
Dan Rostenkowski (Ill.)
Phil M. Landrum (Ga.)
Charles A. Vanik (Ohio)
Richard Fulton (Tenn.)
Omar Burleson (Tex.)
James C. Corman (Calif.)
William J. Green (Pa.)
Sam M. Gibbons (Fla.)
Joe D. Waggonner, Jr. (La.)
Joseph E. Karth (Minn.)
Otis G. Pike (N.Y.)
Richard F. Vander Veen (Mich.)
J. J. Pickle (Tex.)*
Henry Helstoski (N.J.)*
Charles B. Rangel (N.Y.)*
William R. Cotter (Conn.)*
Fortney H. Stark (Calif.)*
James R. Jones (Okla.)*
Andy Jacobs, Jr. (Ind.)*
Abner J. Mikva (Ill.)*
Martha Keys (Kans.)*
Joseph L. Fisher (Va.)*

Republicans

Herman T. Schneebeli (Pa.)
Barber B. Conable, Jr. (N.Y.)
Jerry L. Pettis (Calif.)
John J. Duncan (Tenn.)
Donald D. Clancy (Ohio)
Bill Archer (Tex.)
Guy Vander Jagt (Mich.)*
William A. Steiger (Wis.)*
Philip M. Crane (Ill.)*
Bill Frenzel (Minn.)*
James G. Martin (N.C.)*
L. A. Bafalis (Fla.)*

8.2% Rate Called 'Tragedy':

New Surge in Joblessness Deepens Economic Crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

that joblessness would reach at least 8.5 percent some time this year.

The AFL-CIO is "much more realistic" about the outlook, Meany observed. He noted that Greenspan had predicted seven weeks ago unemployment would peak at 8 percent in July.

"Well, we're already at 8.2 percent," Meany said. "So I'm just taking his projections with an add-on, and I say by July we'll most likely have 10 percent."

Until last month, the highest jobless rates since World War II were 7.5 percent in July 1958 and 7.9 percent in October 1949. The rate had not exceeded 8 percent since 1941 when the average annual rate was 9.9 percent as the nation was pulling out of the Depression.

Joblessness was pervasive in January, affecting every major occupational group. Hardest hit, however, were blue-collar workers. Their rate of unemployment shot up from 9.3 percent in December to 11 percent. The rate for white-collar workers rose from 4.1 to 4.6 percent.

Among the major industries, BLS reported, manufacturing workers were socked with a jobless rate of 10.5 percent, up from 8.9 percent in December and more than double the year-ago figure of 4.8 percent.

Most of the 928,000 increase in joblessness last month was due to layoffs rather than voluntary quits. The number of those who lost their job to production cutbacks rose by 640,000, BLS said.

The deteriorating job situation starkly outlined the precipitous nature of the nation's economic decline.

"Since last August, joblessness rose by 2.6 million," BLS noted in its report, "more rapidly than in any five-month span since the initiation of the monthly survey in 1940. This surge in unemployment stands in sharp contrast to the picture just 15 months earlier when the unemployment rate had fallen to a three and one-half year low of 4.6 percent."

It will take much more than a tax cut to prop up the economy, Meany said in his statement. He also noted the Administration's energy proposals are "certain to create more inflation" and that putting priority on them is "absolutely wrong."

"The President must put first things first, and that means jobs," Meany declared. "Nothing else is more important to America now."

There are many things President Ford can do to create jobs starting "tomorrow morning," he said.

"Just one action would be to release a substantial portion of the $19 billion he has impounded that could be building sewage projects, hospitals and highways which America desperately needs," he said.

The other side of the jobless coin is the employment situation. The number of persons holding jobs in January fell by 640,000 to 84,562,000, the fourth consecutive monthly decline, BLS said. Three-fourths of the decrease occurred among adult men, the key family wage earners.

Since last September, total employment has dropped more than 1.8 million. The number of nonfarm payroll jobs in January declined by 440,000 from the December level and, at 77.3 million, was 1.6 million below last October.

Among the various labor-force categories, joblessness among adult men last month rose to 6 percent from 5.3 percent in December. Other over-the month increases:

Adult women, from 7.2 to 8.1 percent; teenagers, from 18.1 to 20.8 percent; whites, from 6.4 to 7.5 percent; non-whites, from 12.5 to 13.4 percent; household heads, from 4.6 to 5.2 percent; married men, from 3.8 to 4.5 percent; full-time workers, from 6.8 to 7.7 percent, and workers covered by state unemployment insurance, from 4.8 to 5.5 percent.

The January report also disclosed:

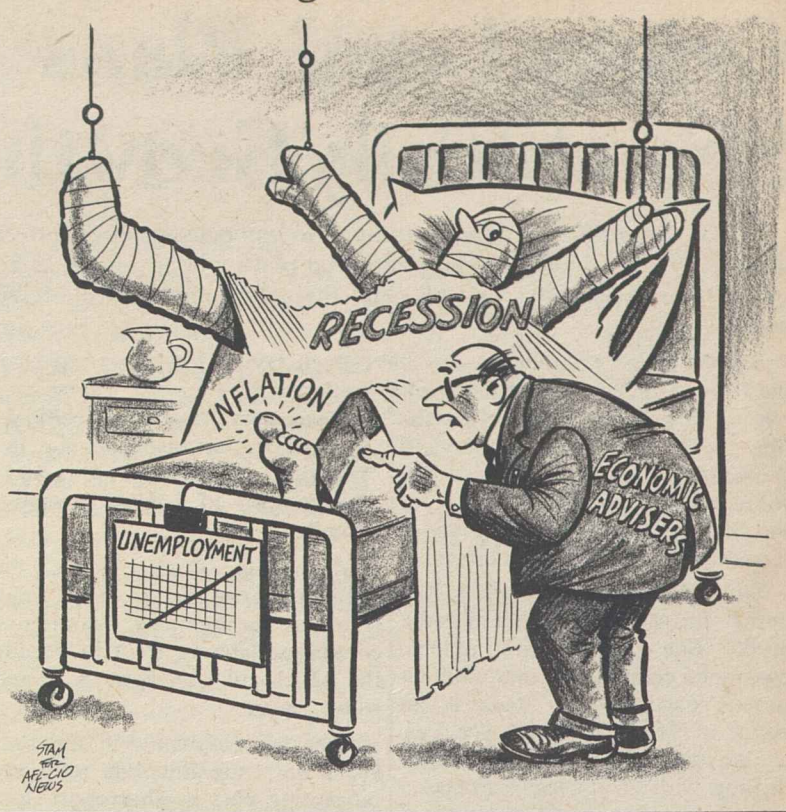
- For the youngest Vietnam-era veterans, those between the ages of 20 and 24, the unemployment rate rose over the month from 15.6 to 19.7 percent. For non-veterans of the same age, the rate went from 10.4 to 11.6 percent.
- The average length of unemployment moved up to 10.7 weeks from 10 the month before, a substantial increase indicating the difficulty workers are having finding jobs.
- Besides an increase in joblessness, there was a continued rise in the number of persons working part-time because they were unable to find full-time employment. The number of partially unemployed persons rose by 462,000 to 3,837,000 last month.
- All of the January rise in the workforce was among adult women and teenagers as the male labor force declined for the third straight month.
- The average workweek dropped three-tenths of an hour to 36.4 hours, and was six-tenths of an hour under the year-earlier level. Average hourly earnings, on a seasonally adjusted basis, rose one cent from December to $4.40.

The report noted that job cutbacks were posted in 78 percent of all industries in January and in 86 percent of all industries over the October-January period.

"I think things will get worse before the recovery gets under way," BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin told the Joint Economic Committee the day the new statistics were released.

Shiskin also noted that while joblessness is rising throughout the economy some industries, such as housing and construction, have unemployment rates close to those of the Great Depression.

'Your Big Toe Is Swollen!'



Crafts Slate Conference To Spur Jobs Programs

(Continued from Page 1)

number of major areas and said that unless action is taken joblessness in the industry will continue to move up and at double the national rate—a characteristic of the past year or so.

Georgine announced also a joint appeal by the 3.5 million member department and the American Institute of Architects to the President and Congress for enactment of a seven-point program for the "immediate economic relief of the industry and the nation." The appeal is the first joint action by the building trades unions and the architects on a national problem. The unemployment rate for architects is currently estimated at 26 percent.

In announcing the Washington conference, Georgine stressed that in the view of the department's executive council and the 17 general presidents of the unions affiliated with the department "the true impact of the situation in the construction industry has not been generally recognized." The 15 percent unemployment figure generally used, indicating more than 600,000 persons out of work, is only an average, he said, and in many cities individual crafts have up to 65 percent of their members not working.

In Detroit construction unemployment averages 30 percent, Cleveland 30 percent, Boston 23 percent, Chicago 22 percent, New York 24 percent, San Diego 25 percent, New Orleans 27 percent, Georgine told reporters.

He described it as "a crisis such as we have not faced since the 1930s and it has to be treated as such." He added, "We want to be sure that the Congress and the federal Executive Branch understands what is going on in this country."

The joint statement of the trades and the architects said, "We believe that the key to the nation's economic prosperity rests with the construction industry in which we work together as architects and craftsmen." Expressing confidence that the industry can lead the nation out of the recession and bring lasting public improvements, the joint appeal called for prompt implementation of a seven-point program as a "vital first step." The program:

- Immediate release of impounded funds by the Administration covering a wide range of public facilities and improvements.
- Special emphasis on reviving and strengthening the housing industry especially for families with low and moderate incomes.
- A broad new national public works program to improve living environments of local communities.
- Use of revenue sharing and community development block grants by state and local governments for direct construction activities in local communities.
- Revision of federal monetary policies to increase the availability of mortgage funds to the construction industry.
- Provision for tax incentives to owners of new and existing buildings to design and redesign their structures to make them more energy efficient.
- Similar incentives for renovation and remodeling of existing unused or under-used buildings to enable their adaptation for new or additional purposes, thus conserving energy and resources.

"It is time to take positive, creative action to revive our economic system," the statement stressed, "not only to rebuild our economy but to rebuild as well the human environments of our towns and cities."

Meany Hits Slow Pace Of War on Recession

(Continued from Page 1)

Six percent loans are made to the Soviet Union through the Export-Import Bank, Meany noted. "Well, let the American homeowner get 6 percent money," he said.

On other topics during the wide-ranging interview, Meany made the following points:

- The AFL-CIO does not favor "a new WPA," such as that installed during the Great Depression. "We want to turn the economy around," Meany said. "We're not talking about a dole."
- President Ford's chances for being elected in 1976 would be "pretty slim" if the economy is as bad then as it is now.
- While acknowledging the nation's Vietnam policies were wrong in light of new information, he said the U.S. should live up to its obligations to give financial aid to that Southeast Asian country. Otherwise, "we are put in the position of walking out on someone that we've considered an ally."
- The AFL-CIO received "not a penny" from the Central Intelligence Agency and never acted as a conduit for CIA funds to anti-Communist groups in Europe, Asia or South America.
- The United States should not give presents to its "economic enemies" — the Arab oil-producing countries — but should impose an embargo on Middle East nations that are blackmailing American consumers. A nuclear power plant to Syria, airplanes to Saudi Arabia —these should not be given away at taxpayers' expense, he said.
- The AFL-CIO does not exercise control over Democratic Party delegates who also happen to hold union cards. Internal party affairs are not the federation's business, and any withdrawal of such members from the party is up to them. "We didn't put them in there, and we won't pull them out."
- Seniority clauses in union contracts requiring that the last persons hired shall be the first laid off when the workforce is cut "should be lived up to" without regard to minority standing. "I stand by the contracts," Meany said.

2-15-75

BLS Finds Joblessness Surging Across the Board

Commissioner of Labor Statistics Julius Shiskin, appearing before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, set forth these comparisons of unadjusted jobless rates as they have soared in a number of industries over the past year:

	January 1974	January 1975
Automobiles	9.2	24.0
Construction	14.1	22.6
Lumber	6.3	17.8
Furniture	4.7	12.1
Stone, clay, glass	5.2	12.9
Primary metals	3.5	8.2
Electrical equipment	5.4	12.9
Other transportation equipment	6.0	18.2
Food	6.5	11.8
Textiles	6.1	19.4
Apparel	10.5	17.6
Paper	4.0	11.4
Chemicals	3.8	7.1
Rubber and plastics	5.3	13.8

Steelworkers Collect 12-Cent COL Raise

Pittsburgh—Steelworkers in the basic steel industry received a cost-of-living adjustment of 12 cents an hour effective Feb. 1, under inflation protection provisions covering some 400,000 USWA members.

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Council Spurs Steps to Aid Victims of Economic Crisis

REPORTERS COVERING the AFL-CIO Executive Council question Federation President George Meany at a news conference between sessions of the council's mid-winter meeting.

Meany Calls Jobs Key to Recovery

By Saul Miller

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO has called for immediate steps to aid the victims of the deepening recession—the poor, the unemployed, the low-wage worker.

With unemployment exceeding 7.5 million persons, the federation's Executive Council at its mid-winter sessions here urged substantially strengthened unemployment compensation benefits, mortgage relief payments to guard against foreclosures, continuing health insurance coverage for the jobless, a higher minimum wage and an overhaul of the welfare system.

The council was scheduled to adopt policy positions on the Administration's economic program, tax reform, monetary policy, energy, and trade as it planned to spell out alternative courses of action.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told news conferences dominated by a long line of television cameras that he was very "pessimistic about the whole situation" of the direction of the nation's economy and that "we are getting to the point where unemployment is feeding on unemployment."

To turn the economy around, he said, will require a tax cut "as high as $30 billion" to provide the necessary incentive and put purchasing power in the hands of consumers.

What the country needs is jobs, he told reporters, and an Administration dedicated to that goal. He held out the hope that once Congress gets to know the "extent of the problem" of unemployment, of what "it means for a man with a house full of kids to be out of work and reaching the end of his unemployment compensation," there will be action.

The council concentrated in its opening days on domestic problems although it adopted statements denouncing meetings between Western Europe trade unions and the so-called labor movements of Communist and totalitarian regimes, calling for a truce with justice for all sides in Northern Ireland and warning the International Labor Organization that its usefulness would be threatened if it grants observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

It also adopted unanimously a statement reaffirming the federation's long-standing policy of complete independence of the internal affairs of the nation's major political parties.

A statement on social security called for a series of specific steps to update and improve the system and defended it against irresponsible attacks from alarmist critics.

The council renewed its call for national health insurance legis-

(Continued on Page 3)

Benefit Lines Lengthen As Output Skids

Unemployment, now at its highest level since World War II, mounted across the nation as the economic recession forced further production cutbacks in nearly every major industry.

The Federal Reserve Board reported industrial production fell 3.6 percent in January, the steepest one-month decline since December 1937.

Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. reported another 731,000 workers filed initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits during the week ended Feb. 8, including 43,600 newly eligible under emergency legislation passed late last year.

(Continued on Page 8)

$9 Billion 'Shot in Arm':

Court Bars Freeze On Pollution Funds

Hundreds of thousands of jobs will be created over the next few years as the byproduct of a Supreme Court ruling that a President can't thwart Congress by refusing to allocate funds for clean water projects.

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. estimated that the $9 billion in federal funds involved and an anticipated $3 billion in matching state and local funds could generate 485,000 jobs —"a shot in the arm that could turn the whole American economy around."

It said more than 250,000 of the jobs would be in the severely depressed construction industry, the others mostly in manufacturing.

A unanimous Supreme Court held that former President Nixon had acted illegally two years ago when he refused to allocate to cities and states $9 billion of the $18 billion Congress had authorized for a massive clean water program.

Nixon had initially vetoed the clean water bill. After Congress overrode his veto, he retaliated by refusing to allocate the funds so as to meet the congressional timetable of $5 billion in construction funds for 1973, $6 billion for 1974 and $7 billion in 1975.

Ford, last December, said his Administration would release only $4 billion of the $9 billion frozen by Nixon.

The case decided by the court was a suit brought by New York City, although other local and state governments also had litigation pending.

The court ruled in the context of the Water Pollution Act of 1972, which it said "was intended to provide a firm commitment of substantial sums within a relatively limited period of time in an effort to achieve an early solution to what was deemed an urgent problem."

Still pending, and not neces-

(Continued on Page 7)

Congress Rebuffs Ford On Oil Tariff Scheme

By David L. Perlman

Congress decisively won the preliminary bout with the Ford Administration over strategy to deal with the nation's economic crisis, setting the stage for the key votes on overriding a presidential veto.

At issue is whether President Ford's inflation-feeding plan to raise oil and fuel prices sharply enough to cut consumption will be allowed to go into effect.

The House voted 309-114 and the Senate 66-28 to suspend for a 90-day period the President's power to levy a special tariff on imported oil. This would nullify the $1-a-barrel tax Ford has already imposed and block his announced intent to raise the special tax to $3.

Before the 90-day period has run out, Congress expects to have completed action on an alternative plan.

Special committees named by House and Senate Democrats have been working to draft an alternative program of energy conservation that would seek to avoid both a new round of inflation and constraints on the efforts to achieve economic recovery.

(Continued on Page 8)

$3 Wage Floor Pushed To Help Fight Poverty

Bal Harbour, Fla.—A $3-an-hour minimum wage is an "absolutely indispensable weapon against poverty," the AFL-CIO declared calling for legislation to make it effective Jan. 1, 1976.

The scheduled increase in the wage floor to $2.30 an hour next January is "already obviously outdated by the facts of inflation," the Executive Council said, and would mean continuing poverty for the low-wage worker and his family.

Tracing the development of the minimum wage from its enactment in 1938, the council pointed out that it is effective only if it provides a "minimum standard of living necessary for health, efficiency and general well-being of workers." The wage-hour law as amended in 1974 "does not meet this goal today," the council asserted.

Pointing out that it took three years of hearings and lobbying to win the 1974 increases, the council said that what might have been considered appropriate in 1971 "is no guarantee against poverty today."

(Continued on Page 2)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL of the AFL-CIO acted on a broad range of policy resolutions at its mid-winter meeting. The result was a comprehensive program dealing with economic, legislative and social issues as well as trade union and world affairs.

Fast Action Pressed to Upgrade Unemployment Insurance System

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Immediate congressional enactment of federal minimum standards is essential to improve the nation's obsolete unemployment compensation program, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

Governmental neglect—both state and federal—and employer opposition to reform of the system has left the country with an inadequate program to meet the present economic crisis, the council said in a statement.

"Today, without federalization or even federal standards, the unemployment insurance program is basically the same as it was at the time of adoption 40 years ago," the statement noted.

"Unemployment insurance has long been regarded as the first line of defense against the spread of poverty and recession, but because of long neglect it can't do that job effectively without immediate and substantial improvement.

"Adequate unemployment insurance for the millions of jobless workers is more desperately needed today than at any time since it was enacted, but fragmentation in separate state programs has stymied necessary changes."

With the nation's jobless rate last month at 8.2 percent and still rising, correction of the unemployment compensation system "is a matter of immediate national concern," the council said. It pointed to the following inadequacies of the present program:

• More than 12 million workers are not covered by the regular unemployment compensation program. Hastily enacted temporary coverage for these workers expires at the end of 1975.

• Under most state programs, the maximum weekly benefit available to jobless covered workers is below the Labor Dept. poverty level income for a nonfarm, four-member family.

• Unreasonable eligibility requirements deprive 20-25 percent of claimants benefit entitled in some states.

Benefit duration is determined under 50 different state formulas. In some states, every eligible worker is entitled to a 26-week regular benefit duration period if it is needed. In others, minimum benefit periods furnish protection for only 8, 10 or 12 weeks.

• The imposition of harsh disqualifications has, in recent years, annually denied more than 2.5 million jobless workers the protection of the program.

The economic plight of long-term jobless workers has been made more difficult by program failures, the council pointed out.

The extended unemployment compensation program enacted in 1970 has proved to be "unworkable and unsuited" to meet the nation's unemployment conditions, for one thing.

"Separate state and national triggers fixed at unrealistic levels of high unemployment have prevented operation of the program at the most critical times," the council noted. "Legislative amendments have been required repeatedly since this program was established.

"Each amendment represented an additional desperate effort to salvage an inefficient extended benefit program that should be drastically overhauled and established on a permanent basis."

The council called for both short-term and permanent improvements in the nation's unemployment insurance program. Immediate, short-term recommendations include:

• Extending unemployment compensation benefits to jobless workers recently covered by the Emergency Jobs & Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974. The stop-gap legislation expires at the end of this year. The council also said the duration of these benefits should be the same as the duration for jobless workers covered by the permanent program.

• Compensation for the waiting week required under the provision of most state laws. Benefits for this week currently are not paid.

• Improvement of the existing benefits structure to allow two-thirds of a worker's former weekly wage, up to a maximum weekly benefit amount equal to 75 percent of the state average weekly wage.

• Sufficient staffing of employment security offices in areas of substantial unemployment to process claims without undue delay and inconvenience to jobless workers.

The council reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's support for federalization of the unemployment insurance program with full protection of the job rights and employment conditions of all state employes who presently administer the jobless benefits program.

It made these recommendations for permanent improvement of the system:

• Universal coverage of all wage and salary workers.

• A weekly benefits standard providing at least two-thirds of a worker's former weekly earnings up to a maximum of at least 75 percent of the state average weekly wage.

• Uniform eligibility and duration standards. As a bare minimum, every jobless worker with a record of 20 weeks of work should be entitled to a benefit duration of at least 26 weeks.

• The existing triggered extended unemployment compensation program should be abolished and replaced with a 100 percent federally financed extended benefit program. The program would entitle all jobless workers to an additional 26-week federal benefits period when their regular state benefits are exhausted.

• Financing of the jobless insurance program should be on a firm and adequate tax base. As a first step, the taxable wage base should be fixed at a level equal to the state annual average wage in covered employment. Later it should be raised to a level equal to the taxable wage base used to finance the social security program.

• The adequacy of state unemployment insurance reserve funds should be assured by enactment of a minimum federal standard of reserve adequacy that each state would be required to meet and maintain.

• The protection of unemployment compensation should be extended to new entrants into the labor force and to former workers attempting to re-enter the labor force.

$3 Wage Floor Urged to Help Fight Poverty

(Continued from Page 1)

In December 1974 the government's poverty level was estimated at $5,302 a year for an urban family of four—or an hourly wage of $2.55 for a fulltime year-round worker. On Jan. 1, 1975, when the minimum went to $2.10 an hour this meant continuing poverty. The $2.30 figure for 1976 is therefore also hopelessly outdated, the council declared.

It also called on Congress to require doubletime for overtime work to help reduce unemployment. The need today, it said is for additional jobs rather than overtime work, and employers schedule regular overtime work while laying off workers because they find it less costly.

The council called also for vigorous enforcement of the wage-hour act, noting that it is an effective weapon "only if the legislative commitment is followed by effective administration and enforcement."

To Meet Future Needs:

New Funds Sought For Social Security

Bal Harbour, Fla.—New sources of social security financing have been proposed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council to avoid a future deficit and to pay for improved benefits.

At the same time, the council firmly rejected "alarmist, distorted and inaccurate" charges that the system faces bankruptcy.

"Social security has served America well," the Executive Council declared. Proposals to strengthen the system should be considered "in an atmosphere of responsible, constructive debate."

As labor's contribution to such a debate, the AFL-CIO proposed that:

• The taxable wage base should be gradually increased until virtually all wages are covered in full, as was the case when the system began 40 years ago. The present $14,100 ceiling on wages subject to the social security payroll tax should be lifted over a period of years to $28,000.

• While workers would continue to be taxed on their wages up to the ceiling amount, employers should be required to pay a social security tax on their total payroll—including any salaries above the taxable wage base.

• While all workers should continue to have social security taxes deducted from their pay, there should be some relief from the burden of the payroll tax for low- and middle-income workers. They should receive a partial refund from the federal government out of general tax revenues.

• To keep the Social Security Trust Fund financially stable in the next century and to finance desirable additional improvements, contributions from general revenue should be injected into the social security system. The amount should gradually rise until it represents one-third of the total, with employer and worker contributions accounting for the balance.

In terms of benefits, the Executive Council suggested linking benefits to retired workers more closely to their wages in the years nearest retirement. Initially, social security retirement benefits might be linked to the average of a worker's 10 highest years of earnings, and eventually to the high five years, as is done in many private pension plans.

The council also urged more frequent adjustment of social security benefits to keep up with the rise in prices and development of a special Consumer Price Index for the elderly that would more fully reflect their proportionately greater spending for food, housing, medical care and transportation.

It proposed a more lenient definition of disability for workers age 55 and over and a lesser reduction in benefits for workers who choose early retirement at age 60.

The Executive Council statement urged expansion of Medicare benefits "pending enactment of National Health Security."

It asked the elimination of the monthly premium the elderly must now pay for the physician services portion of Medicare and urged reimbursements for the cost of prescription drugs. The statement also called for reduction of the present 29-month waiting period before disabled persons under 65 can be eligible for Medicare.

The council pledged to "vigorously oppose" Administration proposals to cut back the Medicare program and to limit social security beneficiaries to a 5 percent cost-of-living increase.

"The victims of the Administration's economic mismanagement must not be forced to make additional sacrifices," the AFL-CIO said.

Political Independence Reaffirmed by AFL-CIO

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council unanimously reaffirmed the federation's long-standing policy of complete independence from the internal affairs of the nation's major political parties.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told a press conference that "we came to a unanimous conclusion that the AFL-CIO has no desire to influence the internal structure of either the Republican or Democratic party and we have no desire to allow the Republican or Democratic party to interfere with our internal affairs."

He said "we are going to continue to improve" the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education (COPE), "strengthen it, maintain it in order to try and elect labor's friends to the House and to the Senate and to the state legislatures, irrespective of political party."

Asked if it was recommended that AFL-CIO officers withdraw from positions in political parties, Meany said "positively not." He added that "the officers of the AFL-CIO, the officers of our state federations, the officers of the central bodies are all American citizens and they are Democrats, some of them, Republicans, some of them, and independents, and they can do as they please.

"Those who are active in the Democratic National Committee secure their seats on the DNC as Democrats from local areas. They are not put there by the AFL-CIO. The AFL-CIO did not recommend that they go on there, and if they desire to stay on, they stay on; if they desire to get off, they get off without any regard to any influence from the AFL-CIO."

The federation takes no part in electing delegates to the Democratic or Republican national conventions, he said in reply to other questions. "When they name their candidates, then the federation's political machinery goes into action."

He said that some unions take part in electing delegates to national political party conventions, but they go as Democrats or Republicans "as American citizens, and that's their business and not the business of the AFL-CIO."

Meany said that he raised the issue in the council meeting and it was approved unanimously after detailed discussion.

Council Spurs Aid to Recession Victims

Meany Sees $30 Billion Tax Cut Needed to Turn Economy Around

(Continued from Page 1)

lation, declaring that the health of the American people is too important for further delay. It reaffirmed also the federation's position on fair housing and its support for legislation to deal with the acute problem of illegal aliens.

Increased funds for higher education and maintenance of tuition within the reach of ordinary families as well as extension and more funds for vocational education also won council approval.

The council took special notice of the plight of the unemployed in terms of jobless benefits with the critical need of both short term and long term improvement, and the problem of employe health benefits running out after about a month of unemployment leaving many workers and their families vulnerable.

It pointed up also the problem of unemployed workers existing on limited jobless benefits who face the threat of losing their homes because of missed mortgage payments and urged a federal emergency program to plug the gap.

In a series of press conferences Meany made the following comments:

● The federation is strongly opposed to wage-price controls. "We got burned very badly. We had 32 months of wage and price controls that did not control prices but did very, very effectively control wages. It was grossly inequitable and we will not buy it."

● Many Americans are reaching the point where they are no longer consumers and unemployment is causing more unemployment and the "whole economy is going to suffer."

● The Administration should "get us back into the government housing business. Get us back to where we have FHA and VA mortgages at 5¾ and 6 percent. Six percent mortgage money would revive the housing industry."

● The AFL-CIO state federations are organizing action meetings on the program adopted recently by the federation's General Board on the economic emergency because that's where the greatest impact can be achieved.

● **There will have to be serious consideration of a shorter workweek in order to make more jobs. Wage demands are going to be tied pretty much to inflation, but a possible depression has a tendency to moderate wage demands.**

● Sec. of State Henry Kissinger deceived the American people on the trade bill and the arrangement with the Soviet Union on Jewish migration. "He deceived the Congress and if he deceived (Sen. Henry) Jackson, Jackson didn't say anything about it and Jackson wasn't the least bit upset about it."

● The minimum wage should be at least $3 an hour in terms of today's prices and to keep the wage floor above the poverty level. The argument that an increase in the wage floor would cause layoffs is false—it's an argument raised for 40 years and it has "just never happened."

● Kissinger's foreign policy "has got to lead us to eventual disaster. His policy is a give-away policy . . . to our economic enemies," the Arab oil states. His policy is "just plain ordinary appeasement, and appeasement is a form of blackmail and blackmail never works."

● Government programs for bailing-out ailing corporations "are behind us. . . . I would hesitate to approve a bailout for any corporation."

At a meeting of the COPE Administrative committee — the council plus the COPE Operating Committee—Meany said that the AFL-CIO's political arm continues to function well. The session heard reports on the effectiveness of COPE in the 1974 elections, the operation of the register-and-vote campaigns, the computerization of electoral information and the strong possibility of passage this year of the registration-by-mail legislation.

A delegation of leaders from the British Trades Union Congress met with the council and described their domestic problems—greatly similar to those in the U.S.

REPORT TO the Executive Council is made by AFL-CIO President George Meany. Shown also are Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice President I. W. Abel, president of the Steelworkers.

Stiff Law Asked to Curb Hiring of Illegal Aliens

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Legislation to deal with the "acute and growing problem" of seven million illegal aliens in the United States was urged by the AFL-CIO with emphasis on making it a crime for an employer to harbor them.

Congressional action has "long been an urgent objective of the AFL-CIO," the Executive Council said, but it has been blocked by Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), chairman of the Senate Immigration Subcommittee.

Despite an increase in the number of illegal aliens deported annually, the net increase in the number of "illegals" continues to grow. This year, the council said, because of fewer immigration inspections the problem is expected to become increasingly aggravated in a period of rising unemployment.

In both 1972 and '73 the House passed legislation that would have established a three-stage enforcement procedure which was considered not strong enough by the AFL-CIO. But further action was stalemated by Eastland's refusal to allow his subcommittee to meet to consider the bill.

"His intransigence has blocked all efforts to erect barriers to importation and employment of low-paid foreign workers at the expense of American workers," the council said.

It demanded that "Eastland abandon his effort to impose a new 'bracero' program and urged Congress to strengthen the twice-passed House bill by placing responsibility for compliance clearly and directly on the employer—not on self-serving statements by employes — by strengthening the penalties for violations and giving the federal courts jurisdiction to restrain and enjoin violations. It added:

"We believe the illegal alien problem clearly calls for substantial increases in the funds needed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to enforce the law and that these should be promptly provided by Congress."

The council pointed out that the only bill Eastland is willing to consider would provide for importation of foreign farm workers when domestic workers are not available at the low wages set by employers —a program killed by Congress in 1962.

Truce Talks Urged In Northern Ireland

Bal Harbour, Fla.—A negotiated settlement of the political and religious differences that have wracked Northern Ireland "is vital to the peace and security of the whole of Ireland," the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

A council resolution urged as an essential prelude to negotiations "a truce guaranteed by all factions within Northern Ireland, participated in by the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain."

It warned, however, that "no truce can be achieved as long as political repression, religious and economic discrimination, press censorship and the detention of persons without trial by jury are practiced in the name of justice in Northern Ireland."

Regional Counsel Posts Filled by Labor Board

Appointment of four persons to regional posts of assistant general counsel was announced by the National Labor Relations Board.

Thomas R. Wilks will supervise NLRB field activities of six offices in the Northeast. William G. Stack will be responsible for operations of NLRB offices in the Far West.

John P. Falcone will observe NLRB operations in the southeastern quarter of the nation. Thomas M. Harvey will manage six NLRB offices in the Midwest.

Health Care Coverage Urged for Unemployed

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO called for immediate passage of a bill to protect workers who lose their health insurance coverage when they become unemployed.

The federation's Executive Council specifically endorsed a bill introduced by Senators Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.), Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.) that would simply extend existing or prior coverage provided by the unemployed worker's health benefit plan.

The premium cost for continuation of this coverage would be paid from federal general revenues, and the program would be administered by existing unemployment insurance offices. The plan could be implemented almost immediately after passage.

A recent survey conducted by the Library of Congress for a number of congressmen disclosed that more than 80 percent of workers laid off during 1974 lost their health insurance coverage. About two-thirds of workers covered by health plans have no health insurance after being unemployed for a month or more, the council said. Jobless workers must pay the premium, usually at exorbitant individual rates, if they wish to continue the health coverage, with these costs coming at a time when they are least able to do so.

"This situation is intolerable," the council said, "and would not have existed had Congress enacted National Health Security which provides health benefits for all residents of the U.S. whether they are employed or unemployed."

For those workers who did not have health care coverage when they were working, the council proposed an amendment to the bipartisan legislation to provide for their coverage under the general provisions of Medicaid.

Mortgage Relief Sought for Jobless To Avert Widespread Foreclosures

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Legislation to provide mortgage relief payments to guard against widespread home foreclosures due to unemployment was called for by the AFL-CIO.

Foreclosures "are certain to increase as unemployment grows," the Executive Council said in a statement, and there is consequently an "urgent need" for Congress to act.

The council's statement reviewing the disastrous state of housing called also for Congress to enact a program "to make 6 percent mortgage loans available for middle-income home purchases, and to make all committed funds under special mortgage purchase programs available at 6 percent."

It called in addition for new authority for conventional public housing programs, HUD approval of new housing projects, extension of home ownership and rental assistance payments programs with directions to the Administration to reactivate these programs and for Congress to release an additional $700 million for housing for the elderly.

The severity of the housing depression was spelled out in the council's statement in terms of housing starts down more than one million units, or 43 percent, from the 1972 level. From October 1972 to December 1974 the decline in the annual rate of new housing starts was 65 percent.

Unemployment among construction workers is now close to one million, the council pointed out, and will continue to rise as the volume of construction work under way declines.

The Administration, the statement asserted, "has failed to counteract the two basic causes of the housing slump: high mortgage interest rates and the deliberate drastic cutback in federally-assisted housing production."

The number of unsold homes remains above 400,000, equal to about one year's supply at the current rate of sales. By the end of 1974, the council noted, only about one-fifth of the $10 billion committed by the government during the year under special programs for purchase of mortgages at interest rates of 7¾ to 8¾ percent had been used because most families cannot afford to buy homes at those interest rates.

Housing starts under the low- and moderate-income programs declined from 339,000 in 1972 to 115,000 in 1974 as a result of an Administration-ordered moratorium; $400 million in annual assistance payments for homeownership and rental housing remains unused. Other programs remain on the shelf and the Administration has no plans to use available funds, the council said.

In light of the evidence, the AFL-CIO urged Congress to protect unemployed homeowners facing possible foreclosures, to make mortgage funds available at a lower rate and to spur the use of available housing programs that will help meet the needs of the people and provide jobs for the unemployed workers.

True Welfare Reform

AMERICA'S TWIN economic woes—galloping recession and raging inflation—make it imperative that this nation re-examine its programs to provide necessary assistance to the growing number of poor and disadvantaged.

Approximately 23 million Americans live in poverty; another 10 million are considered "near poor." Yet less than half—15 million—are being helped by the nation's welfare programs.

Welfare is neither the basic cause of, nor the solution to, the problems of poverty. Most people are on welfare because of poor education, inadequate health care, chronic unemployment, lack of job opportunities and discrimination. For many, welfare is a necessary supplement to extremely low wages. Thus, the way to reduce welfare rolls is to tackle head-on the problems that cause poverty.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council urges the Congress to begin the long-overdue task of reforming the nation's welfare system, by:

First, a legislatively mandated national commitment to a full employment policy, including a permanent public service employment program to provide jobs at decent wages for those who cannot find work.

Second, a strengthened and improved unemployment insurance system to meet the needs of unemployed workers, including new entrants as well as workers re-entering the workforce, who are now forced to resort to welfare.

Third, restoring welfare to its residual function so that it can meet the needs of those it was intended to serve. With the new Supplementary Security Income program, the federal government took over responsibility for assistance to the needy elderly, blind and disabled. The federal government should also assume responsibility for the welfare of all the rest of the needy, including families with dependent children, childless couples and individuals. The new federal program should contain the following elements:

- A national minimum payment, raised as quickly as possible by stages to not less than the poverty level. States with benefits above the national minimum should be required not to reduce payment levels. Payments should be pegged to the cost of living, like social security and SSI. Until these changes in the welfare program are made, families with needy unemployed fathers should be eligible for welfare in every state.
- The job rights and employment conditions of state and local employes who presently administer welfare must be protected when the federal government takes over the program.
- During the present emergency the federal government should bear the increased costs of welfare. Obviously, financially hard-pressed states and cities cannot bear the additional burden.

Fourth, universally available child care for mothers who choose voluntarily to work. We insist that child care must not be considered a welfare-related program or be used as a device to force poor mothers into jobs and out of the home.

Welfare is not a solution to the nation's unemployment problems; only jobs can cure joblessness. But in this society, based on human compassion, the welfare system must truly meet the needs of those citizens it serves or they shall be condemned to a life of poverty and deprivation. That we will never accept.

—From a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Feb. 17, 1975, Bal Harbour, Fla.

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Still At It

A Word Edgewise:

Airlines Should Reinvent Beds To Beat Jet Lag on Long Trips

By John P. Roche

THE OTHER DAY I was talking to a friend who had just returned from the Far East. I inquired how the trip was, and he said, "Great, except for the jet lag. When I got to Tokyo, it took me two days to figure out where I was, and I felt like a moon-man for almost a week when I returned to New York." A day later another friend arrived from Saigon and registered the same complaint: "When I got back I wished I was still in the Army so I could pull out my dog tags every so often to find out who I was." This is a common phenomenon.

Indeed, one of the funniest experiences of our married life occurred in Washington the night after I had returned, without layovers, from Southeast Asia. There was a closet next to my bed and, about two in the morning, according to my extremely reliable wife, I was hanging around among the clothes.

"What in the world are you doing?" she asked. "What do you mean, what am I doing?" said I. "Don't you know this is the exit to Bangkok?" This broke her up—I suspect she lunched off it for weeks—but the intellectual disequilibrium is no laughing matter. I understand that major corporations never allow executives to get down to business for at least two days after a long flight.

To revert to my conversation with the friend back from Tokyo, he went on to ask, "How in the world can someone like Dean Rusk or Henry Kissinger climb off a plane and go right into negotiations? They might give away the crown jewels without even knowing it." This surprised me, because I assumed it was general knowledge—Air Force 2, the Secretary of State's usual plane, is equipped with two beds and a number of Pullman-style berths that come down from the sides in the back of the aircraft.

This really makes a qualitative difference. At one time or another in my White House years I slept from Korea to Alaska, from Jakarta to Guam, from Hawaii to Washington, and on several other long journeys, as snug as the proverbial bug in a rug. The only difference between these bunks and the usual Pullmans is that, of course, on retiring, you strap in.

Sleep seems to have a benign influence on one's inner clock (real sleep, that is; not dozing in a chair, however comfortable, with somebody always clambering over you, or lurching down the aisle). At least in my experience, it virtually eliminates jet lag.

Now I have never displayed any entrepreneurial talent, and besides I doubt if the idea could be patented, but I would like to suggest to the hard-headed capitalists who run our overseas airlines that maybe there is some money to be made by pioneering in bunks. (As I recall there used to be a Boeing on the transatlantic run, back when it was four props and 16 hours, that came equipped with bunks, but I could never afford one. However, since someone has just reinvented the trolley car, perhaps I can reinvent air-beds.)

What makes this suggestion even more sensible is that I have not taken a long flight in two years that was more than half-full. With all that spare space around, why not give it a try?

To be even more specific, the last time I took a 747 to Europe I splurged on first class (before, I hasten to add, they put the fare on a rocket and sent it up). After dinner I wanted to smoke a cigar, which is frowned upon, but the stewardess suggested I go to the upstairs lounge, that funny-looking bump on the roof from which one almost expects to see 50-calibre machine guns protruding. Up I went to smoke in solitary bliss for an hour or so, interrupted only by my friendly, local, onboard service manager inquiring whether I would like a drink.

I HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE to read on planes—subconsciously I don't really believe they can stay in the air, which makes it difficult to lose oneself in the printed word—so I amused myself by figuring out how many bunks that cabin would hold. Geometry was never my strong suit, but I calculated that probably a dozen double-deckers could be squeezed in. That figure may be high, but the space is otherwise a complete waste.

Aha! But what about the price? Well here let us return to square one. If a high-priced executive is grounded for two days after arrival in, say, Tokyo, that time is money—a lot of money. If, on the other hand, he could march out of the plane clear-eyed and rested, it might be possible to go right to work. In any event, somebody could certainly cost-out the potentialities. And if any airline wants to find out how to install bunks over the tourist seats, I'm sure the Military Airlift Command will be glad to provide technical assistance. Any takers?

Executive Council Statement:

Minimum Standards Essential To Modernize Jobless Benefits

The following is excerpted from a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Feb. 17, 1975, at Bal Harbour, Fla.

ADEQUATE unemployment insurance for the millions of jobless workers is more desperately needed today than at any time since it was enacted, but fragmentation in separate state programs has stymied necessary changes. The AFL-CIO has long favored federalization of the system. If this recommendation had been heeded, the Congress could have long ago strengthened the program to raise benefit levels and bring about other essential improvements.

We reaffirm our support for federalization of the unemployment insurance program with full protection of the job rights and employment conditions of all state employes who presently administer unemployment insurance. But until that step is taken, we call for immediate enactment of federal minimum standards.

The Ford Administration finally recognized the serious nature of the growing unemployment problem in late 1974. In desperation, the Administration requested the 93rd Congress, during its closing hours, to enact emergency stop-gap unemployment compensation legislation to deal with the crisis.

These measures merely attempt to patch-up the existing outdated system of unemployment compensation, but the real need is for permanent improvements in the program. Fundamental and basic improvements must be made in the unemployment insurance porgram if it is to meet the needs of a modern industrial economy.

In addition, immediate steps must be taken to alleviate the economic hardships imposed upon jobless workers who are the victims of the present economic crisis and of the past neglect of the program.

We urge the Congress, as a matter of immediate national concern, to enact both short-term and permanent improvements in the nation's unemployment insurance program.

In order to implement these recommendations in the quickest and most efficient manner and avoid the need for state legislative action, the cost of these improvements should be financed with federal revenues.

Extended unemployment compensation benefits should be made available to jobless workers recently covered by the Emergency Jobs & Employment Assistance Act of 1974. The duration of these benefits should be the same as the duration provided for jobless workers covered by the permanent program.

The waiting week—a week for which benefits are not paid—required under the provisions of most state laws should be compensated.

The existing benefit structure of the program should be improved. The individual's weekly benefit amount should be increased to two-thirds of his or her former weekly wage, up to a maximum weekly benefit amount equal to 75 percent of the state average weekly wage.

Unemployment compensation protection should be extended on a permanent basis to all wage and salary workers, including farm workers, domestic workers, and all public employes.

A weekly benefit standard should be established under which every jobless worker will be entitled to at least 66⅔ percent of his or her former weekly earnings up to a maximum weekly benefit of at least 75 percent of the state average weekly wage.

Uniform eligibility and duration standards are essential to proper operation of the program. Every jobless worker with 20 weeks of work, or its equivalent, should be entitled to a benefit duration of at least 26 weeks. Jobless workers with less labor force attachment should be eligible for benefits and their duration period should be determined in relation to the basic standard outlined above.

THE EXISTING triggered extended unemployment compensation program should be abolished and replaced with a 100 percent federally financed extended benefit program. This program should entitle all jobless workers to an additional 26-week federal benefit period when their regular state benefits are exhausted. Extended benefits should be coordinated with a comprehensive program of job counseling, training, retraining, upgrading of skills, rehabilitation service if needed, relocation assistance, and job placement.

The financing of the unemployment insurance program should be placed on a firm and adequate tax base. The taxable wage base should, as a first step, be fixed at a level equal to the state annual average wage in covered employment. In subsequent steps, it should be raised to a level equal to the taxable wage base used to finance the OASDHI (social security) program.

The adequacy of state unemployment insurance reserve funds should be assured by enactment of a minimum federal standard of reserve adequacy each state would be required to meet and maintain. It is essential for the solvency of the program that this standard be established at an early date.

In addition, the Congress should extend the protection of unemployment compensation to new entrants into the labor force and to former workers attempting to re-enter the labor force.

Modernization of the unemployment compensation system has been too long delayed. The improvements the AFL-CIO recommends would provide decent protection to all jobless workers. It would help to meet the problems of unemployment stemming from monetary and fiscal policies, technological changes, environmental improvements, and energy adjustments.

Equity in Tax Rebate Pressed:

Sinking Economy Cuts Deeper Than Official Statistics Show

NEARLY A MILLION production jobs have been stripped from the U.S. economy, as the deep recession sinks closer to a depression, Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. said on Labor News Conference.

Clayman stressed that even the "horrendous figures" on industrial unemployment don't show the whole picture. He pointed out that cutbacks have also shortened the workweeks and paychecks of industrial workers an average of two and one-half hours over the past year.

Taking sharp issue with the Ford Administration's tax cut and rebate proposals, Clayman charged that the plan "gives too much to those who don't need it—the richer people—and too little to those who really need it—the middle-income families and the poor." He said the AFL-CIO proposal that a larger share of the tax relief go to low- and middle-income taxpayers would mean more equity and fairness and do more to boost the sagging economy.

"It makes good economic sense" to channel the heaviest part of the rebates to ordinary taxpayers, who are more likely to spend it on consumer goods and help rebuild economic strength, he declared, rather than to high-income, wealthier taxpayers, who will "put it away in the bank where it will simply lie unused."

Clayman also scored President Ford's attempt to "conserve energy by applying special taxes on gasoline or by import fees" which, he said, would mean that "people who can't afford to buy gasoline at higher prices will simply be wiped out of the market."

"The crisis is clear," he said, "we do need to conserve, and the most equitable way of doing it is rationing, so that everyone, rich or poor, small or great will get the same treatment."

He also cautioned against relaxing job health and safety as a trade-off for more factory jobs. "We can't say that the price of a job is injury, death or disease—flesh or blood," he declared.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

READING THE PRESIDENT'S Economic Message to Congress and the Report of his Council of Economic Advisers is the most fascinating example of hindsight that American history is likely to produce for a long time.

"The economy is in a severe recession," said President Ford as he opened his report to the nation.

"The story of the past year was one of inflation and recession," said his Council of Economic Advisers in confirmation of that ugly word "stagflation."

"The most pressing concern of policy is to halt the decline in production and employment so that growth of output can resume and unemployment can be reduced," the economic advisers continued, admitting that "as 1975 begins, the unemployment rate stands at its highest level since 1958 and production and unemployment are declining sharply."

These words mean a long overdue confirmation of what the labor movement and its economists have been predicting from the day that Richard Nixon entered the White House in January 1969 and launched his "tight money" policy. It was a policy that, he promised, would lick the relatively mild inflation of the day without adding to unemployment or cutting back on national production.

Ten months later the AFL-CIO Executive Council reported to the federation's national convention:

"The government's restrictive economic policies and the highest interest rates in 100 years slowed the pace of economic activities by mid-1969 and threatened rising unemployment and recession."

By the time of the federation's next convention in November of 1971, the Executive Council's report on the state of the economy was even grimmer. It accused the President of trying to "psych" the economy toward prosperity through "mini-expansion measures" that represented no change in policy but merely a change in rhetoric.

NOR WAS THAT THE END of labor warnings. At its 1973 convention, the council again foresaw what was coming when the very first paragraph of its report declared:

"The American economy, in mid-1973, was heading into a sharp slowdown during the second half of the year and a possible recession with continuing inflation in early 1974 if trends were not quickly reversed."

Citing the Nixon wage-price controls that sharply limited labor's wage increases without lowering prices, the council pointed to a tightening monetary policy, sharply rising interest rates, continued high unemployment—then 5 percent as compared with the now expected 8 percent of 1975—still soaring inflation which had not then reached the double-digit heights of 1974, decreased buying power of the average worker and greatly increased profits.

Today a new President has launched new programs with the gloomiest kind of predictions of worse to come, lightened only by presidential optimism that belies the "economic assumptions" of his own budget proposals to Congress.

These foresee: less "real" national production in 1975 than in 1974; consumer prices actually up from the 1974 increases of 11 percent to 11.3 percent; unemployment up to 8.1 percent in 1975 and horrendous predictions of 7.9 percent in 1976 and 7.5 percent in 1977.

More than one commentator, in Congress and out, already has described the Ford program as the Nixon program brought up to date—continuing tight money; inadequate tax relief directed heavily toward the upper tax brackets; sharp cuts in the social services at the expense of the elderly and the poor; inadequate job-creating proposals in the public service field.

All of this is far from the vitality-filled days of Franklin Roosevelt and his "New Deal" and the imaginative new programs some of which have endured to this day.

A MILLION JOBS have been stripped from U.S. industrial production as the economy continues to sink from deep recession toward depression, Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman, center, of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. charged on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc. and Phillip Kadis of the Washington Star-News. The weekly program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Soviet Role Hit In East-West 'Union' Parley

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO Executive Council denounced as a "visible product of hypocrisy" the East-West Trade Union Conference to be "held under the roof of the ILO" in Geneva.

The conference is "another example of a long-sought Soviet political goal," the council said, "won through patient cultivation of Western European labor centers through exchange visits and mutual endeavor."

The council reaffirmed the federation's opposition to any and all exchanges with totalitarian labor front organizations, "particularly those of the Soviet Union and its satellite states." It added that it views the "fraternization of democratic Western European labor centers with Communist Party labor fronts with disgust."

Recalling the AFL-CIO policy spelled out at its founding convention in 1955, the council strongly reaffirmed the position and said the federation "will not compromise its organizational freedom by paying homage to the so-called 'labor movements' of totalitarian regimes. . . ."

It added, "we are saddened and concerned by the dissolution of that resolve in the Western European labor bodies, the last bastions of freedom in a disunited Europe."

Missouri IBEW Leader Heads Senate Labor Unit

Jefferson City, Mo.—State Sen. Donald J. Gralike, president of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1 in St. Louis, has been appointed chairman of the Missouri Senate Labor & Management Relations Committee.

Gralike, a Democrat, served in the Missouri House of Representatives for 10 years before he was elected to the Senate in 1972.

Gralike has been a member of IBEW Local 1 for 25 years and serves on the executive board of the Missouri AFL-CIO.

OFFICERS of Building & Construction Trades Dept. hear from John T. Dunlop, who has been announced as President Ford's choice to be Secretary of Labor. Seated beside him is Department President Robert A. Georgine.

Spiraling Tuition Spurs Call for More Funding

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council urged the federal and state governments to establish funding levels high enough to keep the cost of a college education within reach of the sons and daughters of American working families.

"Mounting costs and diminishing federal, state and private financial support have caused college tuition to rise sharply," the council noted. "Increasing numbers of young people are finding themselves priced out of the colleges and universities.

"It is a vicious cycle. As enrollments fall short of expectations, per student costs increase and a new wave of tuition increases follows, followed by a further decrease in enrollments."

The AFL-CIO has joined in a renewed campaign for low tuition with a number of educational organizations, including the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the National Association of State Universities & Land Grant Colleges, and the American Association of Community & Junior Colleges.

In its statement, the council said this campaign must be carried to the federal government and to the state legislatures. The AFL-CIO has consistently supported the principle of low tuition in higher education and free tuition at least through the junior college level.

Well-to-do students have little problem meeting rising tuition costs, the council noted. But to low- and middle-income families, faced with a widening gap between available student aid and higher tuition costs, the matter is of critical importance.

The council noted that higher education programs enacted by Congress during the 1960s have for the most part died for lack of funding under the past two Republican administrations.

The scant federal funds that have been available for higher education have been increasingly limited to student aid, largely restricted to students from low-income families. And even these would be reduced by $130 million under President Ford's 1976 budget, despite increasing tuition costs, the council said.

Action Called Urgent:

Congress Pressed On Health Security

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO called upon Congress to ignore the threat of a presidential veto and move swiftly to enact some form of national health insurance.

"The health of the American people is just too important for further delay," the federation's Executive Council declared.

"We reject the claims of the Administration that social progress must be postponed in times of economic difficulty," the council asserted. "Millions of Americans cannot obtain or afford medical care. They need help as soon as possible."

Noting that a majority of congressmen pledged their support of national health insurance during last fall's elections, the council observed: "We expect they will keep their pledge."

Of several bills already introduced in the current session of Congress, the National Health Security program sponsored in the House by Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.) and in the Senate by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) is the one favored by organized labor.

"We support Health Security because it is the only program that would provide quality health care as a matter of right for all Americans, financed through tried, proven and accepted social principles," the council declared.

Besides universal coverage, the Kennedy-Corman proposal would provide a comprehensive, simple standard of benefits; strong cost and quality controls; no deductibles and no coinsurance; reform of the health care delivery system, and strong consumer representation.

In addition, the council observed, only Health Security would provide comprehensive coverage for unemployed workers when they lose their group health insurance because they are laid off.

The council noted also that the Health Security bill introduced in this year's Congress is stronger than versions of the measure previously offered. The new bill includes the following improvements:

- Sound financing through a higher ceiling on individual contributory taxes. The proposed ceiling has been raised from $15,000 to $20,000.
- Grants for local nonprofit agencies to develop and provide social care services to the aged and chronically ill.
- Protection of the employment and benefit rights of employes in health care institutions.
- Use of free-standing centers for treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, family planning and rehabilitation as providers of health care.

Crisis Points Up Need For Welfare Reform

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The current economic crisis makes it imperative that Congress begin the long overdue task of reforming the nation's welfare system, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

Any new program must provide necessary assistance to the "growing number of poor and disadvantaged," the council said, including the following proposals:

- A permanent public service employment program to provide jobs at decent wages for those who cannot find work.
- A strengthened unemployment compensation system to meet the needs of the jobless, including new entrants as well as workers re-entering the workforce, who are now forced to resort to welfare.
- An extension of federal responsibility to all the needy including families with dependent children, childless couples and individuals as well as the needy elderly, blind and disabled.
- A universally available program of child care for mothers who choose voluntarily to work, but not to be used as a device to force poor mothers into jobs and out of the home.

The progress in the Johnson years of the war on poverty ended in the Nixon years, the council said, and a retreat set in until today about 23 million Americans live in poverty and another 10 million are considered "near poor." Yet less than half—15 million—are being helped by the nation's welfare programs.

The council pointed out that most people are on welfare because of poor education, inadequate health care, chronic unemployment, lack of job opportunities and discrimination. Welfare recipients include persons in all age, race and social groups, it noted.

Neither a so-called "negative income tax" nor dismantling of existing programs will solve the problems of welfare recipients, the council said, and a real job of reform is necessary.

In terms of federal responsibility for the various groups of needy the council urged a national minimum payment raised by stages to not less than the poverty level and pegged to the cost of living. The national government, it said, should bear the increased costs of welfare during the present emergency to ease the burden on the states and cities.

Labor Backs Extension Of Vocational Aid Act

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council—warning that the Ford Administration seems "determined to throw vocational education into a state of total chaos"—affirmed its support of a House bill that would extend the current Vocational Education Act until 1982.

The measure, introduced by Rep. Carl D. Perkins (D-Ky.), also would increase basic federal grants to the states under the act by $500 million a year.

"Regrettably, the Ford Administration is proving itself to be no more friendly to vocational education than was the Nixon Administration," the council observed, noting that President Ford's 1976 budget proposals include cuts of $125 million in state grants for vocational education.

The council pointed out that the Administration's cuts are based on a proposed law which has not yet been introduced in Congress. The legislation would consolidate all of the federal categorical programs into a single block grant to the states, funded at a level even lower than the existing categorized grants.

"This consolidation program would open the way for the states to ignore such well-identified needs as vocational education for the handicapped and the economically disadvantaged," the council said. "The failure of the states to meet these needs led to the enactment of the categorical programs in the first place."

The council noted that the 1963 Vocational Education Act and its amendments specifically earmarked funds for the handicapped and the economically disadvantaged.

The laws, enacted in large part as a result of organized labor's efforts, directed vocational education more realistically to the world of work, and provided a degree of flexibility that had never before existed.

One major concern of organized labor now, the council said, is the possibility the Administration's proposals "could erode support for the classroom-related part of apprenticeship programs, especially in the big cities where competitive pressure for available funds is particularly severe."

"We believe support for apprenticeship training needs to be strengthened rather than weakened," the council declared.

"The apprenticeship system has been responsible for the development of America's unparalleled supply of skilled labor, and any proposal which would endanger it should be firmly rejected."

Full Commitment Held Vital for Fair Housing

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO called for a strong government commitment to fair housing and reaffirmed its own dedication to adequate enforcement of the law it helped pass.

Given the impact of inflation on minorities, the drastic shortage of low-income housing and the problem of home and job location, the question of fair housing is more important than ever before, the federation's Executive Council declared.

The council statement recalled that the AFL-CIO strongly supported passage of the fair housing law in 1968, adding that seven years later "much remains to be done to implement that policy."

Discrimination in the sale and rental of housing and the lower income of minorities may combine to become the "racism of the '70s," the council noted, quoting a finding from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Correction of this "economic-racial exclusion" is an extremely complex matter, the council emphasized, and said it will take a strong commitment to and adequate enforcement of the laws already on the books.

"This commitment must come from the federal government, state and local bodies and concerned private organizations," the statement said, adding:

"The obligation to promote fair housing can only be met if this country's national housing goal for low and moderate income families is also met, expanding the supply of housing available at a price lower income households can afford."

Reaffirming the AFL-CIO's commitment "to the goal of providing equal housing opportunities for all Americans," the council called on the federation's "state and local central bodies and affiliated international unions to continue their efforts to further this goal."

Shipping Decline Grows:

Maritime Trades Hit Cargo Bill Veto

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The U.S. merchant marine faces increasing difficulties stemming from the nation's economic crisis and President Ford's veto of legislation requiring that a greater share of oil imports be carried in American tankers, the Maritime Trades Dept. reported.

The answer, the department's executive board asserted in a resolution, is a six-point program that will strengthen the merchant marine and update its objectives in light of world conditions and the current state of the U.S. economy.

The board heard MTD President Paul Hall review the oil import legislation as a great legislative victory that was subverted by a regrettable veto by a man who was thought to be a friend of the maritime industry.

Hall reported also that an ad hoc maritime committee, formed last year to seek a unified approach to the problems of the industry and deal with jurisdictional problems, had decided to become a special section of the MTD and operate under the department's auspices on a self-financing basis.

During 1974 and through early 1975, the resolution pointed out, the "volume of cargo available to U.S. ships declined" with many ships laid up and "thousands of shipyard and shipboard workers laid off from their jobs."

The President's failure to sign the bill calling for 30 percent of imported oil to be carried in U.S.-flag tankers deprived these tankers of a source of cargo "and by the end of 1974 more than 1.5 million tons of tankers were laid up. Work on ships under construction was interrupted."

Thousands of seamen, shipyard workers and workers in support industries joined the growing number of unemployed, the statement said, as the multinational oil companies continue to use the foreign-flag ships of "their foreign subsidiaries as a convenient rig for tax dodging and transfer pricing" to the disadvantage of the U.S. consumer and taxpayer.

The board called for:

- Development of new sources of cargo, through legislation if necessary, including dry bulk cargoes and liquid bulk cargoes such as chemicals and petroleum.
- Enlargement of the role of the U.S. merchant fleet in the operations of the Military Sealift Command. The U.S. Navy "must employ" the merchant marine for its peacetime requirements to keep it properly trained and prepared.
- Creation of a single, independent federal maritime agency consolidating the activities and services performed by a variety of agencies.
- Continued expansion of America's inland waterways transportation network.
- Establishment of U.S.-flag control of marine services to American outer continental shelf development and ocean mining activities.
- The development, particularly on the northeast coast of the United States, of water transportation as a major mass transit mode.

The board, after hearing a report from MTD Administrator O. William Moody, also approved a resolution on preserving the Jones Act covering U.S. coastal and inland shipping including a call for a congressional survey on oil company plans to meet the shipping requirements of the Alaska pipeline. The resolution said the oil companies were involved in "merchant marine brinkmanship" in preparing for shipment of the oil.

The department has prepared and distributed a detailed report, titled "The Jones Act: Security for the United States and Americans," as part of its legislative campaign in the current Congress.

Another resolution strongly opposed the appropriation of any funds from the defense budget for naval vessels engaged in non-combatant supply or support functions that can be performed by the private merchant marine.

In a resolution directed at President Ford's veto of the Energy Security Transportation Act—the legislation calling for use of more U.S.-flag tankers to handle oil imports—the department's board said the bill would "have aided consumers and the environment" and that Ford vetoed the measure because congressional approval "marked the first legislative defeat of the oil corporations." The board urged immediate efforts to pass the legislation in the new Congress.

The department issued the third in a series of reports on the U.S. oil industry and the energy crisis, entitled "Big Oil vs. The People: The Inevitable Showdown," and adopted a resolution urging a seven-point program including changes in the tax laws, use of the anti-trust statutes and the possibility of treating the oil industry as a public utility subject to federal regulation.

PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN America's merchant fleet was adopted by the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. The MTD executive board said the outlook for U.S. shipping was dimmed by President Ford's veto of a labor-backed bill reserving a portion of oil import cargoes for American-flag tankers.

ILO Warned on Granting Observer Status to PLO

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The International Labor Organization was warned by the AFL-CIO that its usefulness to the United States would be at stake if it grants observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization. A statement by the federation's Executive Council said:

"In the next few days, the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization will consider the admission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to observer status.

"Following the shameful greeting given to PLO strongman Yasser Arafat by the United Nations in New York and his welcome to the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization, there is little doubt that PLO acceptance by the Governing Body will receive serious consideration.

"Support by the ILO Governing Body of the PLO application and the eventual acceptance of the PLO to observer status by the annual conference in Geneva should cause the United States to weigh the usefulness of the International Labor Organization in the future."

Steel Union Forges Plan to Combat Cancer Risk to Coke-Oven Workers

The Steelworkers forged an action plan to correct coke-oven health hazards that incorporates improved federal safety standards and wider protection through collective bargaining.

Delegates to a two-day conference in Washington adopted 17 resolutions aimed at reducing the cancer risks involved in coke-oven production and to properly compensate workers already affected by occupational illness.

Findings of medical researchers show that the cancer death rate among coke-oven workers is 2.5 to 10 times greater than that of all workers in the basic steel industry.

In spelling out the USWA action program, the 275 delegates called for earlier retirement and a workweek of 32 hours or less for coke-oven workers. Several other resolutions proposed special compensation and benefits.

USWA safety and health groups have been pressing the Labor Dept. for a number of years to develop a stricter federal standard to reduce the cancer risk for coke-oven workers.

But the union has encountered a foot-dragging process, first through a delay in the issuance of a criteria document on the coke-oven hazard and later in formation of a standards advisory committee. The committee was appointed last year only after the USWA had threatened to picket the Labor Dept.

What progress has been made in the battle against coke-oven hazards centers on the stepped-up efforts of the union since its first conference held in 1972.

"No other problem has received so much attention by this or any other union," USWA President I. W. Abel declared in keynoting the conference. Abel noted that union's 1974 contract negotiated with the basic steel industry provides for a $2 million research fund to finance a labor-management study into the hazards of coke-oven operations.

Sen. Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.) predicted in an address to the conference that Congress will enact this year the labor-supported workers' compensation law that would establish national standards on benefits for job-related injuries, illness and death.

While the compensation bill holds a top priority in the Senate Labor Committee, USWA Legislative Director John J. Sheehan warned that employers would make a strong lobbying push to kill the legislation.

Sheehan said the proposed coke-oven standard must not only require the industry to provide the best available technology to reduce emissions and even develop a new coke production process, but also consider the total working career of employes exposed to the emissions.

Sheehan serves on the standards advisory committee along with Dan Hannan of the USWA safety and health department and Joseph Odorich, director of USWA District 15. Odorich, whose district represents more coke-oven workers than any other in the union, was chairman of the conference.

Dr. Edward J. Baier, acting director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health, said the federal government's studies are still inadequate to determine the exact cause of the high rate of cancer among coke-oven workers. A complex mixture of substances is emitted when coal is converted to coke, he noted.

For this reason, Baier said, the 1973 NIOSH criteria document on emissions concentrated on medical surveillance, worker education and fundamental engineering aspects of coke-oven operations.

Drs. Thomas Mancuso and Carol Redmond of the University of Pittsburgh noted that to date health research in coke production has been largely limited to mortality studies. Mancuso called for federal improvements to correct deficiencies in workers' compensation programs and for steel companies to release medical records on workers which are essential in the filing of compensation claims.

Some coke oven workers have expressed fears of medical examinations, a group of delegates told the conference. because of the belief that confirmation of an illness could mean the end of their working lives. They called for earlier retirement provisions, more liberal disability programs and increased spell time from exposure to the emissions.

Firemen & Oilers Add Unit of 5,300

A union holding bargaining rights for 5,300 non-teaching school workers in a Maryland county has affiliated with the Firemen & Oilers.

The affiliation with the AFL-CIO union was voted by the Montgomery County Council of Supporting Services Employees after more than a year of discussions. Officers and delegates of the council visited other locals of the Firemen & Oilers representing school workers, including the union's big Philadelphia local.

It resulted in the largest single affiliation in the history of the Firemen & Oilers.

Water Funds Decision Seen Creating Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

sarily covered by the ruling, are various other cases dealing with presidential impoundments—a device Nixon used more than any other President. Congress last year passed a budget and impoundment law which for the first time sets up a requirement for congressional review when a President seeks to withhold funds voted by Congress. But the law does not apply retroactively to past impoundments.

The $9 billion in clean water funds represents nearly half of the $19 billion that as of last December remained impounded under presidential directive. In addition, there has been a multibillion dollar holdup of federal highway aid funds, only partially alleviated by President Ford's recent announcement that he will release $2 billion to the states.

In terms of jobs, the Building & Construction Trades Dept. estimated that each $1 billion in contract construction generates directly and indirectly about 40,500 jobs.

It urged Ford "to comply immediately" with the Supreme Court decision on the clean water projects and asserted that "the same principle" requires release of additional impounded funds.

Veto Battle Looms:

Congress Rejects Ford Oil Tax Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

President Ford said he will veto the bill. Although he had not done so when the AFL-CIO News went to press, the delay was seen as an effort to recruit the one-third plus one of the Senate or House needed to sustain the veto. The White House had hoped to keep the Senate vote below or at least close to the two-thirds mark. But 10 Republicans joined 56 Democrats in voting to suspend Ford's oil tax and only two Democrats voted with 26 Republicans to back the President.

The AFL-CIO General Board last month called on Congress to block the President's imposition of the special oil tariff, terming it "nothing more than another excise tax which would be paid by consumers and is particularly discriminatory against the industrialized Northeast."

Instead, the General Board's "action program" urged there should be a quota on oil imports with prices negotiated by the government and "a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing to minimize regional, industry and individual hardships."

The Administration has estimated that the consumer price index would jump an additional 2 percent under Ford's oil tax plan.

In other congressional developments:

• A House-Senate conference committee worked on a bill to stave off the collapse of the Penn Central and other bankrupt railroads with government-guaranteed loans and grants. The House voted 270-137 for a bill, strongly backed by rail unions, to provide $347 million in funds and the Senate earlier had approved a $275 million bill.

• The AFL-CIO joined with civil rights groups in urging the Senate to assert its right to vote on its own rules—including the rule that now requires a two-thirds vote to halt a filibuster.

A bipartisan group of senators—representing a majority of the Senate—is seeking to reduce the two-thirds requirement to 60 percent. But opponents of even this mild compromise have blocked a vote. The immediate issue before the Senate is whether a two-thirds majority is needed to end a filibuster against a change in the two-thirds rule at the start of a new Congress.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller urged the importance of a series of key procedural votes that would enable a majority of the Senate to work its will on the rules change. He stressed that "filibusters have been increasingly used to block vital economic, social and consumer issues."

CWA Sets Up Foundation to Honor Beirne

The executive board of the Communications Workers voted to establish a Joseph A. Beirne Memorial Foundation dedicated to furthering the interests of the late CWA founding president.

Beirne headed the CWA and its predecessor union from 1943 until his retirement because of ill health a few months before his death last Labor Day. He also had been a vice president of the AFL-CIO.

The foundation's objectives are to "develop, establish and finance programs in the advance of education and learning among all people, along with other programs of social concern."

It is designed to provide grants and fellowships and to fund symposiums for studies in the humanities, trade union affairs and vital social issues, in addition to furthering efforts to aid handicapped and retarded children.

Union Acts to Protect REA Worker Interests

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The Railway & Airline Clerks pledged to protect the rights of the union's members employed by REA Express Inc., the nationwide small shipments concern that has petitioned for reorganization under federal bankruptcy laws.

BRAC is the principal collective bargaining agent for REA's workers, representing some 12,000 now actively employed, an additional 10,000 who have been furloughed in recent years, and an estimated 10,000 retirees.

BRAC President C. L. Dennis, in a statement issued here, said the union has engaged a Washington, D.C., law firm to represent the interests of the union and its members in the bankruptcy proceedings.

"It is almost inevitable that, in this complex bankruptcy proceeding in which there is a multitude of creditors, someone will want to make the active, furloughed and retired employes bear the brunt of the financial difficulty," Dennis said.

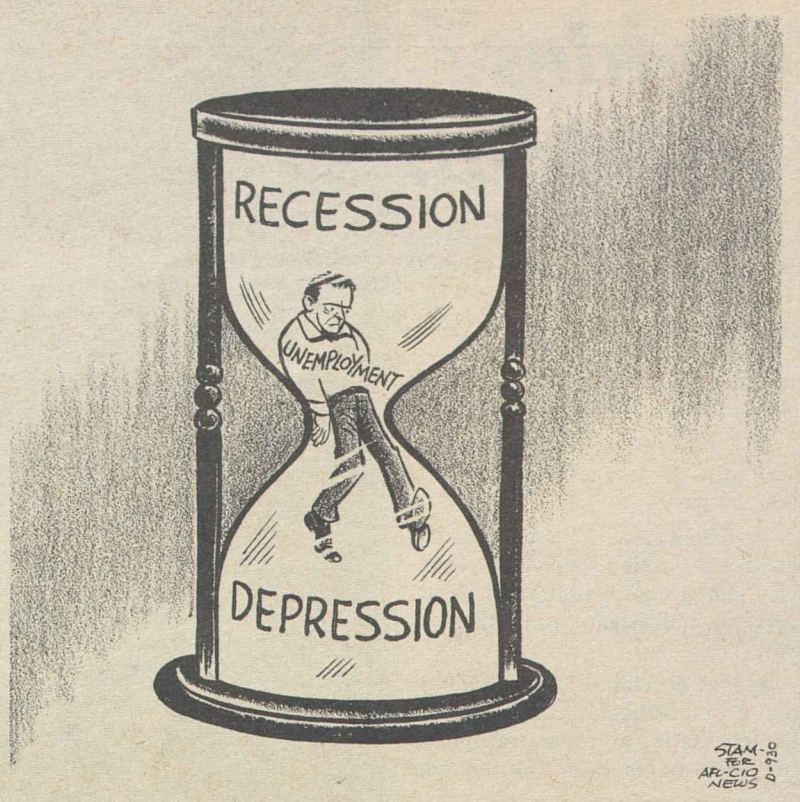
"BRAC will take every legal step to make certain that this does not happen," he added.

Dennis said the union would also cooperate with "all fair and honest efforts" to restore the company's financial health. He blamed the Ford Administration for its apparent inability "to turn the economy around so that unemployment may be curtailed and corporations can earn fair returns on investments, or borrow capital at fair interest rates."

REA's petition for reorganization was filed in federal court in New York City. In financial difficulties for years, the company listed assets of $44 million and liabilities of $55 million.

2-22-75

Running Out of Time



Supreme Court Rulings Reinforce Union Rights

The Supreme Court agreed with labor's position in two decisions, both of which upheld the National Labor Relations Board and overturned federal appellate court rulings.

By an 8-1 majority, the court affirmed the exclusive role of a union in representing all workers in a bargaining unit—on race discrimination complaints as well as on other contract issues.

In an unrelated decision, the Supreme Court held on a 6-3 vote that workers suspected of wrongdoing that could lead to disciplinary action are entitled to insist that a union representative be present when their employer questions them.

That decision was reached in a case involving a retail store worker accused of not paying the full employe price for her lunch, who was told she couldn't have her Retail Clerks shop steward present for the interview. A similar case, reaching the Supreme Court through a different appellate court, involved a member of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

In both cases, the NLRB had upheld the right to union representation and the opinion written by Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., backed the labor board and suggested also that the presence of "a knowledgeable union representative" could be useful to both the accused worker and the employer.

In the race discrimination case, Justice Thurgood Marshall said the whole concept of collective bargaining would be negated if a dissident handful of workers was able to compel an employer to bargain only with them as the claimed representative of all black workers in an establishment.

In the particular case at issue, two store employes in San Francisco had refused the good faith offer of a local of the Retail Clerks to process as a grievance their charges of race discrimination. They said they would only deal directly with the "top management" of the store, and then picketed the establishment calling for a community boycott of their employer.

The NLRB refused to overturn their subsequent dismissal, but the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia circuit held that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protected the workers against employer retaliation.

Justice Marshall noted that remedies against discrimination on the job are available through a variety of orderly means, including the courts and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as well as through enforcement of the union contract. But none of this, he stressed, requires "fragmentation" of the bargaining unit.

An AFL-CIO brief to the Supreme Court had cited congressional debate on the fair employment title of the Civil Rights Act—which labor strongly supported—as evidence that Congress did not intend to overturn the basic precepts of collective bargaining.

Maryland Unit Switches to CWA

Baltimore — The Communications Workers were certified to represent Bell System telephone operators throughout Maryland following a second election victory over the unaffiliated Maryland Telephone Union.

The National Labor Relations Board certified the results of a January mail election which gave the CWA 1,068 votes to 927 for the MTU.

CWA rolled up a bigger margin of votes in the rerun of an earlier election that was held last June which had been contested by the MTU. In the previous voting, the CWA got 983 votes to the MTU's 894.

The new CWA bargaining unit represents about 2,400 traffic department employes of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. with the bulk of the members in Baltimore. Prior to the election, the CWA had represented C&P traffic units in Maryland's Montgomery and Prince Georges counties and many other Bell employes in the state.

Jobless Claims Soar, Factory Output Skids

(Continued from Page 1)

The latter are just now becoming eligible for the benefits.

Altogether, in the week ended Feb. 1, a record 5,745,100 workers were drawing jobless insurance benefits.

The drop in the nation's industrial output was the fourth monthly decline and was widespread. The sharpest cutbacks were in consumer goods, including autos, business equipment and industrial materials, the Fed noted.

In announcing the January decline, the board also reported a revision in the December industrial output. Rather than the 2.8 percent decline previously reported, the drop was 3.1 percent.

The output of the nation's factories, mines and utilities now has plunged 9.5 percent since last October, one of the steepest declines since the Great Depression.

Reflecting the severe contraction of the economy, business sales fell by $6.2 billion, or 3.8 percent, in December with inventories rising, the Commerce Dept. reported separately. The government noted that inventory accumulation in all of 1974 totaled $47.1 billion, compared with $26.9 billion in 1973.

The auto industry increased the number of hourly-paid workers on layoff, despite some slight sales gain attributed to price-rebate programs initiated earlier in the year. An estimated 37.3 percent of the workers at the nation's four auto firms were out of jobs because of the recession.

First Benefits Paid 300 Under Sheet Metal Plan

Phoenix, Ariz.—The first benefits protecting Sheet Metal Workers against underemployment were paid to about 300 union members in the Phoenix area.

Payments of up to $1,697.40 each were made under the Stabilization Agreement of the Sheet Metal Industry (SASMI) negotiated with area contractors in May 1973. The payments totalling more than $340,000, are based on work lost by members of Local 359 during the last six months of 1974.

The SASMI agreements have been negotiated by 50 bargaining units across the country and are currently in effect in about 40 locations.

President Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers in announcing the first payments said that while no one is happy at the economic conditions that trigger such benefits, the union and contractors can take satisfaction in initiating the much-needed program.

He said the value of the benefits are essential to the Sheet Metal Workers, their families and their communities.

"This supplement to hard-pressed incomes in a time of economic recession also represents an historic turning point in the construction industry," Carlough said. "For the first time, craftsmen who contribute so much toward building a better America have a more effective shield against hard times."

The SASMI program is a jointly administered union-management trust fund with employer contributions, based on the number of union members employed by participating contractors. The program also provides for payment of travel allowances to underemployed members who are forced to leave their home areas to work, payment of health insurance premiums and incentives for members to maintain stable work records.

The first benefit checks were distributed by Carlough and Sec.-Treas. David S. Turner at a special meeting of Local 359 here.

Council Presses Program To Halt Economy's Plunge

AFL-CIO News

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Jobless Aid Rolls Near 6 Million

A record 5,962,800 workers drew unemployment insurance benefits in the week ending Feb. 8, the Labor Dept. reported. With layoffs continuing to mount, the number drawing such benefits is expected to top the six-million mark next week.

The latest figure included 4,986,200 persons receiving benefits under regular state unemployment insurance programs. This too, was a new record. Both figures were the highest since the unemployment insurance program got under way in 1937.

The remaining 976,600 workers were drawing jobless insurance benefits under six separate programs, including those set up by emergency legislation enacted by Congress late last year.

The 5,962,800 covered employes represented an increase of 217,000 over the previous week. The Labor Dept. said the unemployment rate for workers covered by state jobless insurance moved up from 7.4 to 7.6 percent during the week ended Feb. 8. A year earlier, the rate was 4.1 percent when the volume was 2,604,300.

Thirty-eight states posted higher volumes of benefit payments over the week. In addition, 655,100 initial claims under all programs were filed in the week ending Feb. 15, the Labor Dept. reported. The total included 615,600 under state programs alone.

There was other gloomy news from the government, including a revision of a month-earlier report on the nation's total output of

(Continued on Page 8)

POINT IS STRESSED by AFL-CIO President George Meany during an Executive Council session at Bal Harbour, Fla. Other council members are, from left, Vice President Murray H. Finley, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, and Vice President I. W. Abel.

11-Year Low:

Purchasing Power Takes Sharp Drop

By James M. Shevis

Workers' buying power plunged to its lowest level in nearly 11 years in January, as the nation's economy continued its long downward slide, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

In its monthly report on earnings, BLS said the real spendable weekly earnings of a worker with three dependents averaged $88.08 in January, the lowest weekly figure since March 1964. Real spendable earnings are take-home pay expressed in 1967 dollars.

At the same time, BLS reported, the cost of living went up another six-tenths of 1 percent in January, slightly less than the rise in each of the preceding four months. But the rise left the consumer price index 11.7 percent above the level of a year earlier.

The January earnings decline—1.2 percent over the month and 5.1 percent over the year—left the average worker with a family $1.04 less buying power than in December and $4.72 less than a year earlier.

The $88.08 average in real spendable earnings was the second-lowest since BLS began keeping such records on a seasonally adjusted basis in January 1964. Real spendable earnings in that month averaged $87.15. They averaged $88.17 in February and $88.09 in March of that year, and $88.88 for the calendar year 1964.

The decline in real earnings largely reflected a drop in the number of hours worked, a direct result of production cutbacks due to the recession. Real spendable earnings now have been below their year-earlier level 23 months in a row.

While the rate of increase in inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, slowed a bit in January, the monthly rise still was higher than historical norms. The seasonally adjusted increase of six-tenths of 1 percent was the smallest rise in the CPI since last April's increase of five-tenths of 1 percent.

Higher retail prices for medical care, utilities, houses, cereal and bakery products, fresh fruits and vegetables and other consumer items accounted for a large part

(Continued on Page 8)

Funds Urged to Add 1 Million Public Jobs

The AFL-CIO has asked Congress to fund an additional one million public service jobs for Americans who can't find work in private industry.

City and state governments have been able to hire about 300,000 unemployed persons with federal funds. But that isn't enough to make a significant dent in unemployment, labor witnesses testified at House hearings.

Kenneth Young, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation, noted that during the high unemployment years of 1933 to 1940, "our government provided employment for one-third of the nation's jobless."

Even if unemployment doesn't rise above the present 7.5 million—"and everyone expects it to go higher," Young said—the added public service jobs that labor proposes would still be substantially below the level of the 1930s.

Young, along with Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten, testified before a House Labor subcommittee headed by Rep. Dominick V. Daniels (D-N.J.). A bill introduced by Daniels and backed by the Democratic leadership would authorize $5 billion additional for the emergency public service jobs program that was added last Decem-

(Continued on Page 8)

Asks Basic Reform In Nation's Policies

By Saul Miller

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO called for basic reform and overhauling of national policies dealing with taxes, energy, and interest rates to slow and stop the "frightening speed" of the economic crisis.

It stressed also the need for thorough-going enforcement and follow-through on trade and occupational health and safety legislation as the federation's Executive Council wound up its mid-winter sessions here.

Earlier the council had outlined a series of steps to aid the victims of the deepening recession—the poor, the unemployed and the low-wage worker.

It strongly re-emphasized the need for quick action by Congress on the emergency program adopted by the AFL-CIO General Board in January if the nation is to escape a depression.

And to underline the scope of the problem, it pressed Congress for a full-scale investigation of the growing concentration of economic power in America—a concentration that is endangering democratic institutions.

It called on the U.S. for continuing support of Israel until military and economic threats to its existence end and affirmed its backing for funds for South Vietnam authorized by Congress but not actually appropriated to date.

The council gave a top priority to "immedate and drastic action" to free the U.S. from the "blackmail threat" of a renewed Arab oil embargo and called for control over oil imports and the activities of the giant oil companies.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters that "we think that they should be looked upon the same as any other public utility and we think that the present oil situation with the ominous threat of another Arab oil embargo, perhaps before this year is out," calls for "greater regulation and in the final analysis it may need nationalization. . . . I think oil is too important now to really leave all phases of the operation of the industry in the hands of private interests."

A key factor in "bringing recession to the American economy," the council stressed, has been the policies of the Federal Reserve System under the chairmanship of Dr. Arthur Burns, and the council spelled out a reform program to bring the FRS into line with the "needs of the American people."

In a detailed analysis of the national economy, the council said the recession is spreading "at a frightening speed" and only "massive emergency measures can halt the downward spiral, turn the economy around, put Americans back to work and restore public confidence. . . ." It called on the House for speedy passage of the Ways & Means Committee's emergency tax cut measure and on the Senate to meet the need for an even greater stimulus to the economy.

Following that, the council said in a separate statement, Congress should proceed promptly with a complete restructuring of the nation's tax system to provide "tax justice" by closing loopholes and ending "special privileges which rig the tax structure against wage earners and consumers."

The council warned that more unemployment and further production losses will result from the Trade Act of 1974, but it said certain

(Continued on Page 3)

'Drastic Action' Spurred To Counter Oil Threats

Bal Harbour, Fla.—"Immediate and drastic action" to free the United States from the "blackmail threat of a renewed Arab oil embargo" was given a top priority by the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

The nation's experiences of more than a year ago during the Arab boycott will pale into "insignificance compared to what looms ahead" unless a battery of measures are adopted to reduce imports, conserve energy, increase energy supplies and related measures dealing with the activities of oil companies, the council warned.

Of the year-ago crisis the council said: "We believe that the energy emergency was a result of policy decisions made by the multinational oil companies to squeeze the consumers, force them to pay higher prices and fatten the profits of the oil companies. And this happened."

The problem of oil imports can best be handled by taking the importation of oil "out of private hands" and placing it in the hands of government. "The government should determine the amount of oil imported, negotiate its price

(Continued on Page 7)

COSTUMED MEMBERS of entertainment unions led a New York City Labor Council demonstration against runaway film production at the headquarters of the ABC television network. The colonial costumes tied in with the protest against ABC's announced intent to film a series keyed to America's bicentennial observance—a dramatization of Gore Vidal's book, "Burr"—in England.

Most Internal Disputes Settled by Mediation

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO's Internal Disputes Plan operated with continuing effectiveness in 1974 with mediation playing a major role in disposing of nearly 60 percent of all cases.

A report filed with the Executive Council showed that the number of cases increased from 87 in 1973 to 125 last year, but were below the 135 filed in 1972. Since the plan's inception in 1962 there have been 1,546 cases filed of which 875, or 57 percent, have been settled through discussions between the organizations involved and mediation.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told a news conference questioner that the plan is "working wonderfully . . . beyond my wildest dream" given the history of disputes in the trade union movement.

He said that the council had acted to remove the National Maritime Union from the sanctions imposed by the plan after hearing a plea for removal from the union. The sanctions were imposed in a case going back 13 years.

Of the 1974 cases, about 55 percent were settled in mediation; the impartial umpire set up under the plan found violations of basic policies in 24 cases. Of the 20 appeals, the umpires' determinations were sustained in 12 cases, five are pending, one was withdrawn and two were referred to the council. The council set aside one determination and one appeal was withdrawn.

Over the 12-year period, the umpires found violations in 382 cases of the 659 before them and there were a total of 205 appeals taken. Determinations were sustained under the appeal process in 151 cases, and of the 18 cases that went to the Executive Council 15 determinations were affirmed.

There have been a total of 105 non-compliance complaints but in only 20 was non-compliance found. There are six cases pending. In the 12-year period, 12 affiliates have been placed under sanctions. In nine instances the sanctions were removed as compliance was achieved and the affiliates' rights under Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution were restored. The council's action on the NMU brings that to 10.

Only two affiliates are currently under sanctions—the Air Line Pilots Association and the International Typographical Union.

Strong Chance Seen for Mail Registration

Bal Harbour, Fla.—This is the year for Congress to enact a national registration-by-mail law, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

During the 93rd Congress, a postcard voter registration bill easily passed the Senate after a filibuster was ended by a two-thirds vote to limit debate. But a conservative coalition in the House blocked the bill on a 204-197 procedural vote.

The Executive Council said the arguments raised against the bill in the House debate have been refuted by the experience of three states that have adopted mail registration laws.

In New Jersey, Minnesota and Maryland, the more convenient registration procedure has substantially increased the number of persons eligible to vote. And, the council noted, there have been no allegations of fraud despite the fears expressed by opponents. As for costs, some jurisdictions have been able to register more voters at less expense.

The council termed the case for registration by mail "compelling" and said the strongest argument is that "it works and it increases a citizen's opportunity to participate in the democratic process."

Pension Plan Filing Deadline Extended

The Labor Dept. is extending the deadline for administrators of pension plans to file certain reports required by legislation enacted last year.

Administrators are required by the law to file a detailed description of the pension plan with the Secretary of Labor and to distribute a description to all persons covered by the plan and beneficiaries.

Assistant Sec. of Labor Paul J. Fasser, Jr., announced that the original Apr. 30 deadline for these reports has been postponed until Aug. 31, 1975.

Runaway Film Held Insult to Bicentennial

Bal Harbour, Fla. — Film producers who go overseas to save money on motion picture and television filming have added insult to job injury, the AFL-CIO Executive Council charged.

The council strongly protested a plan by the ABC network to produce a major film about the American revolution—an adaptation of Gore Vidal's book, "Burr" — in England and Ireland. The film would be shown during America's bicentennial.

"If ABC goes ahead with its plan," the council said, "foreign interests will depict the history of this country for the nation's 200th birthday."

The Executive Council said this would be both "a clear insult" to the United States and a blow to American workers. It called on ABC to change its plans and produce the historical series in the United States with American citizens both in front of and behind the cameras.

Overhaul Pressed:

Labor Hits Failures Of Federal Reserve

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The Federal Reserve System under the chairmanship of Dr. Arthur Burns is guilty of bringing "recession to the American economy and unemployment to millions of workers," the AFL-CIO declared.

Reviewing the evidence of the system's responsibility for the severe economic crisis, the federation's Executive Council spelled out a seven-point program to overhaul the nation's central bank and make it responsive to the needs of the American people.

The council indicted the Federal Reserve System on five basic counts:

- It failed to serve the needs of the American people for full employment, economic expansion and adequate public facilities and services "while contributing to the cycles of boom and bust."
- It has been an "engine of inflation with soaring interest costs imposed directly and indirectly on consumers, home buyers, small business, public utilities and government itself."
- It has been a major cause of the 1969-70 recession and today's disastrous conditions "resulting in the highest unemployment rate in 34 years and huge deficits in the federal budget."
- It has discriminated against extension of needed credit for home building, small business, state and local government and public utilities but has provided substantial amounts for various types of speculation, inventory hoarding and foreign lending.
- It has brought the economy to the "brink of depression" with spreading bankruptcies of businesses and banks.

In addition, the council asserted, the Fed continues to operate in "relative secrecy and with little accountability to the Congress which created it."

The council denounced the system's "arrogant brinksmanship" with the American economy and its money-crunch policies that in the name of fighting inflation "brought a depression to the housing industry and mass unemployment."

The Federal Reserve should be overhauled and reformed in the following ways, the council said:

- Direct it to reduce short- and long-term interest rates and to allocate available credit for high-priority economic activities.
- Establish a comprehensive oversight review to bring the central bank fully into the government structure.
- Require that the FRS operations be subject to a yearly audit by the General Accounting Office.
- Fix the term of the chairman at four years "coincident with that of the President who appoints him." The term of the members of the Board of Governors should be cut from 14 to 7 years.
- Abolish the Open Market Committee with its functions to be absorbed by the Board of Governors who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Five of the 12 members of the Open Market Committee are not government appointees.
- Extend membership on the Board of Governors and all committees and district banks of the system to representatives of all major community groups including consumers and organized labor.
- Require all commercial banks to be participants in the FRS.

In addition, the governors should keep Congress informed promptly and in reasonable detail of major policy decisions and the reasons for arriving at them.

Ex-IBEW Official Gets New Labor Dept. Post

Ronald T. Weakley, a former business manager of a California local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, has been named to a new Labor Dept. post dealing with the pension reform law. He will be acting assistant director of the public services division in the Office of Employee Benefits Security.

His previous assignment was technical assistance director in the Office of Labor-Management & Welfare-Pension Reports.

Tightening Power of Corporations Spurs Call for Full-Scale Probe

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The increasing concentration of economic power in the hands of giant corporations and banks must be fully investigated to safeguard the nation's democratic institutions, the AFL-CIO told Congress.

The answer is a full-scale, comprehensive investigation by Congress of the structure of the U.S. economy and the role of the big corporations and their allies, the Executive Council declared.

Recalling the massive studies and reports of the New Deal era which spotlighted the growing concentration of the 1920s and '30s, the council said the findings are now far out of date and a new deep and detailed examination is required. It noted that:

"The 500 biggest U.S. corporations now hold more than two-thirds of all business income. The top 111 manufacturing corporations hold more than half of all assets and get more than half of all profits in manufacturing. The 50 biggest banks control more than half of all bank assets and hold leverage control stock in more than 5,200 companies."

The council noted also that although the record flood of mergers in the late 1960s and early 1970s has slowed down, "conglomerate mergers in manufacturing, mining and services—accompanied by increasing concentration of banking with interlocking business connections—are continuing to produce increased concentration of economic power."

There have been excess concentrations in such basic industries as food and energy, the council added, with resulting high prices that "drain billions of dollars away from the buying power of American families."

Emphasizing the lack of detailed information on the structure, ownership, management, policies and operation of America's giant business and financial institutions and their interlocking relationships, the council said they too often can avoid effective public regulation because neither the government nor the public can get adequate data.

While there have been a few instances of more data becoming available and new proposals in Congress, the only workable approach is a full-scale congressional investigation including the role of mergers and acquisitions at home and abroad in increasing economic concentration, the interlocking relationships between giant corporations and banks, and the effects of all this on prices, income distribution, the U.S. position in the world economy and the country's economic institutions.

Steelworkers' Tomayko Named to Pension Unit

John F. Tomayko, assistant to Steelworkers President I. W. Abel, has been appointed to the advisory committee to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. President Ford designated Tomayko as one of seven members of the committee which will help administer the pension protection machinery established by Congress last year.

AFL-CIO Calls for Action on Recession

Council Cites Need for Reform In Key Areas of National Policy

(Continued from Page 1)

sections of the law could be used to minimize the damage and should be given wide publicity and vigorous enforcement.

It declared, too, that with the Occupational Safety & Health Act approaching its fifth anniversary this year, Congress must "make good on the act's promise of a safe and healthy workplace" through strengthening amendments and vigilant rejection of all attempts to weaken the law, its coverage or protective standards. Accompanying the statement was a 13,000-word report on administration of the law so far, which the council observed "is not pleasant reading."

In other statements the council called for extension of the Voting Rights Act and enactment of registration by mail—a long-supported AFL-CIO measure that fell short by a handful of votes in the last Congress.

It acted also to pledge support of activities in connection with the nation's bicentennial and condemned a runaway film effort on the celebration. It backed the observance of international women's year and pledged continued support for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. It mourned the passing of two former members, Emil Rieve and Paul Phillips, and placed appropriate resolutions in the record.

Meany told reporters at a series of news conferences that:

● The Farm Workers are having some difficulties, but their boycott of grapes and lettuce is "having an effect on the growers" and the union is "not giving up and we are not giving up either." He said the council had not heard from UFW President Cesar Chavez.

● The federation is "living with" the Taft-Hartley Act and while it is "very unjust" and Section 14(b) is "a special law designed to curb trade union organization," the unions "are making progress."

● A trade barrier is a form of economic warfare and "if we are going to have economic warfare it should be two-sided. We certainly are not making any progress by this policy of unilateral concession to these countries."

● The Open Market Committee of the Federal Reserve System makes its decisions in secret, decisions that "affect the lives of all the American people on money matters and I think this sort of thing has no place in a democracy."

● "It's tremendously important that we keep pace with the rest of the world militarily . . . because in today's world we can't play from weakness," he said in opposing reductions in military expenditures in order to achieve a tax cut.

● The federation's finances are in good shape at the moment "but we are going to be affected by inflation and the rising cost of living." The five-year financial projection of 1969 has stood up fairly well, he said, with expenses a bit lower and income better as per capita remained unaffected by the recession to date.

● The fact that women are not in high places in the trade union movement is certainly not because of any undemocratic practices." Women are "very, very effective in the trade union movement on the local level," but at the national level breaking home ties seems to get in the way and "has prevented women from coming to the top in the trade union movement."

The council received a report on the operation of the federation's Internal Disputes Plan showing the continuing effectiveness of mediation and voted, after a brief hearing, to remove the National Maritime Union from the sanctions provisions of the plan.

Contributions were voted to 14 organizations including the Consumer Federation of America, National Urban League, Conference on Economic Progress, Joint Council on Economic Education, National Housing Conference, Southern Regional Council, United Negro College Fund, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, CARE, National Council of Senior Citizens, Energy Policy Task Force, Committee for National Health Insurance, New Leader and Urban Coalition.

The opening date of the AFL-CIO's 20th anniversary convention was set for Oct. 2, 1975, in San Francisco at the Civic Center.

The next meeting of the council will open in Washington on May 6, 1975.

NEWEST MEMBER of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, President Glenn E. Watts of the Communications Workers, was welcomed to the council's mid-winter meeting by Federation President George Meany.

Full Tax Reform Sought After Emergency Slash

Bal Harbour, Fla.—An emergency tax cut to stimulate the economy should be promptly followed by a restructuring of the tax system, the AFL-CIO said.

An Executive Council resolution on "tax justice" stressed the need to close loopholes and end "special privileges which rig the tax structure against wage earners and consumers."

It termed tax reform essential to help rebuild public confidence in government. And it said the $20 billion to $30 billion that could be realized from comprehensive tax reform would both finance needed government programs and permit permanent tax reductions that would increase the buying power of low- and middle-income Americans.

The council reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's call for abolishing tax subsidies for overseas operations of American-based multinational corporations—and particularly of the international oil companies.

It cited a variety of devices used by corporations to reduce taxes, noting that the corporate share of income taxes collected has slipped from one-third to one-fourth of the total over the past decade.

The Executive Council urged an end to depletion allowances in the oil, gas and mineral industries. It called for an excess profits tax, and an end to capital gains loopholes. It said the investment tax credit "should be eliminated as soon as the present emergency situation is over."

Other reforms urged to achieve tax justice include ending the tax-exempt status of state and local bonds—with a less costly interest subsidy to prevent hardship to states and cities. The council also called for tightening the law on federal estate and gift taxes — a potential $3 billion-a-year source of revenue — and ending various tax shelters used by wealthy individuals.

The resolution noted that the Ford Administration has sought to curtail for budget reasons a number of social programs "that create jobs, alleviate human hardship and help build the nation."

But instead of supporting tax reforms that would bring in the needed revenue, the council said, the Administration through such proposals as permanently lowering the corporate income tax rate would both reduce revenue and put the tax structure further out of balance.

U.S. Backing for Israel Pressed Against Threats

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Until the economic and military threats to the existence of Israel are stopped that Middle East nation "must be supported and strengthened" by the United States, the AFL-CIO declared.

In a statement assessing the situation in the Middle East, the Executive Council said that the chances for peace in the area are threatened by the Soviet Union and the oil producing nations and their role in worldwide economic blackmail and oil embargoes.

"Israel's enemies do not wish to have peace return to the Middle East," the council said. "If it were otherwise, face-to-face negotiations of all parties in the region could commence at once. It is greed which motivates Israel's neighbors. It is the creation of political crises and the long-term prospect of conquest which motivated the Soviet Union."

Oil energy blackmail coupled with economic and military threats against Israel must be stopped and until these objectives are achieved the United States and "all other nations with the fortitude to resist tyranny" must support Israel, the council declared.

The statement emphasized Israel's role as a democratic state in the Middle East and that its "jeopardy is heightened and prolonged" by the military and economic assistance supplied to her enemies by the Soviet Union and other industrialized nations, including the United States.

Bold Steps Demanded To Halt Economic Skid

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Only "massive emergency measures" can halt the nation's worst economic decline since the 1930s, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared at its midwinter meeting here.

It urged Congress to adopt the action program spelled out by the federation's General Board to end the recession, "turn the economy around, put Americans back to work and restore confidence in the government's ability to correct the economy's difficulties."

"America's economic crisis is growing at a frightening speed," the council said in a statement, and the recession that began well over a year ago now is "feeding on itself."

A severe drop in purchasing power has led to shrinking consumer sales, and this decline in buying power and sales has resulted in attempts by business to reduce inventories through cutbacks in orders, production and employment, the council noted, adding:

"It has also resulted in an alarming drop in industry's operating rate and reductions in the real volume of business investment in plants, machines and equipment.

"Moreover, every additional week of layoffs and cuts in weekly work-schedules is resulting in a further drop in consumer buying power, which means a further weakening of sales, production and employment."

The council pointed out that the drop in consumer purchasing power has been so sharp it would now require an increase of close to $60 billion in the annual rate of total after-tax personal income to bring the average buying power of consumers back to its level of the July-September quarter of 1973, before the recession began.

As business and consumer loans have fallen off, the council observed, interest rates on short-term loans have moved down, but rates on long-term loans for mortgages and business expansion remain close to the 1974 record peaks reached during the Federal Reserve Board's money crunch.

The result has been a depression in the homebuilding industry, a decline in business investment in plant and equipment, and accompanying declines in employment.

Noting that January unemployment soared to 7.5 million workers or 8.2 percent of the workforce—the worst rate in 34 years—the council charged the Ford Administration's economic proposals would only exacerbate the employment situation.

"The Administration has proposed a complicated package of income-tax reductions, more than offset by energy-related tax and price increases," the statement declared. "On balance, this package is a formula for more unemployment, extended recession and prolonged inflation."

The council urged Congress to block President Ford's imposition of another excise tax on imported oil. And it called on the House to speedily pass the Ways & Means Committee tax-cut measure.

The tax-cut measure would reduce individual taxes by $16.2 billion this year.

But even this stimulus to the economy will not be enough, the council said, and it called on the Senate to provide the greater stimulus demanded by the continuing deterioration of the economy.

Support Asked Against Suit On Wage Law

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. has asked the federation's state and local central bodies to help oppose a suit by the National League of Cities and the National Governors Conference that challenges extension of the wage-hour law to public workers.

The department, in a report to the AFL-CIO Executive Council, asked central bodies to help persuade governors and mayors to withdraw support for the suit "or, as a minimum, to make no contribution from public funds for its support."

A report from the executive board of the recently-established department expressed thanks to the AFL-CIO "for continuing help, encouragement and support." It said the labor movement's legislative positions have been responsive "to the needs of workers in the public sector."

Dealing with Blackmail

THE CORNERSTONE of the nation's energy policy must be the establishment of a reliable source of energy free from the blackmail threat of a renewed Arab oil embargo while achieving high employment, a dynamic economy, and a prosperous and satisfying way of life.

The hardships, inconveniences and sufferings—financial and otherwise—endured by the American consumer more than a year ago as a result of the first peacetime shortage of energy due to the Arab oil embargo need no recital. Everybody knows about the staggering increase in gas and fuel prices, the inadequately heated homes, and the frantic search by people to find a few gallons of gasoline.

If the energy crisis were a thing of the past—a passing phenomenon—we would need have no concern. But not since the depression of the '30s, except for World War II, has America faced a situation of such dangerous and monumental proportions.

We believe that the energy emergency was a result of policy decisions made by the multinational oil companies to squeeze the consumers, force them to pay higher prices, and fatten the profits of the oil companies. And this happened.

What this country experienced a year ago pales into insignificance compared to what looms ahead unless immediate and drastic action is taken to cope with the energy problem.

There is no single, simple, painless measure that will take care of the problem. A battery of measures directed both at a short term and long term is called for in a comprehensive energy policy, which would provide for the reduction of imports, energy consumption, increasing energy supplies and other related measures.

As long as the United States is dependent on the importation of oil, shipped in foreign vessels, from insecure sources, the energy crisis will remain with us. The first steps must be aimed at the elimination of that dependence:

Take the importation of oil out of private hands and place it in the hands of government. The government should determine the amount of oil imported, negotiate its price and provide for its internal allocation.

Enact a quota on oil imports, including a ban on such imports originating in those countries that embargoed oil to the United States and Holland in 1973-1974.

Establish a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing. Permit motor gasoline consumption above the rationed amount, but levy a high tax on this additional consumption. The funds created by this tax should be earmarked for the reduction and the ultimate elimination of commuter transit fares and for the development and construction of mass transit systems.

Make it clear to any nation contemplating an embargo directed against the United States that this country will strike back with economic counter measures. To nations imposing such an embargo against this country, export bans would be applied. No item, including military equipment as well as agricultural and industrial commodities, would be shipped to such countries. Their assets in this country would be frozen. All technical assistance would be withdrawn. This country would construe such an oil embargo as economic warfare and retaliate with all the economic weapons at its command.

—From a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Feb. 21, 1975, at Bal Harbour, Fla.

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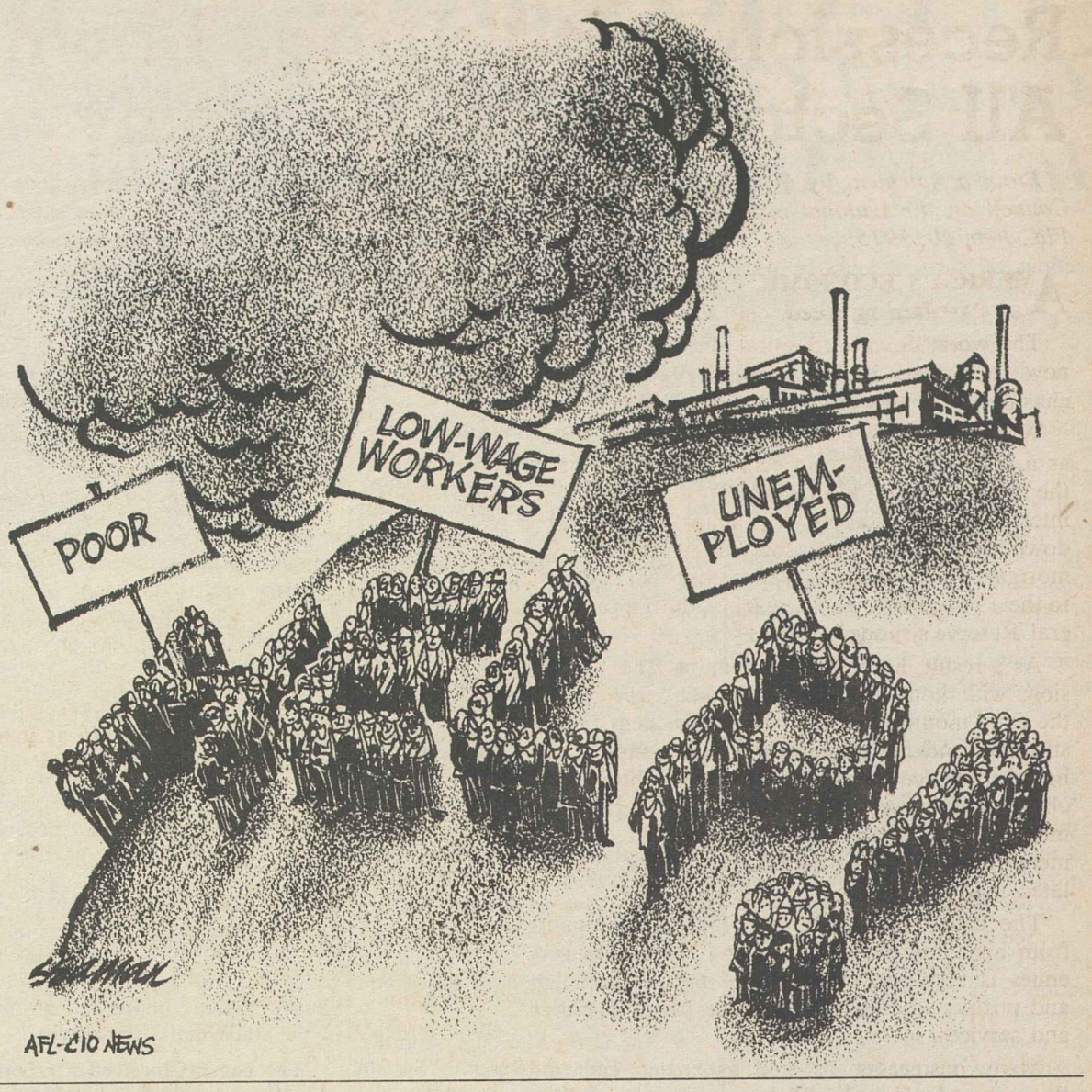


A Word Edgewise:

History, Reality of Middle East Rewritten at Israel's Expense

By John P. Roche

A WHILE BACK a distinguished commentator stunned me by casually referring to "Israeli aggression" in the 1967 war. He subsequently made amends for an obvious accident, and there is no purpose in heaping ashes on him by name. But what struck me as significant about the slip was that it is part of a new mood about the Middle East; a new history is being propagated featuring innocent Arabs as victims. This, of course, was reflected in the United Nations' decision to give the Palestine Liberation Organization observer status and permit Yasser Arafat to harangue the assembly.

In Washington, Sen. Charles Percy has told Israel that it can no longer count on automatic U.S. support and should, to get negotiations under way, "pull back essentially to the 1967 lines." This was followed by a story in the Christian Science Monitor that President Ford "is known to agree" with Percy. Taken for granted is the premise that Israel should make concessions. Why? Well, to prevent people who want to destroy her from going through with it. That is a real trade.

What is overlooked in all the comings and goings and intricate deals is that the issue for Israel is not at all abstract or complex: it is survival. The Arab states can lose wars indefinitely; Israel can only lose once.

Let us take as a case study an Israeli withdrawal to 1967 borders, a matter which has confused a number of people of good will. If Israel had done this, it would have been strangled by the Yom Kippur assault. As it was, things were pretty dicey for a few days, but the Israeli defense forces had some room for maneuver. But there is an even more basic proposition: Why should Israel have returned one inch of conquered land to aggressors who refused to recognize her existence, even her right to existence?

Since 1947 the Arab states have refused to accept the legitimacy of a Jewish nation in the former Palestine Mandate. Recall that in 1947 the United Nations, with full agreement by both the United States and the Soviet Union, voted to partition Palestine into a Jewish and a Palestinian Arab state. The Jewish Agency, the quasi-official organization which represented Jewish interests, accepted partition. The Arab states refused. When the British Army pulled out in the spring of 1948, officially ending the Mandate, the Jews established Israel in perfectly legitimate fulfillment of a UN decision. The Arab states invaded, determined to drive the Jews into the sea.

The Israelis made the mistake of winning, an event that has created difficulties ever since. Moreover, exercising the right of victors they took over some of the territory originally assigned by the UN to the Arabs—particularly the Negev. About 600,000 Palestinian Arabs fled, creating the refugee problem. Probably 700,000 Jews escaped from Arab states to Israel with little but the shirts on their backs. This did not create a refugee problem. (Indeed, various Jewish groups had to "buy" the Jews out of Yemen and other states, which set outrageous prices for exit visas—at least no Palestinian Arab refugee ever had to pay for an exit visa.) Israel settled these Jewish immigrants—the Arab governments, notably Nasser's Egypt, refused to permit any resettlement effort on behalf of the poor souls who had fled during the war. Nor would they discuss the matter with a "non-existent" Israel.

EXCUSE ME for sounding caustic, but note that since 1947 there has been an undiminished pattern of Arab aggression. Israel never wanted to become the Sparta of the Middle East, but the lesson of the Yom Kippur War was stark: Never let down your guard for a minute. The Israelis are not paranoids—paranoia is the illusion of persecution.

Take the question of recognizing the Palestine Liberation Organization: Various spokesmen for this organization have assured us that they will act in a reasonable fashion, and one is tempted to say, "How nice." Then he realizes that acting in a reasonable fashion means not blowing up airplanes. In return, we are supposed to take the PLO into the bosom of the world community.

Besides, the PLO is obviously working a split-level political warfare scenario. The same Arafat, who in New York seemed almost to say there might be a possible way for Jews and Arabs to live together in peace, plays a different record elsewhere, calling on the UN to repeal the 1947 partition and flatly telling a Yugoslav correspondent that "the establishment of a fighting Palestinian rule over every liberated section of Arab soil is a step on the way towards the full liberation of all of Palestine." Sec. Kissinger might brief the President and Sen. Percy on this record.

Executive Council Analysis:

Recession Spiral Drags Down All Sectors of U.S. Economy

From a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on the national economy, Bal Harbour, Fla., Feb. 20, 1975:

AMERICA'S ECONOMIC CRISIS is growing at a frightening speed.

The worst downward spiral since the 1930s is now feeding on itself. A massive drop in purchasing power has brought down consumer sales.

With declines in business and consumer loans, as a result of the slide in economic activities and the modest shift in the Federal Reserve's policies, interest rates on short-term loans have moved down. But interest rates on long-term loans for mortgages and business expansion remain close to the 1974 record peaks, reached during the Federal Reserve's money-crunch.

As a result, homebuilding remains in a depression, with housing starts down 60 percent from the early months of 1973—hitting residential construction and the numerous building supply and home appliance industries. The accompanying decline of business investment in plant and equipment is causing cuts in production and employment in heavy construction, machinery and related industries.

The squeeze on state and local governments from high interest payments and falling tax revenues is resulting in layoffs of public employes and postponed efforts to improve public facilities and services.

Many businesses, as well as consumers, find themselves burdened with large debts and falling incomes, with the threat of impending bankruptcies. Many of the nation's over-extended banks face insolvency, if payments on the huge business loans, extended for inventory hoarding and speculation in 1973 and 1974, cannot be met.

Under these conditions, production cutbacks are continuing to spread. Unemployment is feeding on unemployment.

In the face of this dangerously deteriorating situation, the Administration has proposed a complicated package of income tax reductions, more than offset by energy-related tax and price increases. On balance, this package is a formula for more unemployment, extended recession and prolonged inflation.

The direct impact of the proposed energy-related tax and price boosts, according to the Economics Division of the Library of Congress, "could cost at least $50.3 billion in 1975" which "could raise prices by three percentage points." As these energy costs ripple out through the economy, they would boost the prices of everything, from food and drug bills to bus fares.

The President's budget projects prolonged recession-level unemployment rates of 8.1 percent in 1975, 7.9 percent in 1976, 7.5 percent in 1977 and 6.9 percent in 1978. That would mean four successive years of the highest unemployment levels since 1941. Even by 1980, five years from now, the budget's projected unemployment rate is 5.5 percent—a rate which is totally unacceptable to everyone except the Administration.

While the Administration complacently accepts such forecasts of continuing troubles for millions of American families, its spokesmen concentrate their fire on the crisis-created budget deficits. The President proposed to hold down federal spending by cutting programs for the poor, the retired and veterans and by placing a 5 percent ceiling on 1975 pay increases for federal employes. However, the Budget Report admits in all candor:

"Aside from the effects of the proposed tax reduction, the deficits anticipated for 1975 and 1976 are largely the inevitable result of those aspects of the budget and the tax system that respond automatically to changes in the economy, such as budget receipts and unemployment benefit payments. . . . If the economy were to be as fully employed in 1976 as it was in 1974, we would have $40 billion in additional tax receipts, assuming no change in tax rates, and $12.7 billion less in aid to the unemployed. These two factors alone exceed the budget deficit for 1976."

The budget deficit will recede when employment and business activities pick up. Further, the elimination of major special tax privileges for corporations and wealthy families can provide as much as $20 to $30 billion of additional federal revenue.

THE ECONOMIC CRISIS has gone so far that only massive emergency measures can halt the downward spiral, turn the economy around, put Americans back to work and restore public confidence in the government's ability to correct the economy's difficulties.

The special meeting of the AFL-CIO General Board on Jan. 23 adopted such an emergency program.

Since that time, the Administration has partially responded by releasing $2 billion in impounded highway funds and $4 billion in sewer and waste treatment funds by next July, and the Federal Reserve has slightly reduced the discount rate. These are welcome but terribly insufficient steps.

They have been more than offset by the new excise tax on imported oil which will shortly raise all consumer prices on any article touched by oil.

As a first step the Congress must block the President's imposition of another excise tax on imported oil, and speedily pass the House Ways & Means Committee tax cut measure. That measure, while providing a stimulus to the economy, will not be enough. The continuing deterioration of the economy demands an even greater stimulus and the Senate should meet this need. In addition, the Congress should then move without delay to enact the other proposals contained in the AFL-CIO General Board's program to put America back to work.

Taxable Wage Base Lags:

Reform of Financial Structure Vital for Jobless Compensation

DRAMATIC CHANGES are needed in the financial structure of unemployment compensation to make it the strong "first line of defense against poverty and recession" that it was intended to be, AFL-CIO social insurance expert James O'Brien declared.

O'Brien said that long neglect has left the system "starved for revenue." The failure to keep the taxable wage base in pace with the actual rise of wage levels means that now half the wages in covered employment "escape financial obligation—contributions to the system." He said that experience-ratings have further distorted the program, letting many employers pay little or nothing into the unemployment insurance system.

O'Brien, an assistant director of the federation's Dept. of Social Security, called for an immediate boost of the taxable wage base to the average annual wage in covered employment. He said the base should then be raised in steps over the next few years to the social security wage-base level. He pointed out that Congress set that parity in 1939, but let the unemployment insurance wage base drift without improvement for 33 years—until 1972.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, O'Brien said that despite the heavy strain of the worst unemployment since the depression, the unemployment compensation system is not in immediate danger of going broke.

He said that state reserves stood at $10 billion at the beginning of the year, and that President Ford has asked that an additional $5 billion "be made available to the states, should they encounter difficulties" in paying benefits. He said the few states that have had trouble paying benefits have been able to meet payments through the loan fund account that is part of the trust fund.

O'Brien was questioned by Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc.

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE OTHER DAY the Dept. of Commerce and the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development issued a joint press release carrying more depressing news about the housing industry.

During December 1974 new one-family homes dropped to an annual rate of 364,000 units—a little over 30,000 a month. This was a decline of 14 percent below the previous month and 16 percent below the December 1973 rate, according to preliminary statistics.

The number of new one-family homes actually sold during 1974 was about 500,000, which means that the decline at the end of the year was substantial.

All this is taking place at a time when interest rates are starting to drop, but the decrease has been far too slight to bring a sufficient number of homebuyers into the market.

And to add to the depression and uncertainty in the housing industry, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board has proposed regulations that would permit savings and loan associations to make mortgage loans with interest rates that would rise and fall with the market over the term of the loan.

At present, almost all mortgage loans carry fixed interest rates setting uniform monthly repayments over the life of the loan.

The proposal is designed to guarantee savings and loan associations enough income to continue making mortgage loans during periods of inflated interest rates when investors often withdraw their savings in search of higher interest possibilities.

Under the proposal, the savings and loan associations would be free to increase interest payments when interest rates rose generally in the economy. So, a contract that the home buyer signs with the lender would be open-ended and the borrower would have no way of knowing what his monthly payments might be in the future.

Rep. Wright Patman (D-Tex.), former chairman of the House Banking & Currency Committee, had this reaction to the Bank Board move:

"True, the proposal would also allow interest rates to be lowered as interest rates went down generally in the economy, but the history of the monetary market plainly indicates the emptiness of this side of the equation. The lenders obviously are not promoting this scheme because they think interest rates—over the long haul—are going to trend downward."

The Bank Board would allow the lenders to increase interest rates by 2½ percent over the life of the mortgage. Thus, an 8 percent mortgage could be hiked to 10½ percent—almost one-third.

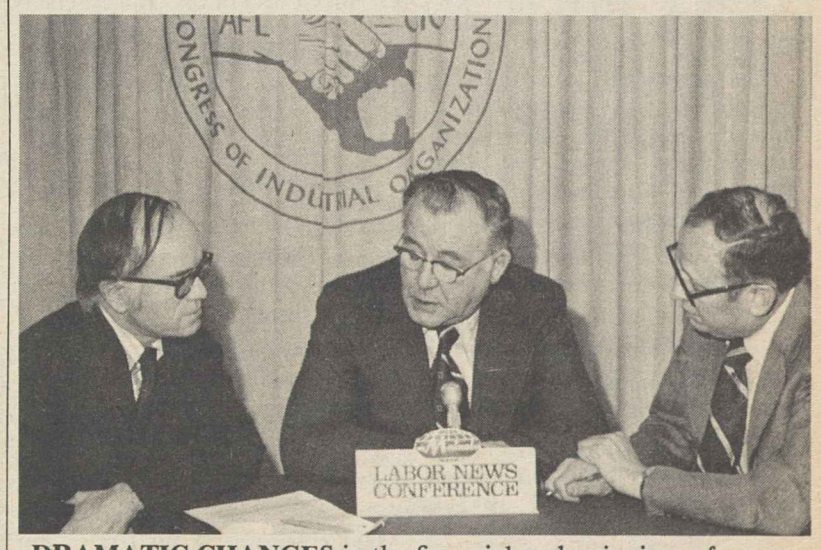
ON TWO PREVIOUS occasions the Bank Board sought to adopt its variable-rate home mortgage plan but the Congress, responding to strong opposition by labor and consumer groups and the home builders, blocked it. Congress will have to act again within six months to stymie the latest move.

Both Patman and the new House Banking Committee chairman, Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), have indicated they plan to do just that.

Reuss has his own proposal which would set up a mortgage interest subsidy program for middle-income homeowners as a means of stimulating new construction. Under the bill, HUD would be authorized to subsidize the difference between the actual interest rate and a 6 percent rate—about 3 percent subsidy in the current market.

Another proposal, introduced by Rep. Thomas L. Ashley (D-Ohio) and 84 other members, would provide emergency federal assistance to homeowners in danger of mortgage default because of unemployment or other economic setbacks. However, the bill would not directly stimulate new construction.

There are other proposals, too. And while it is too early to tell exactly what will emerge, it seems likely that the 94th Congress will act to counter the depressing impact of interest rates on the housing industry.



DRAMATIC CHANGES in the financial underpinnings of unemployment compensation are vital if the system is to be the strong "first line of defense against poverty and recession" Congress intended, James O'Brien, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning the assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security were Jerome Cahill, left, of the New York Daily News and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The weekly interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Labor Slates Bicentennial Observance

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The coming bicentennial celebration offers American workers an opportunity to reflect on their heritage and contributions toward the nation's development, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

It declared Labor Day 1975 through Labor Day 1976 as Labor's Bicentennial Year, pledging "to make this time a memorable one for American workers and for the American people."

Labor is proud of its accomplishments, the council said, and is preparing to participate fully in the nation's bicentennial activities.

"We in the American labor movement have steadfastly held to the proposition that the system of government created by our founding fathers, although imperfect, remains the best system for a free people yet devised by man," the council said. "It allows for change and for new directions to meet the challenges now facing America and the world."

All AFL-CIO affiliates and state and local central bodies were urged to take part in the various national and regional bicentennial programs observing the nation's 200th birthday.

Among the programs planned for the celebration are:

- The Working Americans Festival on the Mall in Washington from June 16 to Sept. 6, 1976.
- Regional festivals, like the one planned by the Philadelphia AFL-CIO at Independence Hall on Labor Day 1976.
- American Issues Forum, where labor can make its views known on a variety of topics of interest to all Americans.
- Bicentennial Youth Debates, a major national effort to involve young people and students in a dialogue on the topics raised by the American Issues Forum.

INTERLUDE at Executive Council session finds three AFL-CIO vice presidents in a serious discussion. From left: Actors & Artistes President Frederick O'Neal, President C. L. Dellums of the Sleeping Car Porters and President Paul Jennings of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

Wage Chiseling Totals $55 Million in 6 Months

Wage chiseling by employers uncovered by Labor Dept. investigators during the last six months of 1974 amounted to more than $55 million, an increase of $11 million in illegal underpayments from the comparable period of 1973.

The department's Wage & Hour Division reported that 218,286 workers were shortchanged in their paychecks, due mostly to violations of minimum wage and overtime provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Only about half of the lost wages — $27.8 million — was recovered for 173,520 underpaid workers. But this represented an improvement over the $23.3 million recovered for 130,000 of the 170,000 workers who lost $44 million during the last six months of 1973, the division noted.

During Fiscal Year 1974 which ended last June 30, government investigations discovered employers' underpayments totalling $96.6 million for 357,000 workers.

Minimum wage underpayments during the first six months of the current fiscal year amounted to $14,167,235 for 104,213 workers and overtime underpayments totaled $21,790,510 for 113,370 workers, the Labor Dept. reported.

Violations of the FLSA Equal Pay amendments resulted in $14.9 million in wages due 15,258 underpaid workers, mostly women. These amendments require equal pay for men and women doing substantially the same work in a workplace.

Investigators also found that 950 older workers lost $2.4 million in wages because of violations of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

Employers on federally funded or assisted contracts were found to owe more than $1.7 million prevailing wages and overtime pay to more than 7,000 workers.

More than $1 billion in illegal wage underpayments has been uncovered by the government compliance officers since the FLSA became law 37 years ago. Nevertheless, economists in organized labor have estimated that only about one-third of all wage chiseling is detected.

The major reason for the lesser amount recovered than lost to wage chiseling is that a number of cases are regarded as unsuitable for litigation, the Labor Dept. said. But in such cases, workers have the right to institute private action for back wages due. Another reason is the two-year statute of limitations under the wage-hour law.

Job Protection Measures:

Steps Asked to Ease Trade Act Damage

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Organized labor will work to minimize the damage of the 1974 Foreign Trade Act on workers by making use of certain sections of the law, even though it is convinced the law is unfair and will cause more unemployment and production losses.

While stressing the need for remedial trade legislation to protect the American standard of living and restore U.S. jobs, the AFL-CIO Executive Council pointed out that the immediate use of job-protecting provisions of the Trade Act by the President and Congress can help.

Vigorous participation by import-injured unions also can benefit laid-off workers and those threatened with layoffs, the council observed.

It called on President Ford to exercise his authority under the Trade Act to curb imports that adversely affect U.S. jobs and contribute to the deficit in the balance of payments.

The President also should restrict imports from countries whose trade practices put an unfair burden on American commerce, the statement said.

It urged Ford to give strict enforcement to anti-dumping provisoins of the law and curb the export of raw materials, technology and products vitally needed in the United States.

The council called on Congress to carefully examine all negotiated trade agreements and to refuse to ratify any that adversely affect U.S. jobs and production.

Congress also should maintain constant oversight activities to insure the effective implementation of the Trade Act provisions that can be used to aid workers and preserve U.S. jobs and industries. The council stressed that special congressional attention is needed on sections of the law dealing with dumping, countervailing duties, adjustment assistance, adequate reporting and limitation on import-sensitive items.

The statement called for congressional rejection of any new trade agreements with concessions that allow increased imports from Communist countries "while American workers are desperately in need of jobs."

The council urged unions whose members have been hurt by imports to seek relief through presidential action after a finding of injury by the government's International Trade Commission.

Import-harmed unions also should petition the Labor and Commerce Departments for adjustment assistance for workers and communities affected by imports.

Participation of trade unions in hearings being conducted by the International Trade Commission is essential to call public attention to job losses resulting from unregulated imports, the council stressed. The hearings opened in Washington on Feb. 25 and will continue in 13 major cities over the next two months.

Additional input is needed from unions at hearings on all aspects of international trade negotiations to be held this spring by the President's Trade Information Committee, the council said.

While these measures would limit the damage to workers and U.S. industries, the council declared that immediate legislative action is needed to reverse "the oppressive economic impact" of foreign imports on the nation. It called for:

- Revocation of provisions for the deferral of tax payments on foreign-earned profits.
- Elimination of the foreign tax credit for U.S. corporations operating outside the country.
- Repeal of sections of the Tariff Code that encourage foreign production for shipment back to U.S. markets.
- Regulation of the export of American capital and technology that results in the export of U.S. jobs.

"The AFL-CIO supports strong, vigorous, fair international trade," the council declared. "But the rising tide of restrictions abroad, the ever-increasing impact of multinational corporations, the staggering balance of payments deficits and the depression-level unemployment at home, require emergency measures."

Rail Union Coalitions Agree on Unification

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The two railroad labor organizations—the Congress of Railway Unions and the Railway Labor Executives Association—announced here they will be reunited effective Apr. 1.

The rail unions for many years prior to 1969 had been together in the RLEA. However, in that year, six organizations—United Transportation Union, Railway & Airline Clerks, Maintenance of Way Employees, Transport Workers, Seafarers and Hotel & Restaurant Employees—left to form the CRU. Differing interests of memberships and views on objectives brought about the division.

The agreement to reunite as the RLEA was reached at a joint meeting of the unions here. Reunification means the new RLEA will be composed of 19 unions representing more than 400,000 rail employes.

Affiliates will include the UTU, Waymen, Transport Workers, Seafarers, Hotel & Restaurant Employees, Machinists, Carmen, Railway Supervisors, Train Dispatchers, Locomotive Engineers, Signalmen, Sleeping Car Porters, Boilermakers & Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Marine Engineers, Masters, Mates & Pilots, Sheet Metal Workers, and Yardmasters.

The Railway & Airline Clerks, which only recently left the CRU, said it looks favorably upon the unions' reunification but will not immediately decide whether to join the organization.

The chairmen of the CRU and RLEA — UTU President Al H. Chesser and Signalmen's President C. J. Chamberlain, respectively, issued a joint statement praising the reunification as a step toward developing "an effective coordinated policy on all matters of mutual interest and importance to railroad labor."

Reunification, they added, will help the unions protect workers during the current economic crisis and give railroad labor a stronger voice in helping to restore the industry's role in mass transportation.

CONVENTIONS

The Louisiana AFL-CIO convention will be held Mar. 24-27, 1975, in Baton Rouge.

The Arkansas AFL-CIO convention will be held May 5-7, 1975, in Hot Springs.

The Wyoming State AFL-CIO convention will be held in September (exact date to be determined) in Casper.

The Allied Industrial Workers convention will be held in Kansas City starting Sept. 15 instead of Sept. 5 as previously reported.

Voting Rights Act Extension Backed

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Congress should extend the Voting Rights Act and not permit it to expire this August, the AFL-CIO Executive Council urged.

The law, originally passed in 1965 and extended five years ago, outlawed literacy tests and other subterfuges that had been used to keep blacks and other minorities from voting.

Instead of ending existing protections, the council said, the right to vote should be "expanded and safeguarded."

U.S. Commitment Cited On Aid to South Vietnam

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO affirmed its support of the "military and economic assistance authorized but not fully appropriated by the Congress" for South Vietnam.

The federation's Executive Council adopted a statement declaring that North Vietnam is "waging full-scale warfare in Indochina" in violation of truce agreements, and all peace-keeping efforts have been suspended.

The U.S. Congress had authorized economic and military aid funds for South Vietnam, but $300 million has not been actually appropriated. These funds, the council said, are needed to "buttress the capability of South Vietnam and her neighbors to survive within the limits of the peace accords to which North Vietnam is a signatory."

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters he favored the United States keeping its commitment on the funds, that more than $700 million of the $1 billion had been appropriated, and "they should get the additional commitment in order that they can have something left to try to fight for their liberty." He added that the question now is whether "the United States is going to keep its word or is it going to walk away from its allies."

He noted in reply to a question that Vice President Jerry Wurf asked to be registered as voting against the council statement.

The statement pointed out that the truce agreement of January 1973, which provided for the withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam and parallel accords related to Laos and Cambodia, "has been violated repeatedly and openly by the introduction of North Vietnamese forces into the region."

The refusal of the Communist side to negotiate, the council added, has resulted in the suspension of all peace-keeping efforts, making the International Commission of Control & Supervision "completely ineffective."

Laggard Enforcement Scored:

Strengthening of Safety Law Pushed to Fulfill Its Promise

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Congress must act to fulfill the promise of protecting workers from injury and health hazards on the job as the historic federal occupational safety legislation nears its fifth anniversary this year, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

The Occupational Safety & Health Act has yet to be fully implemented by the Nixon and Ford Administrations, while enforcement has been spotty because of the lack of adequate funds and misdirected policies, the council said in a statement.

A 13,000-word report accompanying the statement spells out the inadequacies of the federal safety program, observing that the administration of the act has been "one of missed deadlines, forgotten timetables and endless, needless delays."

Focus of the criticism is on the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), the Labor Dept. agency whose job it is to develop safety and health standards and to enforce the law.

The report charges that OSHA has been slow to develop effective safety standards and enforcement policies. "Even when OSHA seemingly is on the right track, it pulls back at the last minute."

Sufficient funding is one of OSHA's key problems, the council statement observed. "President Ford's proposed fiscal 1976 budget for OSHA merely allows for increased inflation. It does not provide for expansion or strengthening of programs."

Two other major points emerge in the report:

- The Nixon Administration purposely watered down enforcement of the act for political purposes, and that watered-down standard of enforcement continues today.
- Safety and health standards are not promptly established as the law requires. There are endless delays in the hearing process for the promulgation of standards, and the failure to properly enforce the few standards which have been developed costs workers their health and their lives.

The council urged Congress to approve funds needed to hire 2,000 OSHA compliance officers and other personnel for training, research and development efforts to fully carry out the intent of the law.

Congress should oppose all attempts to weaken the act, the council stressed, including efforts to dilute protective standards and to deny coverage of workers in small businesses.

Oversight hearings by congressional committees are particularly valuable in assuring the proper administration of the law, the council said.

It also expressed the need for improving the effectiveness of the law through the following amendments:

- Extending coverage to all workers in all workplaces, including those in federal, state and local governments.
- Establishing full federal enforcement by eliminating state programs.
- Permitting compliance officers to issue "on-the-spot" orders for workers to leave their jobs when they are in imminent danger.
- Shifting the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health to the Labor Dept. from the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.
- Requiring full pay for worker representatives accompanying compliance officers on inspections.

The report reiterated the concern of organized labor's job safety specialists over continued efforts to shift enforcement authority to ineffective state programs.

Even if the state efforts were on a par with the federal programs, the report noted, "one of the most serious dangers to enforcement of health and safety laws is the lack of uniformity in standards. This makes it difficult for multi-state employers and unions to properly fulfill their responsibilities under the law."

Despite the objections of organized labor, more federal funds have been budgeted during the current fiscal year for state programs than for federal enforcement.

Even so, there appears to have been little improvement in state efforts to step up enforcement programs although 25 states had their plans approved by the Labor Dept.

One of the policies established in the Nixon Administration that bears heavily on the development of effective standards is the requirement for an economic impact study before the standards are promulgated. The policy stresses the cost of compliance to the employer, but largely ignores the economic impact on workers left unprotected by the lack of an effective standard. The end result could be death, injury and illness to workers, lost production and increased expenditures in workers' compensation.

The report also describes instances of long delays from the time of inspection until a citation is issued and of uneven enforcement from one region to another.

Labor Studies Center Lists Schedule for March

Six institutes for full-time trade union officers, representatives and staff members are scheduled at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center during March.

Two national unions will use the new campus at Silver Spring, Md., for leadership training programs this month.

A group of 70 black trade union officers will visit the center for a two-day conference, and Friends of Histadrut, the Israeli labor federation, will meet at the center.

In addition, the center will sponsor an off-campus institute, Mar. 24 to 28, at the University of California, Berkeley. The subject: Unions in American Society in the Next Decade.

The March schedule at the Labor Studies Center:

Grievance arbitration—An institute to train union leaders in the preparation and presentation of grievance cases before an impartial arbitrator. The law of arbitration will be reviewed. Participants will engage in a mock arbitration and see their own performance on closed circuit television. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 2, through Friday, Mar. 7.

Collective bargaining—An institute to examine the major issues confronting union negotiators this spring. Subjects include the extension of health and welfare programs to cover eye care, dental care and prescription drugs; cost of living clauses; pension plans, and seniority. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 16, through Friday, Mar. 21.

New staff—A two-week institute for those who have recently joined the staffs of national and international unions. Subjects include negotiating techniques, organizing and the role and responsibilities of union staff members. From 9 a.m. Monday, Mar. 31, through Friday, Apr. 11.

Job safety—Two advanced institutes for building trades officers who attended the center's first OSHA sessions last fall. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 2, through Friday, Mar. 14, and from 9 a.m. Monday, Mar. 31, through Friday, Apr. 14.

Building Trades—An institute planned with the Building & Construction Trades Dept. Subjects will include labor law, safety and health, and jurisdictional problems. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 23, through Friday, Mar. 28.

Railroaders—A seminar co-sponsored with the United Transportation Union for its general chairmen. Subjects include initial claim and grievance processing and presentation before public law boards, railroad economics, current legal problems, union structure and policies, and communications. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 9, through Friday, Mar. 21.

Federal Employes—A seminar for leaders of District 14, Government Employees. Subjects include OSHA, federal injury compensation, federal stewards training, D.C. government stewards training, union administration, collective bargaining and equal employment opportunities. From 8.30 a.m., Monday, Mar. 3, through Friday, Mar. 7.

About 70 black trade unionists led by AFL-CIO Vice President Frederick O'Neal will bus to the center from New York City on Mar. 22 for a two-day conference.

Friends of Histadrut, the Israeli labor federation, will meet in the dining hall Sunday afternoon, Mar. 9, at 4 p.m. Gil Shaal, Israeli labor attache, will speak.

Further information about these and other Labor Studies programs may be obtained from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903.

'We Can Fill Our Own!'

'Drastic Action' Spurred To Counter Oil Threats

(Continued from Page 1)

and provide for its internal allocation." The council also called for a quota on oil imports and the establishment of a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing.

On rationing the council called for permitting motor gasoline consumption above the rationed amount but levying a higher tax on this additional consumption with the funds earmarked for reducing and eliminating commuter fares and for the development of mass transit systems.

The council also called on the United States to strike back "with economic countermeasures" at any nation contemplating an embargo against the United States. It added:

"To nations imposing such an embargo against this country export bans would be applied. No item, including military equipment as well as agricultural and industrial commodities, would be shipped to such countries. Their assets in this country would be frozen. All technical assistance would be withdrawn. This country would construe such an oil embargo as economic warfare and retaliate with all of the economic weapons at its command."

In the area of energy conservation the council renewed the call for a rigidly enforced 55-mile speed limit and urged a tax on automobile and other energy-using equipment in relationship to their energy efficiency. Labelling of energy consuming equipment, revamping utility rate structures to discourage wasteful uses, energy efficiency standards for new and existing structures as well as temperature and light standards for commercial and industrial buildings were also included in the program along with a new call for expanded use of mass transit systems and subsidized low fares.

On increasing energy supplies, the council urged a major effort toward expanding the domestic use of coal, intensified production from U.S. military reserves, revocation of leases from producers who refuse to pump supplies on land leased from the United States, establishment of a government corporation for construction of prototype and new energy facilities to serve as a cost yardstick. The call for a 10-year, $20 billion government-funded crash program to develop alternative sources of energy was renewed.

The council listed 10 additional measures that included a stretch-out of environmental restrictions—a matter of timetable not of objectives; a petroleum stockpile; identification of all significant foreign investments; rejection of the proposal to deregulate the price of natural gas and "old" oil; blocking the $3 per barrel import duty plan; terminating U.S. subsidies for giant international oil companies by closing tax loopholes.

The statement urged legislation to prohibit a single company from owning competing sources of energy and laws to dissolve the vertically integrated oil companies, separating marketing from production. It renewed the proposal to treat oil companies as public utilities subject to federal regulation and for legislation to require that a substantial portion of oil imports be transported in U.S.-flag vessels.

Veteran Organizer R. W. Christofferson Dies

Robert W. Christofferson, executive secretary of the Newspaper Guild's contracts committee since 1965 and a veteran labor organizer, died after a long illness Feb. 17. Christofferson, 50, had suffered a severe stroke last June.

He had been a Guild member since 1944 and served on the organizing staff of the CIO and later the AFL-CIO. He joined the Guild staff in 1958.

Labor Pledges Renewed Fight To Ratify ERA

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO reaffirmed its commitment to "full equality for women" and pledged a continued campaign for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The amendment, already ratified by 34 of the required 38 states, is needed to end "any doubts about the legal status of women," the Executive Council said.

A council resolution on the current observance of International Women's Year called on affiliates and central bodies "through their education programs and in the full range of their activities to focus on the status of women in every facet of national life."

It said the nation "can no longer ignore the fact that the status of women in America falls short of full equality."

At House Hearings:

Funds Urged to Add 1 Million Public Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

ber to the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act.

That would be "an important step in the right direction," the AFL-CIO testified, but still "too low" in view of the urgency of the need. To provide an additional and "badly needed" one million jobs, the funding for the fiscal year starting July 1 should be $9.8 billion, Young said.

As to the anticipated Administration response that this would further unbalance the budget, Young stressed that every 1 percent increase in unemployment means a loss of $12 billion to $15 billion in tax revenue plus an additional $2 billion to $3 billion in unemployment insurance outlays.

"This is where the real deficit comes from," he said.

The Ford Administration has proposed $400 million in new funds for the regular public service employment program (Title 2 of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act). This program allocates money to communities with high unemployment for "transitional" jobs that are supposed to prepare persons hired for permanent employment in either the public or private sector. But the Administration has not asked any new authorizations for the less restrictive emergency public service employment program that was added at the end of 1974 as Title 6 of the law.

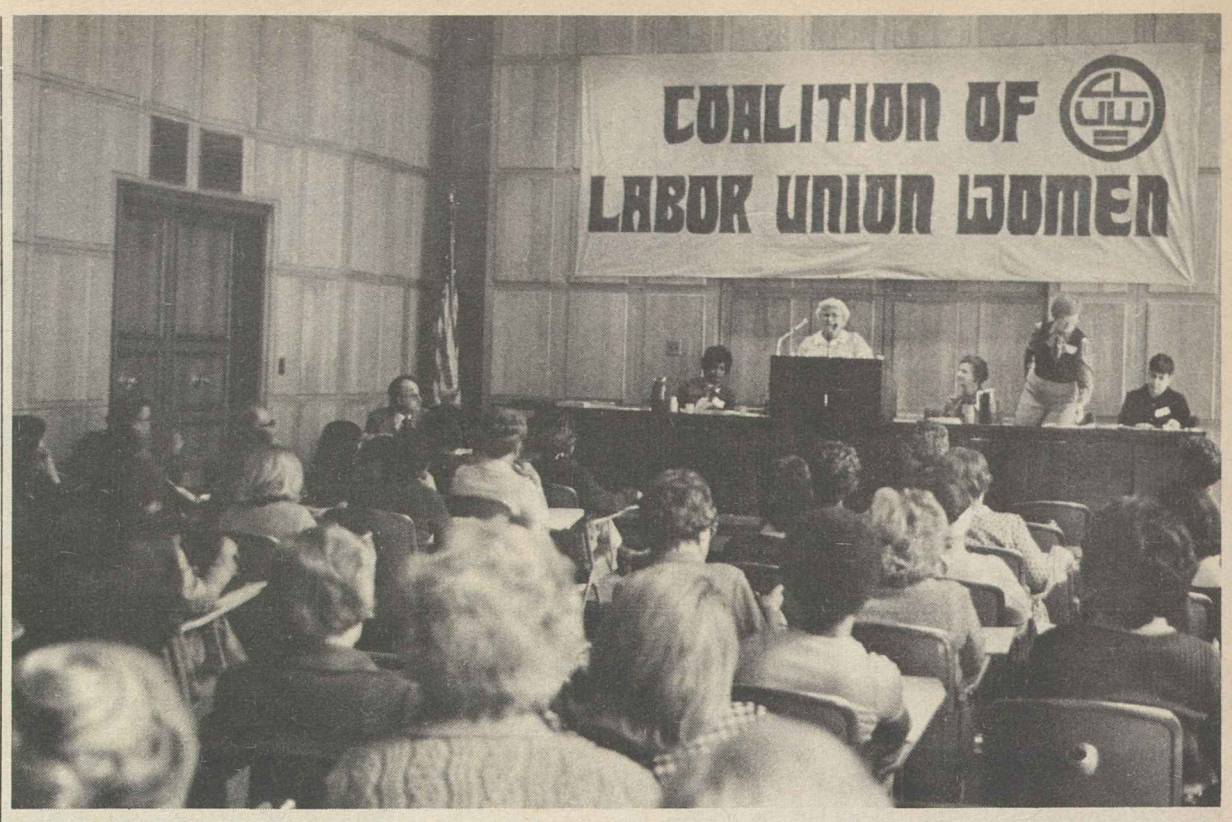
Young told the House panel that the sharp rise in unemployment accompanied by a financial squeeze on local and state governments resulting in layoffs of regular public employes has posed "impossible choices" in CETA public service hiring.

Who should be hired, Young asked, "when the job competitors include: a well qualified but laid-off city employe, a veteran, a long-term unemployed worker from the private sector, and a member of a minority group?"

Such "terrible competition among jobless workers" can be avoided only by a complete turnaround in the economy, Young said. But it can at least be reduced by adequate funding of the public service jobs program.

Young and spokesmen from affiliated unions also testifying before the subcommittee urged that the present $10,000 ceiling on salaries and benefits that can be financed under the program be lifted "so that areas with extremely high living costs can take advantage of the program."

He also urged that Congress prod the Labor Dept. to do a better job of policing violations of regulations "by state and local officials who are circumventing the law in order to use cheap labor."



FORUM ON WOMEN AND LABOR draws 80 representatives from unions, government and business to the AFL-CIO headquarters to discuss goals and problems affecting working women. The one-day conference was sponsored by the Coalition of Labor Union Women and the U.S. Center for International Women's Year. CLUW President Olga Madar addresses the forum.

Montana State Workers Win Strike Ruling

Helena, Mont. — The Montana Supreme Court ruled unanimously that most public workers in the state have the right to strike.

Montana's collective bargaining law allows "concerted activities" by workers, and the court said the phrase clearly includes strikes. It noted further that teachers and nurses are the only groups specifically denied the right to strike under state law.

Several hundred highway workers, members of four unions that bargained as a craft council, had been compelled to end a three-day strike by a temporary restraining order obtained by the Highway Dept. But the judge who issued the restraining order agreed with the union position after a hearing and dissolved it. The department then appealed to the Supreme Court.

The state's high court said that if the legislature had intended to limit the right to strike, it would have said so clearly as it did in the case of the teachers and nurses.

Real Wages Plummet To 11-Year Low

(Continued from Page 1)

of the January CPI increase, BLS said.

These increases were only partially offset by price declines for clothing, automobiles, beef, sugar and lower mortgage interest rates, the government noted. The CPI in January stood at 156.1 percent of its 1967 average.

A breakdown of the index into its main components showed food prices rose over the month by eight-tenths of 1 percent. Nonfood commodities increased six-tenths of 1 percent, and services cost eight-tenths of 1 percent more.

Among the food items that cost more in January were bread, pork, fats and oil products, and nearly all sugar-based products. Grocery prices usually show no change in January. The cost of eating out rose 1.1 percent over December, a slightly higher increase than in the two previous months.

Among nonfood commodities, prices were higher for shoes, tobacco, gasoline, alcoholic beverages, toilet goods, and household durable goods. New car prices declined 1.8 percent, reflecting the effect of the auto industry's customer rebate scheme.

Higher charges for medical care and for utilities—gas, electricity and water and sewerage—accounted for about half the rise in the services index in January. Other services that cost more included dry cleaning, housekeeping, home maintenance, personal care and movie admissions.

Florida Teachers United By Statewide Merger

Tallahassee, Fla.—Members of the Florida Education Association and the Florida American Federation of Teachers have overwhelmingly approved a merger agreement uniting their state affiliates in a single, statewide teacher-only organization known as FEA/United.

Unofficial vote totals indicate that teachers in all 50 of the FEA and Florida AFT local affiliates approved the merger by a margin of almost 9 to 1.

"The chain remains unbroken," remarked Richard Batchelder, chief administrative officer of FEA/United. "Wherever teachers at the local level have been allowed to vote on uniting their rival organizations, they have voted to be together."

He said, "Florida teachers have voted overwhelmingly to join their colleagues in other parts of the country who have voted to merge their rival organizations and redirect their energies from fighting each other to fighting the real enemies of education."

He referred to a growing number of teacher-approved mergers including those in New Orleans, Los Angeles, Flint and Gibraltar, Mich., and New York State. Teachers in these merged organizations—about 260,000—are affiliated with both the NEA and the AFT.

The FEA and Florida AFT merger agreement and the FEA/United constitution required approval by both a majority of the members voting and a majority of the locals.

"Teachers have voted to create for themselves the strongest and most politically powerful organization in the state," Batchelder said. He noted that half the state legislature is elected from the Duval, Hillsborough and Dade County areas, all FEA/United strongholds with active political action and legislative participation.

FEA/United is affiliated with the national American Federation of Teachers, but local affiliates of the new state organization have an option on such affiliation. FEA/United is made up of locals with AFT and no national affiliation, although a majority are affiliated with the national organization.

Harris Named To New Panel On Elections

Thomas E. Harris, the AFL-CIO's associate general counsel, has been nominated to the new Federal Elections Commission that will enforce the campaign spending law that Congress enacted last year.

The six-member bipartisan commission includes four congressional nominees and two proposed by the President. Harris was nominated by Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield. All six commissioners must be confirmed by both the House and Senate.

Harris, 62, will leave the AFL-CIO to take the full-time post. The new commission will enforce the strict spending and contribution limits established for all candidates for federal office and administer the public financing of presidential election campaigns, primaries and presidential nominating conventions.

Harris has been associate general counsel of the AFL-CIO and the former CIO since 1948 and has argued a number of major cases affecting the trade union movement before the Supreme Court.

He is a nationally prominent attorney who served as law secretary of the late Supreme Court Justice Harlan Fiske Stone after his graduation from Columbia Law School in 1935 and subsequently held high posts in the Justice Dept. and several government agencies. He also has been in the private practice of law with leading firms in New York and Washington. He is a native of Arkansas and a graduate of the University of Arkansas.

Jobless Insurance Rolls Surge to New Record

(Continued from Page 1)

goods and services showing the decline in real gross domestic product in the last three months of 1974 was steeper than originally estimated.

Real gross domestic product in the last quarter plunged at an annual rate of 9.3 percent, instead of 8.9 percent as originally announced in a preliminary Commerce Dept. report. Real GDP shows the value of goods and services produced within the boundaries of the United States.

In its revised report, the Commerce Dept. said real gross national product, which measures the total output of all citizens at home and abroad, remained the same—9.1 percent below the year-earlier quarter. Both real GDP and real GNP reflect output minus the effects of inflation.

At the same time, the government said inflation over the 1974 October-December period was higher than reported a month ago. As measured by the so-called gross national product deflator, inflation soared at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 14.4 percent—seven-tenths of 1 percent higher than the original estimate.

More bad news came from the National Machine Tool Builders Association which reported that machine-tool orders in January declined 60 percent from their year-earlier level, reflecting sharp curtailment in industry plans for expansion. And the Commerce Dept. reported that new orders for durable goods in January fell 2.8 percent, the fifth monthly drop in a row.

3-1-75

12 Labor Markets Join High Unemployment List

Rising joblessness pushed 12 more major labor areas into the "substantial" unemployment list during January, the Labor Dept. reported.

That raised the number of areas with unemployment above 6 percent to 67 of the nation's 150 major labor markets. A year ago, the number was only 33.

Both the total and the single-month increase in January were the highest since 1961.

Added to the list were four Ohio areas, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Toledo and Youngstown-Warren. Also added in January were San Jose, Calif.; New Haven, Conn.; Miami, Fla.; Augusta, Ga.; Utica-Rome, N.Y.; Portland, Ore.; El Paso, Tex., and Wheeling, W. Va.

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Meany Warns Recession Threatens Human Rights

$5.9 Billion For Jobs Endorsed

The AFL-CIO endorsed an emergency bill to finance job-creating federal programs and President George Meany prodded Congress to complete action on the funding bill before Easter.

House Speaker Carl Albert and Appropriations Committee Chairman George H. Mahon unveiled the legislation at a joint news conference.

They said the $5.9 billion in emergency appropriations would result directly in more than 900,000 new jobs this year—and an equal number indirectly as employment feeds upon employment.

Federal funds would go into public service employment, summer jobs for youth, a vast array of public works and construction, conservation projects and the purchase of new fleets of trucks and autos by the postal service and other public agencies.

Meany wired Albert that the bill represents "a sound first step toward achieving real jobs which America needs desperately."

Introduction of the Emergency Unemployment Appropriation Act, Meany said, "is welcome news to America's millions of unemployed and the millions of other workers who live in fear that their jobs may also disappear."

The urgency is such that any delay in the legislation would be "unthinkable," Meany stressed.

As the Appropriations Committee put the funding bill in final shape, President Ford moved part way along the same path by going beyond his budget request to ask Congress for an additional $2 billion for public service jobs and for summer employment for youth. Both items are included in the $5.9 billion emergency bill announced by the House leadership.

Most of the money in the bill would close the gap between spending ceilings previously authorized by Congress and the amounts actually appropriated.

The funding bill "is not going to end unemployment overnight," Albert conceded. "A great deal more will be needed," he said, "and will be provided."

A tentative timetable called for approval of the funding package by the full Appropriations Committee on Mar. 7 and action by the House on Mar. 12. That would leave the Senate two weeks to act before an Easter recess.

Major ingredients of the funding bill include:

(Continued on Page 3)

Senate Set To Weaken Filibuster

The Senate moved towards approval of a compromise rules change that in the future will make it somewhat easier to close debate and stop a filibuster.

Under the compromise, three-fifths of the total membership of the Senate would be able to invoke cloture. That would enable 60 senators to cut off a filibuster.

The Senate's old Rule 22 requires a two-thirds vote of senators actually present and voting in order to halt a filibuster. The two-thirds requirement could be as high as 67 with all 100 senators on hand. But normally it is several votes less because of absenteeism.

Initially, a bipartisan group of rules reform advocates had sought to change the rule to allow three-fifths of senators present and voting to break a filibuster. In most cases, the required number would be less than 60. But in weeks of parliamentary maneuvering, they were unable to penetrate the delaying tactics of opponents of rules change.

At one stage, a ruling by Vice President Rockefeller appeared to have enabled the reform group to establish the constitutional principle that at the start of a Congress a simple majority of the Senate can adopt new rules.

The rules reform move was strongly supported by the AFL-CIO and the civil rights coalition.

But Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.), who led the fight against any rules change, managed to twist the Senate into new parliamentary knots that blocked further action.

Agreement on a formula of 60

(Continued on Page 8)

BROTHERHOOD CITATION of the National Conference of Christians & Jews is presented to AFL-CIO President George Meany by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller at a dinner in Washington attended by 1,200 persons.

Blasts Use Of Blacklist By Arabs

The deepening recession could bring new social and racial tensions threatening progress in human rights and human relations, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned.

If the economy "continues to go downhill," he told a dinner audience of 1,200 in Washington, "it can become the breeding ground of ugly social impulses and emotions."

Meany's warning came in an address accepting the national brotherhood citation of the National Conference of Christians & Jews, presented by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Accepting the award in the name of the AFL-CIO, Meany said the American labor movement is the "most effective human rights organization in this country."

Spelling out the role of trade unionism in giving workers a sense of dignity and self-worth, and in sustaining the fight for freedom against dictatorship and totalitarianism, he said the labor movement "has, and must have, a continuing and consistent commitment to human rights and democratic values."

Tracing the development of the economic crisis—the worst "since the Great Depression of the 1930s"—Meany spoke of the threat of rising tensions "among them the ancient curse of anti-Semitism." He pointed out that in addition to domestic problems there are "powerful waves of anti-Semitism emanating from the Middle East."

He commended President Ford "for speaking out so clearly against the Arab blacklist. The idea that any foreign investors would discriminate against Americans who

(Continued on Page 2)

Compromise Mood Grows:

Ford, Congress Vie On Tax, Oil Policy

By David L. Perlman

Congress and President Ford veered between confrontation and compromise on policies to halt the nation's disastrous economic plunge and put Americans back to work.

The House overwhelmingly passed a tax cut and refund bill that differed significantly from the President's proposal to give large refunds to persons in the higher income brackets and only token amounts to others. The vote was a decisive 317-97.

At Senate Finance Committee hearings, Treasury Secretary William E. Simon urged that higher-income families be given a bigger share of the tax cut. He claimed they are more likely to spend the money for major purchases that will "stimulate the really soft spots in our economy." But he stopped short of any veto warning.

Ford did carry out his threat to veto the bill suspending for 90 days his power to impose a special tariff on imported oil. But first, in a conciliatory gesture, he postponed the second and third step of his oil tariff hike. That left standing only the initial $1-a-barrel tax he had imposed last month.

In contrast to some recent high-velocity rhetoric from the White House seeking to portray Congress as a "do-nothing" body blocking the President's program, Ford had nothing but good words about the Democratic congressional leadership in his veto message. He termed their desire to hold up the oil tariff "reasonable" and welcomed the fact that Congress is "moving" on energy problems.

Congressional leaders put off an immediate effort to override the veto. The President's "olive branch" approach reduced the likelihood of mustering the needed two-thirds majority against the veto.

The AFL-CIO had strongly protested the oil tariff and had sup-

(Continued on Page 8)

New Cuts in Tariffs Held Path to 'Disaster'

A new wave of tariff cuts would throw more workers out of jobs and push the United States to the brink of "economic disaster," the AFL-CIO warned.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller told the U.S. International Trade Commission that past shifts of production to low-wage nations left America "pock-marked by abandoned factories."

His testimony was presented by Legislative Rep. Ray Denison, accompanied by Economist Elizabeth Jager.

In some communities that were once manufacturing centers, "the busiest facility is the state unemployment office," he observed.

The International Trade Commission — the new name for the U.S. Tariff Commission — is holding regional hearings on "the economic impact of future tariff reductions which the President can make through international trade agreements under the Trade Act of 1974."

Its recommendations to the President are expected to influence the U.S. position in forthcoming trade negotiations.

Biemiller told the commission that the AFL-CIO doesn't see how

(Continued on Page 6)

Economic Index Down For 6th Straight Month

The government's composite index of leading economic indicators declined 1.3 percent in January, the Commerce Dept. reported. It was the sixth consecutive monthly drop in the index, which serves as a barometer of economic trends. The December decline was 3.1 percent.

The six-month skid equaled the most prolonged decline on record—from September 1957 through February 1958—but the depth of the current measurement is steeper. Since its peak last July, the index has dropped 12.6 percent, easily surpassing the 9 percent fall-off in the '50s.

Even so, the Commerce Dept. report may not reflect the true dimensions of the economic slump. A study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston showed its index of key economic indicators down by 3 percent in January, more than double the rate indicated by the Commerce Dept.

The Fed's index of 12 economic indicators is considered by many

(Continued on Page 8)

Alexander Uhl Retires From PAI Service

Alexander H. Uhl, editor and co-founder of Press Associates, Inc. with Harry Conn 21 years ago, has announced his retirement effective Mar. 1.

One of the nation's outstanding labor journalists, Uhl was a respected foreign correspondent and editor before his PAI days. As a PAI editor he concentrated in such areas as economics and trade, explaining the complexities of both to readers of the labor press through the service.

Born June 11, 1899, in New York City, Uhl received his bachelor of arts degree from City College of New York and did graduate work at the Columbia School of Journalism. After serving one year as a reporter on the Newark Star Eagle, he joined the Associated Press in 1923.

In 1935 he was assigned as bureau chief in Madrid and headed the AP coverage of the Spanish Civil War through 1938. His stories from Spain were heralded for their depth and significance. "It was in Spain that I first developed a social conscience," he later said.

From 1940 to 1948 he served as foreign editor of the newspaper PM and covered the European Theater during World War II. He was awarded the French Legion of Honor decoration. After PM folded, he moved to Washington as a writer for the Public Affairs Institute and in 1954, along with Conn, founded Press Associates, which today is the only independent national trade union press service.

Uhl lives with his wife, Gladys, on a farm in Montgomery County, Md. He plans to write, particularly on the Spanish Civil War, and possibly do some traveling.

RETIRING LABOR NEWSMAN Alex Uhl chats with AFL-CIO President George Meany during the recent Executive Council meeting. Uhl capped a long journalistic career, including service as a foreign correspondent in the Spanish Civil War and World War II, with his retirement Mar. 1. With Harry Conn, Uhl founded Press Associates, Inc., the labor news service, 21years ago.

Pilots Seek Reform Of CAB Procedures

The Air Line Pilots Association proposed sweeping changes in Civil Aeronautics Board procedures and regulations which it said are long overdue.

"The nation has suffered long enough from the abuses of an antiquated system of regulation which permits a dynamic industry to die on its feet while professing to serve the public interest," Capt. Rod Gilstrap, ALPA first vice president, said in testimony to a Senate Judiciary subcommittee.

Specifically, ALPA proposed the following amendments to the Federal Aviation Act, under which CAB gets its authority:

- Improve the statute, enhance antitrust policy and spell out in detail its mandate with respect to the nature and scope of air carrier competition it desires to preserve.
- Prevent the board from breaking its labor promises by incorporating into the act itself the obligation to protect employes. Congressional amendments to the Interstate Commerce Act serve as precedents for such action.

He charged that the CAB approved capacity reduction agreements as devices by which carriers achieved multilateral reduction in service and major profit benefits to the detriment of the public interest and airline career personnel. In the process, he said, CAB's procedures for the decision-making have been debased.

Pilot and flight attendant layoffs in recent years have reached levels exceeding those in any other period in aviation history, he said. "With TWA alone, 840 pilots have been furloughed since 1970." He added that the board considers this loss in career and manpower resources to the total system to be "only of limited effect" and does not require invoking its employe protection formula where capacity reductions are concerned.

Meany Warns Nation:

Recession Threatens Human Rights Gains

(Continued from Page 1)

are Jewish or who do business with Israel is a monstrous abomination."

Meany urged going further than the President's statement. "I think we have to let the whole world know that in the United States of America, that in our country, human rights still take priority over the dollar.

"I think we should tell the Arabs that any would-be investors from any country who subscribe to the blacklist are henceforth barred from doing business in the United States. There is some business we don't need."

Rockefeller praised Meany for his leadership in the human rights, civil rights battles and in labor-management relations, for his candor and integrity. Dinner Chairman Joseph B. Danzansky said that NCCJ in selecting Meany for the award was especially mindful of his "leadership of the labor movement in its constant efforts to improve human conditions, in maintaining individual freedoms and in efforts to achieve justice for all in a free society."

Meany commended Rockefeller for his role as presiding officer of the Senate in the current filibuster battle, noting that "I see where he is trying to bring the United States Senate into the 20th Century. And I would say, if he was scarred a little in the attempt, not to worry about it. They are very honorable scars."

Discussing the role of the trade union movement and its relationship to human rights, Meany said the unions are in the business of "helping people hold their heads a little higher," and making them "more conscious of their human rights."

Achievements in the human rights field are threatened by the deepening recession, he said, because "racial and social tensions are bound to rise, posing a threat to the real accomplishments of organizations like the National Conference of Christians & Jews and so many others that have labored so hard to eradicate bigotry and prejudice from the land."

There is in addition a great confusion around the world about what the United States stands for, Meany said, contrasting the reluctance in Congress to make good on a $300 million aid commitment to South Vietnam while expressing a willingness to give 6 percent U.S. credits to the Soviet Union. If the argument to cut off aid to South Vietnam is based on the ground that its government is repressive, he observed, then the Soviet Union hardly qualifies with "the most degrading form of corruption—the complete monopoly of all power" to be found anywhere.

There was a time when the United States had a clear commitment to the growth and expansion of democratic societies throughout the world, Meany said, but this is now "buried under mountains of propaganda about detente and peaceful coexistence. . . . I think this is a terrible thing." He added:

"There is no doubt in my mind that this worldwide confusion about the credibility, the commitment and the cardinal purposes of the U.S. in world affairs today is a major factor contributing to the financial and political instability that has shaken so much of the western world and threatens to alter the international balance of power with frightful consequences."

Meany concluded, "we cannot survive as a trade union movement except where there is democracy. Human rights are the very life blood of our movement."

Harding Retires As OCAW Editor

Denver — Paul Harding retired Feb. 1 as publicity director for the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and editor of the union's newspaper, ending a 31-year trade union career.

Jerry Archuleta, assistant publicity director and a former editor of the Colorado Labor Advocate, will succeed Harding.

Election Fund Mounting From Checkoff of Taxes

The checkoff of tax dollars to provide public financing for the next presidential election campaign is earmarking sufficient funds so that candidates will no longer have to rely on private contributors.

An Internal Revenue Service tally of returns filed during the first five weeks of this year showed that 23.6 percent of taxpayers were checking the box that directs the government to put $1 of their taxes into the nonpartisan presidential campaign fund—$2 in the case of a couple filing a joint return.

That still indicates that a great many people are confused over the fund or overlook the box to be checked. But the participation is greater than last year when, during a comparable period, only 14.1 percent of taxpayers earmarked their dollar.

The AFL-CIO and other groups have sought to clear up misconceptions, noting that persons who check the presidential fund box do not pay any more nor any less in taxes than if they did not mark the box. The check merely directs the government to put into the fund $1 of taxes that would be paid anyway.

The law limits spending by and for a presidential candidate and allocates $20 million from public funds for each major party candidate, with lesser amounts for third party candidates. A candidate accepting public funds is barred from private fund-raising.

Earmarked funds over the past two years have put $30 million into the presidential fund, and this year's returns are expected to double that amount.

In addition to full financing of the general election campaign, the fund is available for matching payments to candidates running in presidential primaries — provided they raise an equal amount of funds in small contributions from supporters.

The federal Campaign Financing Act strictly limits the amount of money that can be spent in campaigns, whether raised from private contributions or received from the presidential fund.

Maritime Union Sanctions Ended

Sanctions required under the AFL-CIO's internal disputes plan have been removed from the National Maritime Union, Federation President George Meany informed affiliates.

Meany said the NMU has fulfilled "in all respects" the procedures of Section 16 of Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution dealing with removal of sanctions imposed for noncompliance with determinations of the impartial umpire. The sanctions had been imposed in November 1962.

Since the NMU is now in full compliance with Article XX, Meany said the NMU is entitled to full protection under the disputes plan and "other rights enjoyed by AFL-CIO affiliates in good standing."

He advised all affiliates that his letter of Nov. 30, 1962, finding the NMU in noncompliance "is herewith rescinded."

Action by Arizona Governor Urged To Help Settle Lemon Grove Strike

AFL-CIO President George Meany has appealed to Arizona Gov. Raul Castro to intervene in the Farm Workers' strike for union recognition in the Yuma County lemon groves which is entering its seventh month.

The Farm Workers are determined to bring a measure of decency to their members, Meany said, and will not abandon their cause until collective bargaining rights are achieved for the citrus grove workers.

But the growers are prepared to allow the strike to go on even as millions of dollars in crops are lost, he pointed out.

The 1,600 UFW lemon pickers and pruners have demonstrated full support of the strike against the more than 600 citrus growers in the Yuma area.

Since the strike began last August, the dispute has been marked by periodic harassment of the pickets by Yuma County's Sheriff's Dept., the UFW charged. It said hundreds of strikers have been arrested and a number of pickets were beaten.

The UFW called the strike after the growers failed to respond to its requests for union recognition and negotiations for a first contract in the state's lemon groves. The growers have been paying lemon pickers an average of $36 a week early in the season and up to about $120 a week at the height of the harvest.

With trees in the Yuma area drooping from the weight of ripe lemons, UFW President Cesar Chavez said that the growers' losses from the strike have been high. Still, he expressed optimism that the union and growers can reach agreement.

In his letter to Castro, Meany said the intervention of the governor's office is vital to achieve an early settlement.

"This strike will eventually be settled," Meany said. "The Farm Workers union will be recognized and the rights of both the employers and workers will eventually be respected in that relationship."

"Enough time has passed for everyone to realize that, and I believe that the time to intercede and to attempt to bring about a settlement of this strike is now."

Meany assured Castro of the federation's cooperation in seeking a settlement, saying that his office and that of the Arizona AFL-CIO were ready to give any assistance he needed.

Although UFW strikers have maintained picket lines at the groves six days a week from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., strike-breaking activity was stepped up when the growers raised bin pay for the pickers from $12 to $18, the union reported.

It said the majority of the strike-breakers are illegal aliens who cross the border from Mexico. When the UFW reports the illegal aliens to the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service many are pulled out of the fields and sent back to Mexico—often without the pay they have due. But within three days, the deported illegals are back on the job, the union charged.

Centennial Banquet:

Marine Engineers Celebrate 100th Anniversary as Union

By James M. Shevis

One hundred years ago, 10 men met in Cleveland to explore the idea of forming a national organization of licensed steamboat engineers. Their need was pressing.

Marine engineers then faced intolerable working conditions, including scandalously low pay. Working close to the new steamboat boilers that powered the early ships along the Mississippi and the Great Lakes, they often suffered injury—sometimes death—when the cheap engines exploded in their faces.

The engineers earlier had banded together in city associations, but these were not enough to bring about the reforms that were needed. Out of that Cleveland meeting on Feb. 21, 1875, was born the National Marine Engineers Association, dedicated to "the elevation and maintenance of the rights" of its members.

Today, marking its centennial, the National Marine Engineers Beneficial Association (the word Beneficial was added in 1883) is a union with a growing membership. It has become an increasingly significant force in the mainstream of the American trade-union movement.

At a centennial banquet in Washington attended by more than 1,000 union, industry and government leaders, MEBA President Jesse M. Calhoon noted that the problems of a century ago are much the same today.

In 1875, he said, Americans were battling inflation, high unemployment, recovering from a divisive war and worrying about trade. "If you throw in the energy crisis, you have the problems of today," Calhoon observed.

But he added, "the greatest problem facing this nation today is the multinational corporation" which "owes no loyalty to any nation," and "thinks of itself as a supergovernment." Because of multinationals, Calhoon said, American jobs have gone abroad and the nation's economic situation has been greatly exacerbated.

In an introduction to a history of the maritime union prepared for the centennial observance. Calhoon looked back on "a century of progress" for MEBA members.

"A hundred years ago the engineering officer lived an uncertain existence," he noted. "Exploitation and poor working conditions were the accepted norm.

"Today, through the collective bargaining process and the essential strength of the union, the engineering officers of the American merchant marine have achieved a status commensurate with the greatly increased responsibilities of their position."

MEBA in its early years was more a professional society than a trade union. But in 1891 the organization struck Great Lakes vessel owners when they proposed a wage reduction for its members. The action caused the owners to drop the pay-cut idea and enhanced the organization's prestige and influence.

MEBA survived the economic panics that periodically beset the country through the years, and came of age with the onset of World War I. A generation later, during a second world war, the union rushed to the nation's defense again, manning the merchant ships that carried vital goods to American troops overseas.

With the nation's other maritime unions, MEBA emerged from World War II in a sound condition. But, as shipping declined and the federal government adopted an off-again on-again interest in maritime affairs, job opportunities — and membership — slipped sharply.

Nevertheless, the post-war years have brought impressive gains in both wages and working conditions, and MEBA has joined with other maritime unions in a program to spur the revitalization of the American merchant marine.

The Merchant Marine Act of 1970 marked the most sweeping maritime legislation in more than a third of a century. The measure, enacted with the strong support of maritime labor, called for government subsidy of the construction of 300 American-flag ships over a 10-year period.

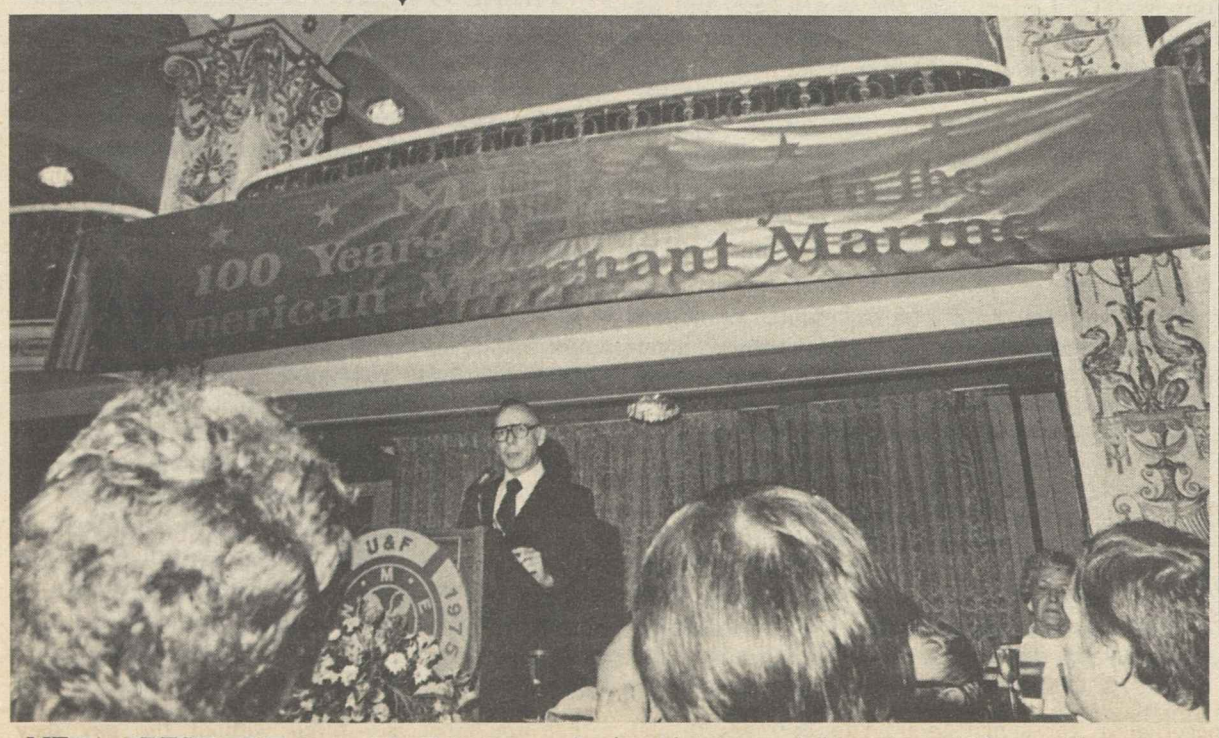
Another legislative milestone appeared within reach when Congress approved the Energy Transportation Act of 1974 requiring that a share of all oil imports be carried in American-flag ships. Hopes that the legislation would spur a revival of maritime industry employment were dashed when President Ford used a pocket veto to kill it.

MEBA's current membership works out of Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific ports, as well as on ships in the Great Lakes. In recent years, other groups of professional employes have affiliated with the union, the largest of which are the Air Traffic Controllers.

At its centennial banquet, the union awarded plaques to several individuals for their contributions to the maritime industry. Recipients included AFL-CIO President George Meany, Senators Warren Magnuson and Henry Jackson of Washington, Rep. Leonor Sullivan of Missouri and Malcolm McLean of Sea-land Service.

Certificates were presented Helen D. Bentley, chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, and Robert J. Blackwell, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Maritime Affairs.

Accepting the award for Meany was AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall.



MEBA PRESIDENT Jesse M. Calhoon, reviewing highlights of the union's 100-year history at a centennial observance in Washington, pledged the Marine Engineers would continue its fight to rebuild the United States merchant marine.

Labor Backs Plan to Fund 900,000 Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

- An additional $1.6 billion for public service jobs.
- An added $375 million for job opportunities programs of the Economic Development Administration in areas of high unemployment.
- $118 million for job-intensive reclamation and Corps of Engineers programs.
- $385 million for small business loans.
- $433 million to buy 121,000 postal and other vehicles to reduce unemployment in the hard-hit auto industry and supplier companies.
- $465 million for construction and repair of federal buildings, $350 million for building and improving postal facilities, and $70 million to improve Veterans Administration hospitals and facilities.
- $412.7 million for summer youth employment intended to finance 760,000 temporary jobs, plus $120 million for college work-study grants.
- $233 million for Forest Service and other Dept. of Interior projects.

PACE UNIVERSITY'S Edward Corsi Labor-Management Relations Award is presented to President I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers by Dr. Edward J. Mortola, right, president of the New York university. Awards also were given to W. J. Usery, director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, and Francis O'Connell, Jr., of Olin Corp.

Rail Dispatchers Agree On Terms of Contract

The Train Dispatchers became the fifth railroad union to reach agreement with the industry in the current round of negotiations. Another union, the unaffiliated Locomotive Engineers, was reported close to settlement.

The National Railway Labor Conference, which represents management, said a tentative accord between the Engineers and the carriers had been worked out but that "nothing has been initialed."

The Dispatchers gave final approval to their pact at a meeting of the union's executive board. Meanwhile, two other AFL-CIO affiliates — the United Transportation Union and the Sheet Metal Workers—also reported ratification of their agreements.

All the agreements generally match those accepted in January by the Waymen, Signalmen, Sheet Metal Workers, and the United Transportation Union. The agreement calls for wage and benefits increases totaling about 41 percent over a three-year period.

UTU reported its membership approved the new contract by a ratio of 18 to 1, while the Dispatchers reported approval by a 6 to 1 ratio. The Waymen and Signalmen ratified the pact earlier.

Meanwhile, the Transport Workers and the American Railway Supervisors Association reported reaching tentative agreements with the Penn Central.

Talks with the industry were going forward with the Yardmasters. The Railway & Airline Clerks, which had broken off negotiations with the carriers, were in mediation under the auspices of the National Mediation Board.

Four shopcraft unions in the Railway Employees' Dept. — the Boilermakers & Blacksmiths, Carmen, Firemen & Oilers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers—petitioned for mediation but scheduled talks nonetheless. The Machinists also asked for assistance from the mediation panel but continued to negotiate with the industry.

About half of the 500,000 workers employed by the major railroads now are covered by new agreements.

In other developments, the unions were studying a government plan to reorganize seven bankrupt railroads stretching over half the nation. Drawn up by the U.S. Railway Association, the preliminary system plan would consolidate the troubled lines into one streamlined carrier called ConRail.

USRA was set up by Congress to reorganize the bankrupt carriers. Rail labor took the lead in pushing for the congressional action. The proposed consolidation affects about 100,000 workers represented by 26 unions with 140 individual collective bargaining agreements. The unions are expected to give their views on the proposal at hearings scheduled in the next few months in 23 cities.

Meanwhile, the management of the financially ailing Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific accepted a union proposal to provide the railroad with "interest-free loans" in the form of voluntary 10 percent pay cuts to be repaid at a later date. Management personnel would be asked to take the same pay cut.

TWUA Seeks 20% Boost at Northern Mills

Boston — The Textile Workers Union of America will seek a 20 percent wage boost and substantial fringe benefit improvements in this year's bargaining with the woolen and northern cotton-synthetic industries.

About 20,000 workers at 70 plants, mostly in New England, will be affected by the talks, TWUA President Sol Stetin noted at a conference of more than 100 union delegates from the two industries here.

The conferees drew up a policy calling for one-year contracts in all instances to prevent workers from being tied down to future wage increases that may prove insufficient in the face of inflation.

Stetin noted the 12-month duration was prompted by refusal of the northern cotton-synthetic industry to reopen its agreements in February 1974 after the Nixon Administration had "allowed prices and profits to run hogwild."

All cotton-synthetic agreements are due to expire in mid-April. About half of the agreements in the woolen industry expire in May and suceeding months.

The Concentration of Power

COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION on the structure of the American economy is woefully lacking. The massive studies and reports of the New Deal era are far out of date.

The 500 biggest U.S. corporations now hold more than two-thirds of all business income.

The top 111 manufacturing corporations hold more than half of all assets and get more than half of all profits in manufacturing.

The 50 biggest banks control more than half of all bank assets and hold leverage control stock in more than 5,200 companies.

Although the record flood of mergers in the late 1960s and early 1970s has slowed down, conglomerate mergers in manufacturing, mining and services—accompanied by increasing concentration of banking, with interlocking business connections—are continuing to produce increased concentration of economic power.

Big multi-product, multinational conglomerate corporations have spread their power globally, through mushrooming investments in subsidiaries and joint ventures in foreign countries and through aggressive merger-and-acquisition campaigns at home. They export jobs of American workers, as well as capital and technology developed in the United States, at the expense of the American taxpayer.

U.S. corporate expansion overseas, often in the newest technological industries, blunts domestic economic expansion and reduces job opportunities at home. This process is eroding the nation's industrial base, and accompanying plant shutdowns are undermining the economic strength of numerous communities throughout the country.

Excessive concentration in such basic industries as food and energy results in high prices that drain billions of dollars away from the buying power of American families.

Unfortunately, there is little detailed information on the structure, ownership, management, policies and operation of America's giant business and financial institutions and their interlocking relationships. These economic giants far too often can avoid effective public regulation because the U.S. Congress, government regulatory agencies and the general public—including representatives of consumers and workers—simply cannot get adequate detailed information.

Much more adequate public disclosure of basic economic information must be forthcoming. The quarterly line-of-business reports now required of major corporations by the Federal Trade Commission are only a small step in the right direction.

Also aimed in the right direction are the model corporate disclosure regulations proposed by a federal interagency committee and supported by Sen. Lee Metcalf of Montana to get detailed information on corporate structure, voting stock ownership, interlocking corporate directorships and many other aspects of the structure and operations of big corporations.

The AFL-CIO calls on the Congress to undertake a full-scale, comprehensive investigation of the structure of the U.S. economy, the role of mergers and acquisitions at home and abroad in increasing economic concentration, the interlocking relationship among the giant corporations and banks, their control of key parts of the U.S. economy, their effects on prices, income distribution, America's position in the world economy, and the impact of these tremendous aggregations of economic power on democratic institutions.

—Statement adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Feb. 20, 1975, Bal Harbour, Fla.

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'Does It Say Where We Are?'

A Word Edgewise:

Doomsday Weapons Proliferate With Easy Access to 'Nuke Club'

By John P. Roche

CURIOUSLY—PROBABLY BECAUSE we don't want to think about it—one of the greatest risks to our civilization, and I mean world civilization, has received very little public attention. I describe this as the problem of the "Sears Roebuck nuke," the nuclear weapons which can be obtained virtually by mail order by nations not now members of the "nuclear club."

The classic example here was India, which obtained for "peaceful purposes some atomic reactors from Canada and proceeded to use the plutonium by-product to join the "club." The Canadians are currently negotiating with other countries, notably Argentina, for the sale of more of these reactors—naturally for "peaceful purposes."

The United States in the 1950s installed 26 reactors in foreign states, but recently we have been much more cautious. (Though former President Nixon, during his joyous honeymoon with Egypt's President Sadat, did offer him a reactor.)

Then there is the problem of protecting American tactical nuclear weapons scattered throughout NATO. Let us take the worst case and assume that Turkey pulls out of NATO, that there are tactical nukes on Turkish soil, and that the Turks decide to keep them. Do we launch an expedition against Turkey to rescue the weapons' systems? Can we count on the various electronic locks and the label that reads: "Not to be opened without permission of the President of the United States?" Or would the Turks shortly have an operational nuclear capacity?

Experts differ slightly on the number of nations that could in a short period of time develop nuclear weapons, but the list is impressive and terrifying. Worse than that is the degree to which technology has almost reached the point where a suitcase could hold a murderous nuclear weapon and, given the extent to which present international conditions have fulfilled St. Augustine's pessimism about the nature of man, somebody could supply terrorist organizations with suitcases.

Fortunately at the moment we have as director and assistant director of the United States Arms Control & Disarmament Agency two men who are acutely aware of these apocalyptic potentialities: Dr. Fred Ikle and Amron H. Katz. Indeed, a quarter of a century ago, when Argentine dictator Juan Peron announced he was (with the aid of a refugee Nazi scientist) building an atomic bomb (later dubbed the "baloney bomb"), Katz began to worry about the possibilities of "catalytic war"—that is, the ability of a malignant third power to trigger a nuclear exchange between the U.S. and the USSR.

As he put it in an article in 1961: "A third country, or its leaders, might in a fit of miscalculation or ignorance or stupidity or for other reasons, consider it useful to bring the United States and the Soviet Union to their knees, thus elevating the relative position of the third country. One way for a third country to do this would be to put a bomb in a ship and set it off in New York harbor, with the hope that the U.S. thinking the Soviets did it, would immediately launch a 'retaliatory' attack on the Soviet Union. (Whether under such circumstances) we respond by getting into a big war depends on whether or not we have anticipated and thought about this possibility ahead of time."

Sardonically, Katz suggested each nation be internationally assigned a color for its mushroom clouds. Then observers could ask, "Whose cloud is that?"

THERE IS A BITTER NOTE about this, as well there should be. For all intents and purposes the problem has been swept under the rug for years. Simultaneously, the number of nuclear powers has increased, to say nothing of those (like Canada) who could rapidly join the throng but have refrained on policy grounds.

However, in January 1975, in a Washington speech which oddly enough got better coverage abroad than here, Dr. Ikle highlighted the dangers inherent in the worldwide spread of nuclear technology: "The truth is that we are basically defenseless against threats of nuclear attack that could come from a great many different sources rather than from one or two principal adversaries. Our strategic doctrine and strategic weapons systems are designed to deter these potential advesaries from launching an attack. . . . In a world of widespread nuclear proliferation (our strategic) premises would be shattered."

Ikle went on to suggest a number of safeguards that should immediately be given top priority, calling for an extensive critique and revision of our military strategies. The President and Congress should take a little time off from tennis and listen to our arms-control experts.

Labor's Case for Tax Justice:

Billions in Revenues Forfeited For Lack of Fair Tax System

The following is excerpted from a statement on tax justice adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on Feb. 20, 1975, at Bal Harbour, Fla.

WHILE AN EMERGENCY tax cut is needed immediately to stimulate the economy and create jobs, such a tax cut must be followed promptly by a program of tax justice:

- To put an end to the loopholes and special privileges which rig the tax structure against wage earners and consumers.
- To help restore the balance needed to permit the nation to recover from the present economic crisis in a sustainable fashion.
- To help rebuild public confidence in government and the economy.
- To enable the federal government to raise equitably the revenue necessary to meet the need for essential public investments and to maintain government operations.

However, in the name of fighting inflation and budget deficits, the Administration proposes sharp cutbacks in essential federal programs that create jobs, alleviate human hardship and help build the nation.

Yet, there are no proposals whatsoever to meet budget problems by closing any of the escape hatches which cost billions of dollars in revenue and unfairly rig the tax structure.

As soon as the Congress completes its work on an immediate, emergency tax cut, it must move as quickly as possible to enact a comprehensive program of tax justice.

Such a program of tax reform would raise some $20-$30 billion by loophole-closing reforms and provide sufficient revenue to permit tax reductions, which would in fact lower the share of the tax burden and increase the real purchasing power of low- and middle-income Americans.

The corporate income tax structure must be thoroughly and completely overhauled.

Elimination of the tax subsidies for the overseas operations of U.S.-based multinational corporations generally, and of U.S.-based international oil companies specifically, requires top priority. These preferences have eroded the tax structure, destroyed American jobs and helped make America vulnerable to economic and political blackmail.

Moreover, through devices such as phantom write-offs for depreciation and depletion, inventory accounting gimmickry and the many opportunities available to multinational companies to shift profits between countries, branches and affiliates, the measuring of corporate profits for tax purposes has been badly undermined.

As a result, corporations are bearing less and less of the nation's tax burden. In 1973, for example, 10 corporations with profits totalling almost $1 billion paid no federal income taxes at all and the nation's largest oil companies paid U.S. income taxes at effective rates of about 6 percent of their profits. In the 1960s, corporations bore about one-third of the nation's income tax load. In recent years, the corporate share has slipped to about 25 percent.

IF CORPORATIONS presently were bearing the same share of the income tax load as in the 1960s, federal revenues (fiscal 1975) would be some $20 billion higher.

In addition, the AFL-CIO urges prompt enactment of the many tax reforms needed to assure that wealthy individuals bear their fair share of the tax burden. In 1972, according to the latest available information, no federal income taxes, whatsoever, were paid on 402 tax returns from individuals with incomes of over $100,000. We call for:

1. Closing the capital gains loopholes. The preferential half-tax which applies to gains on unearned income stocks or other property sold at the profit and the zero tax that applies to such gains when passed on at death are among the most disruptive elements in the tax structure. Closing these loopholes could raise as much as $8-$10 billion in annual revenue.

2. Disallowing the tax exemption for interest income from state and local bonds. This provision benefits only banks and the very wealthy. Such income should be taxed in full with the federal government providing an interest-subsidy to assure that fiscal powers of the state and local governments are not hampered.

3. Eliminating the maximum-tax provision, an uncalled-for tax bonanza to top corporate executives and others whose income comes from very high fees and salaries. The yearly revenue gain would be over $200 million.

4. Ending the many opportunities for the wealthy to shelter and wash-out otherwise taxable income through investments in mineral exploration and oil drilling ventures, real estate, hobby farms and the like. Revenue losses from these tax avoidance opportunities total over $1 billion annually.

5. Overhauling federal estate and gift taxes. Present law provides unnecessary exemptions and a host of opportunities to minimize or postpone tax payments for generations, through devices such as family foundations and generation-skipping trusts. An effective and equitable estate and gift tax structure could generate about $3 billion in additional annual revenue.

Stronger Stimulus Needed:

Ford's Economic Proposals Held Deficient for Recovery

PRESIDENT FORD'S plan for an income tax rebate coupled with huge hikes in energy taxes would do little or nothing to stem the recession, create jobs or slow inflation, AFL-CIO tax expert Arnold Cantor declared.

"The economy needs a tremendous amount of stimulation," Cantor stressed, probably double the $16 billion the President asked for in his tax rebate plan. The approach of the House-passed bill is much better, he said, pointing out that more of the rebate on 1974 taxes would go to low- and moderate-income families, and the measure adds a tax cut for 1975, which would mean lower withholding and more take-home pay for most working families at about the same time the rebates are coming through.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, the assistant director of the federation's Dept. of Research warned that the program the President sent to Congress would bring "continued unemployment, continued recession, continued high prices and continued inflation."

Cantor turned aside the contention that a $30 billion-or-greater tax cut would trigger another cycle of inflation. He stressed that the economy is now operating far below its potential with "much excess and unused capacity." Further, he said, the inflation danger is slight "when you have automobile lots bulging . . . retail shelves sagging with goods that people don't want or can't afford . . . industries operating at very low capacity rates and, most important, when you have 7½ million workers unemployed."

Cantor said that as soon as "Congress finishes the emergency tax cut that is needed to stimulate the economy, it should turn to a "real program of reform" that will help raise revenues and, in fact, permit reduction of the relative tax burden on low- and moderate-income people.

He said that among the loopholes to be closed is "a whole range of corporate gimmickry, such as depreciation speed-ups, which have really decimated the corporate tax structure." He noted that if corporations were paying the same share of the income tax load in the 1960s, that would add $20 billion to federal revenues.

Questioning Cantor were John V. Reistrup of the Washington Post and Michael Posner of Reuters New Agency. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

LAST YEAR BROUGHT A RASH of derailments of trains carrying explosives. The National Transportation Safety Board has just completed a long probe of an airline crash outside Washington. Truck drivers are seeking repeal of legislation passed in 1974 allowing heavier and longer trucks.

If there's a common thread running through these developments it is that the need for safety in transportation is crucial. Injuries, deaths and property damage from transportation accidents involve not only workers but also the traveling public—and even innocent bystanders.

When a train laden with chemicals derails, it often either explodes or leaks dangerous gases. Last summer, within a period of several months, there was a whole flurry of such derailments. The United Transportation Union described the sites of accidents—Decatur, Wenatchee, Peotone, Bluford and Markham City—as "sounding like the names of Civil War battlefields and left resembling them." Nine persons were killed, several hundred were injured and thousands of community residents left in shock.

Many members of Congress thought they had dealt with this problem when they passed the Hazardous Materials Control Act of 1970. Now lawmakers have become appalled by its lack of effectiveness. A Senate committee found that more than 2 billion tons of hazardous materials are in transport in the United States each day, with less than 2 percent undergoing any inspection.

The 93rd Congress passed legislation to strengthen the law with new safeguards against hazardous materials in transportation. Now unions are waiting to see of the new legislation will be effective. It directs the Dept. of Transportation to implement regulations to restrict hazardous cargoes. Union leaders were dismayed that President Ford, while signing the bill, expressed concern over the additional "paperwork" it might cause industries.

The Air Line Pilots tried for more than three years to get curbs on hazardous materials being carried on passenger planes. Until ALPA's efforts received news and television exposure last year, few passengers probably knew they were being accompanied by assorted explosives, flammable items, acids, laboratory-produced disease germs and radioactive materials.

BEFORE THE NEW LAW was passed, the union served notice it would refuse to move passenger planes carrying such cargoes after Feb. 1, 1975. The legislation is supposed to apply to airlines. But when no new regulations came through by Feb. 1, ALPA applied its embargo. The only exception is radioactive materials destined for medical use.

The union says the embargo has been effective. DOT's reaction has been a request to the Civil Aeronautics Board to reject "unlawful" embargoes on hazardous materials, to block carriers from cooperating with the union in its "won't fly" campaign.

Only recently, the National Transportation Safety Board conducted nearly a month of hearings into the Dec. 1, 1974, crash of a TWA jetliner into the foothills of the Blue Ridge mountains on its approach to Dulles International Airport during a snowstorm.

Hearings into air crashes are routine. Washington seldom hears much about them. But this one was in its own backyard. The hearings were front page news for weeks and got feature coverage on radio and TV. Most of the proceedings were occupied with who was to blame.

But the ALPA and the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) both want the government to look beyond blame for a particular accident. They urge a uniform air traffic control system embodied into one manual for pilots and controllers alike.

ALPA and PATCO also believe that another point has been overshadowed. They contend that if either of two landing safety systems—a Precision Approach Radar system or an Instrument Landing System—had been installed to control Runway 12 into Dulles the TWA crash would not have occurred.

NO STIMULATION for economic recovery is found in President Ford's combination of income tax rebates and huge hikes in energy taxes, Arnold Cantor, center, said on Labor News Conference. The AFL-CIO assistant research director was questioned by John Reistrup, left, of the Washington Post and Michael Posner of Reuters News Agency. The program is aired Tuesdays on the Mutual radio network.

LABOR'S CASE against job-destroying tariff cuts is presented at International Trade Commission hearings by AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison and Economist Elizabeth Jager. Imports from low-wage areas have left America "pock-marked by abandoned factories," they testified.

Mediation Cases Jump By 16 Percent in Year

The federal government stepped up its mediation activity in labor-management disputes during fiscal year 1974, according to the annual report of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

The report discloses that FMCS was involved in 20,160 cases between July 1, 1973 and June 30, 1974, an increase of more than 16 percent from the 16,930 cases reported in the previous fiscal year.

The 1974 level surpassed the previous high of 17,668 cases recorded in 1971, and marked the first year FMCS has handled more than 20,000 cases since it was established as an independent agency in 1947.

The report noted that the number of strikes in fiscal 1974 rose from the previous reporting year. FMCS counted 2,801 walkouts last year, compared to 1,937 in 1973. The agency said a large number of the strikes occurred after Apr. 30, when wage controls expired.

"The percentage of strikes to settlements increased from 11.4 percent in FY '73 to 14.9 percent in FY '74," FMCS reported, "but was identical to the percentage of FY '71, when many of the same agreements were last negotiated."

The FMCS also noted that while private sector mediation activity was up in 1974, public sector activity increased more. This was partly a reflection of the large organizing gains posted among public employes.

"About one-third of all state, local and federal employes are now organized, compared to about 20 percent of the private workforce," FMCS said.

The agency said it was involved in 507 federal disputes in fiscal year 1974, compared to fewer than 200 the year before. In addition, it mediated 140 state and local cases, compared to practically none in previous years.

FMCS made several major organizational changes during the year, including:

- Establishment of a technical services office, with coordinators assigned to each of the agency's seven regions, to coordinate technical assistance and public-sector bargaining.
- Creation of a separate general counsel's office and a strengthened office of arbitration services. They were previously combined.

The FMCS report observes in an introduction that the agency's rising workload results from a greater acceptance of the value of third-party assistance by both labor and management.

Job-Restoring Plan Outlined In CEP Study

An immediate $40 billion federal stimulus, along with other fiscal and monetary actions, could restore maximum employment, production and purchasing power to the nation by the end of 1976 or shortly thereafter, the Conference on Economic Progress declared.

A conference study, prepared mainly by Leon H. Keyserling, a former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Truman, said the economic expansion should include $8 billion for a public service employment program of about one million jobs, $16 billion in tax reductions for low- and middle-income workers, and $16 billion in increased federal spending beyond that provided in the Administration's fiscal 1976 budget.

In addition, the study recommended that the Federal Reserve Board be directed by Congress or the Executive Branch to expand the money supply at an annual rate of 8 to 10 percent during 1975 and 1976, with allocated credit and variable interest rates in accord with priority needs.

By comparison, the money supply expanded at an annual rate of only 4.2 percent from 1973 to 1974, the study noted.

It said the economic restoration program proposed by the conference "in itself" would work to reduce inflation. "Actual experience during the past 20 years demonstrates . . . that improved economic health reduces inflation, and vice versa."

If the conference's programs and policies were adopted, the study declared, joblessness would drop from January's 8.2 percent level to 3 percent in December 1976; gross national product would rise by $302 billion, or 21.1 percent, from fourth quarter 1974 to fourth quarter 1976, and inflation would subside from the last year's 12.2 percent pace to 3 percent in December 1976.

Tariff Cuts Held Road To 'Disaster'

(Continued from Page 1)

any further tariff cuts can help the economy.

"Where can be absorb even more manufactured goods?" he asked. The job losses since the last round of tariff cuts in 1967 have made the recession worse and the United States has become a net importer of manufactured goods and an exporter of raw materials, jobs and technology, he pointed out.

Biemiller warned that further tariff cuts would give manufacturers an even stronger incentive to expand production abroad. "More industry would flee from America to build other economies at the expense of U.S. jobs and production," he said.

Loopholes in the tariff laws have resulted in U.S. firms using low-wage workers in Mexico and other nearby countries such as Haiti to assemble products for U.S. markets. Biemiller noted that in 1967, 33 plants just over the border in Mexico employed 4,000 workers. By last year, he said, 527 such plants employed 83,000 workers.

All those, he stressed, are jobs lost to the United States. Besides jobs, Biemiller said, America has lost tax revenue from both companies and payrolls. And the phrase "low-cost imports" conceals the higher cost to the nation in unemployment insurance and other by-products of increased joblessness.

Biemiller cited the "action program" adopted this year by the AFL-CIO General Board which called on the President to:

- Use his Trade Act powers to establish quotas on imports of industrial goods in areas where U.S. production has declined.
- Impose import restrictions against countries that discriminate against U.S. commerce.
- Put export quotas on raw materials and other products in short supply in the United States.

The program also called on Congress to close tax loopholes that encourage the shift of manufacturing abroad and to regulate the export of American capital and technology.

Sidell Heads Campaign on Parkison's Disease

President William Sidell of the Carpenters is chairman of the 1975 national campaign of the American Parkinson Disease Association.

The association, which hopes to raise $1 million in the fund-raising drive, subsidizes care and treatment centers and conducts an information program about Parkinson's disease.

Two-Thirds Covered:

Unions Show Gains In Federal Service

Both the number and percentage of federal employes represented by unions holding exclusive bargaining rights continued to rise during 1974, the U.S. Civil Service Commission reported.

As of last November 1,142,419 federal workers were represented by unions, an increase of 56,000 from the previous year.

That figure represents a record 57 percent of the total federal workforce—and an estimated two-thirds of all eligible federal employes. About 10 percent of government employes are supervisors not eligible for union representation.

The totals do not include the autonomous U.S. Postal Service, where 607,000 workers are represented by unions—87 percent of the total. If the highly organized postal workers were included as part of the federal workforce, 64 percent of federal workers would be represented by unions.

Just 10 years earlier—in 1964—only 230,000 federal workers or 12 percent of the non-postal workforce were represented by unions.

Although a substantially higher percentage of hourly-paid blue-collar federal workers are represented by unions — 82 percent compared with 48 percent among salaried white-collar employes—the salaried group has a growing lead in absolute numbers.

In 1970, for the first time the number of white-collar employes in exclusive bargaining units moved ahead of the number of blue-collar workers. As of last November, the lead had grown to a commanding 736,000 salaried employes to 406,000 blue-collar workers.

The stronger union traditions in the blue-collar occupations probably result in a higher percentage of union members in bargaining units than in the white-collar fields. There is no union shop in the federal service and the number of workers in units that have voted for union representation is substantially larger than the dues-paying membership. Unions that hold bargaining rights are required by law to represent non-members as well as members.

During 1974, there was a significant gain in the number and percentage of federal employes in bargaining units in which a union contract has been negotiated. The 985,000 non-postal workers covered by written agreements as of November 1974 was up 18 percent or 147,000 workers from the previous year.

Among unions and councils with exclusive bargaining rights, the American Federation of Government Employees, an AFL-CIO affiliate, continued to represent more federal employes than all other unions combined.

The 1974 total of 650,000 in AFGE bargaining units was up more than 25,000 from the previous year and included 441,600 salaried workers and 208,400 hourly-paid workers.

Among unions representing more than 25,000 workers with a predominantly blue-collar membership, Metal Trades Councils affiliated with the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. posted an 11 percent gain, to 58,370. Separate Machinists' units, usually in smaller installations, bargained for 30,170 workers, up 2 percent from 1973. According to the report, the only major union that had a decline in employes represented was the unaffiliated National Association of Government Employes, which represents 74,000 workers.

AFL-CIO Backs Curbs On Illegal Alien Hiring

The AFL-CIO endorsed legislation to crack down on employers who hire aliens illegally in the United States—usually at substandard wages and working conditions.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller told a House Judiciary subcommittee that fear of being turned in to immigration authorities makes the illegal alien "an easy prey for the unscrupulous employer looking for cheap labor."

The alien's employment both adds to joblessness among United States citizens and pulls down wages for all workers in the community, Biemiller noted.

Under present law, employers are specifically exempt from criminal penalties against persons who harbor illegal aliens. A bill introduced by Judiciary Committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D-N.J.) would eliminate this exemption and make employers criminally liable for knowingly hiring an illegal alien.

Biemiller said the legislation would be improved by modifying the requirement that the employment be "knowingly" and eliminating the stipulation that an employer is absolved of responsibility if he gets from an employe a signed statement that the worker is legally in the United States.

The influx of illegal aliens has spread beyond farm labor to almost all industries and services, Biemiller noted. Immigrants from other nations who have legally been admitted to the United States are especially harmed by the hiring of illegals, he stressed.

The United States should continue to be a land of opportunity and a haven of liberty for those from other countries, Biemiller said. But he warned that the policy of welcoming immigrants "is threatened by the increasing number of persons who enter this country illegally, take jobs needed by our own unemployed, and undermine domestic labor standards by working at low wages paid by exploiting employers."

Welfare-Pension Panel Includes 3 Unionists

A 15-member Advisory Council on Employee Welfare & Pension Benefit Plans has been appointed by the Labor Dept. in accordance with a law requiring representation of various groups.

The three union appointees are AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, named for the maximum three-year term; Building & Construction Trades President Robert A. Georgine, appointed for two years, and Teamsters Sec.-Treas. Murray W. Miller, named to a one-year term.

One of the three public members is Nelson Cruikshank, president of the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Over Money Supply:

Secretive Federal Reserve Wields Unchecked Power

Most Americans may not be aware of it, but the secretive operations and policies of the Federal Reserve Board have a direct impact on their daily lives and their livelihoods.

Markley Roberts, an economist in the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Research, notes in an article in the February issue of the American Federationist that the extraordinary power of the "Fed" (as it is familiarly called by those who watch it closely) derives from its power to control the nation's supply of money and credit and its power to control interest rates.

Tight money and record-high interest rates paved the way for the current collapse in the housing and auto industries which has led the nation's economy into a severe recession.

Much of the board's activities is cloaked in mystery, and the average American knows little about how it operates, Roberts observes in the AFL-CIO magazine.

This is the way the banker-oriented central banking system wants it, but not the way it is supposed to be, Roberts notes. He debunks the "myth" that the Fed is "independent," and not subject to "outside" interference.

"It is a creature of Congress, and Congress can make changes and reforms in the Fed if it chooses to do so," he notes. Unfortunately, the myth is perpetuated by remarks such as President Ford's statement in his October 1974 WIN speech.

"I have personally been assured by the chairman of the independent Federal Reserve Board that the supply of money and credit will expand sufficiently to meet the needs of our economy," Ford told Congress.

The Federal Reserve System was established by Congress in 1913 to serve as a "shock absorber" following a wave of bank failures in the panic of 1907, Roberts notes. Since then it has added another role, that of the nation's "money policy manager."

There are 12 Federal Reserve district banks throughout the country. In each district, the private commercial banks that are members of the central bank system become owners of the district bank by paying in capital to the Reserve bank in proportion to their assets.

Thus, private banks actually own the Reserve bank that is supposed to supervise and regulate them. The private banks elect six of the nine Reserve bank directors. The Fed in Washington names the other three. The nine directors choose a president, but he must be approved by the Federal Reserve Board in Washington.

"Of course, this veto power over the most powerful official in each district bank gives added power to the central bank's board of governors," Roberts notes. Thus the power flows back to Washington where conscious central control over the money supply, credit availability and interest rates is exercised over the entire U.S. economy.

"It is intolerable in a democracy that a major agency of public policy like the Federal Reserve System should be 'owned' privately by the member banks," Roberts comments. "And the banker-oriented "independence' of the Fed is intolerable in a democracy.

"The nation's management of its money policies is much too important to be left in the hands of people who are insulated from the major currents of American life by the so-called 'independence' of the Federal Reserve," the author declares.

He suggests that the Fed's failure to consult consumer or worker groups and the implicit assumptions of its operations that money policy is too complicated for ordinary people to understand "all indicate a distrust of the democratic process."

The Fed's "independence" is strengthened by the long-term appointments of its powerful, seven-member board of governors and by its self-financing. The board members are appointed to 14-year terms. And because it makes about $5 billion a year in "profits," the Fed does not depend on Congress for appropriations.

The Federal Reserve Board has three major tools of money management—its open-market operations, changes in the discount rate at which the agency lends money to private banks, and changes in bank reserve requirements.

The higher the reserve requirements, the less available credit there is and, consequently, interest rates go higher.

"There's no simple, exact, predictable cause-and-effect when the Fed manipulates reserve requirements," Roberts notes. Last November, the board briefly lowered reserve requirements but quickly raised them after discovering that it had "significantly underestimated" the loan-expanding, money-expanding effect of lowered reserve requirements.

"This experience reinforced the Fed's reliance on open-market operations for 'fine-tuning' money, credit and interest rates," Roberts observes.

By raising or lowering the discount rate — the interest rate charged by Reserve banks on short-term loans to member banks—the Fed controls interest rates and the money supply. Its most powerful and important money policy tool, however, is the Federal Open Market Committee which buys and sells government bonds and other federal securities. By so doing, the Fed can change the direction of the market.

"The Fed's buying and selling of government bonds in the open market changes the level of bank reserves," Roberts notes. "These reserves determine how much bank lending there will be. And the volume of bank lending is a major factor in determining the level of business activity—and the availability of jobs."

Far too often, Roberts points out, the board has used its tremendous power to choke off essential growth in the money supply through a tight general money policy, "giving us credit shortages and raising interest rates to the highest levels in more than 100 years—helping to produce the recessions of 1969-70 and 1974-75."

NO-RAIDING AGREEMENT is signed by union presidents Charles A. Perlik, Jr., left, of the Newspaper Guild and A. Sandy Bevis of the Typographical Union at the ITU headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo. The pact was hailed by the Guild and ITU as a step toward eliminating "all possible sources of conflict" between the two unions.

Labor Dept. to Adjust Overtime Exemptions

The Labor Dept. has announced an interim increase in the minimum weekly salaries that firms must pay executives, administrative and professional employes in order to have them excluded from the overtime pay requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Under the regulations effective Apr. 1, no person earning less than $155 a week can be denied overtime pay as an exempt executive or administrative employe. The present exemption floor is $125.

The $140 minimum salary for "professionals" excluded from overtime protection under the FLSA will be raised to $170 under the new regulations.

A third category of persons who do not have to meet as strict a definition of executive, administrative or professional employment currently must be paid at least $200 a week to be exempt. That minimum—known as the "upset" salary test—will be raised to $250 on Apr. 1.

All three salary figures are below the amounts the Labor Dept.'s Wage-Hour Division proposed last summer. At subsequent hearings, the AFL-CIO contended the proposed rates were too low: employer groups complained they were too high.

The Labor Dept. had originally proposed a $160 exemption for executive and administrative employes, a $185 professional exclusion and a $300 a week "upset" test.

Instead, it adopted an increase lower than the rise in the consumer price index since the last adjustment. The reason for the reduction, the department said, was "to eliminate any inflationary impact."

The interim rates effective Apr. 1 will be further modified on the basis of a salary study and analysis now being conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The department said the interim rate procedure is being adopted in recognition that the 1970 salary tests "have become obsolete," but it said the use of interim rates shouldn't be taken as a precedent.

As under the present regulations, lower salary tests are used in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and American Samoa. These rates will be increased on Apr. 1 by the same dollar amount as mainland minimums —to $130 for executive and administrative employes, to $150 for professionals and to $200 for the upset salary test.

Food Chains, Unions Adopt Bargaining Guide

Miami Beach, Fla.—Unions and employers in the retail food industry agreed here on a set of collective bargaining guidelines aimed at reducing strikes and improving contract negotiations.

The guidelines seek to avoid "eleventh-hour bargaining" through an early exchange of contract proposals and a strong commitment to mediation as "a cornerstone of rational collective bargaining."

Three unions and leading food store chains are members of the Joint Labor-Management Committee of the Retail Food Industry, a 19-member group established last year. The Retail Clerks, Meat Cutters and Teamsters—the principal unions to which food store workers belong—make up the labor side of the committee. A neutral, Wayne L. Horvitz, serves as chairman.

The joint committee has held monthly meetings in various regions of the nation, bringing local union and management representatives into the discussions.

Its collective bargaining statement cautioned against "negotiating in the press" and suggested the possibility of agreement by the two parties on either a news blackout or joint releases.

It said the real issues leading to a strike possibility should be fully understood by both parties before any strike or lockout action is taken. A mediator can help clarify the issues for the parties, the panel suggested.

"All possible strike alternatives should be considered before a strike occurs," the report said, and time should be allowed for the union leadership to prepare data for ratification by the membership and for management to consult with its principals.

In the event of a strike, the joint committee said:

- Negotiations should continue.
- News releases by either side should be factual and kept to a minimum.
- Employers should be permitted to remove perishables to prevent spoilage.

"Eventually a strike will be settled," the panel stressed. "Personal exchanges, unfair and unfavorable propaganda exchanges will leave residual scars when normal relations resume."

NEW LABEL promoting American-made apparel is now appearing on men's and boys' clothing produced by member firms of the Clothing Manufacturers Association. The Clothing Workers hailed the introduction of the CMA label on clothes made by ACWA members, whose jobs are being wiped out by imports from low-wage countries.

Union Scores Smoking Bans As Diversion

"No smoking" ordinances adopted in a number of cities to ban smoking in public places divert attention from basic reform and "delay cleaning up the work environment," Homer Cole, secretary-treasurer of the Tobacco Workers charged.

The new ordinances are "unneeded and unenforceable," he said in a statement, and help create "another class of lawbreakers."

But the real problem is that the controversy over smoking in public places is diverting attention from industrial pollution to which millions of workers—smokers and non-smokers — are exposed, Cole declared.

"The TWIU firmly maintains," Cole said, "that the question of what is causing disease among the working population can only be resolved through intensive, objective research, not by scapegoating tobacco. 'No smoking' ordinances which set smoker against non-smoker and delay cleaning up the work environment are not the solution."

Cole charged also that the anti-smoking forces have substituted compulsion for persuasion in the new campaign for public ordinances.

Spur to Building:

Bills Backed to Ease Mortgage Charges

A pair of bills to stimulate homebuilding and bring down mortgage costs got a strong AFL-CIO endorsement—along with suggested amendments—in a statement submitted to a House Banking subcommittee.

As introduced by Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), chairman of the parent Banking, Currency & Housing Committee, one of the bills would provide a temporary mortgage interest subsidy for middle-income families to help them buy homes.

For the first three years of the mortgage, the government would pay the difference in costs between a 6 percent interest rate and the actual mortgage interest—currently around 9 percent. The fourth year, the government would pay half the subsidy and thereafter the homebuyer would be responsible for the full amount.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller expressed concern that this would both tend to keep mortgage rates high and create a hardship for some homebuyers when they have to sharply increase their payments when the subsidy ends.

He suggested, instead, that the government use funds available under various programs to enable lending institutions to issue mortgages at 6 percent under limitations that would ensure the funds would go "for middle-income families to buy medium-priced homes."

The government would then purchase the mortgages for later resale at whatever discount the market might require, thus replenishing funds for other mortgages.

Biemiller said this would also tend to put downward pressure on private market mortgage interest rates, thus lessening the gap between regular mortgages and the 6 percent funding.

The AFL-CIO also endorsed an emergency homeowners mortgage relief bill, introduced by Rep. Thomas L. Ashley (D-Ohio), that would prevent an immediate foreclosure of a home whose owner's income had been sharply cut because of unemployment or other adverse economic conditions. The government would pay the mortgage, taxes and insurance premiums for up to two years, subject to a ceiling of $375 a month. The bill would authorize the Secretary of Housing & Urban Development to set conditions for repayment.

Biemiller urged that the legislation set a 6 percent interest ceiling on repayment of money advanced to avoid foreclosure of a mortgage.

The AFL-CIO statement also endorsed sections of unrelated legislation that would authorize HUD to set national building code standards designed to conserve fuel and energy in heating, cooling, ventilating and providing hot water for new residential buildings.

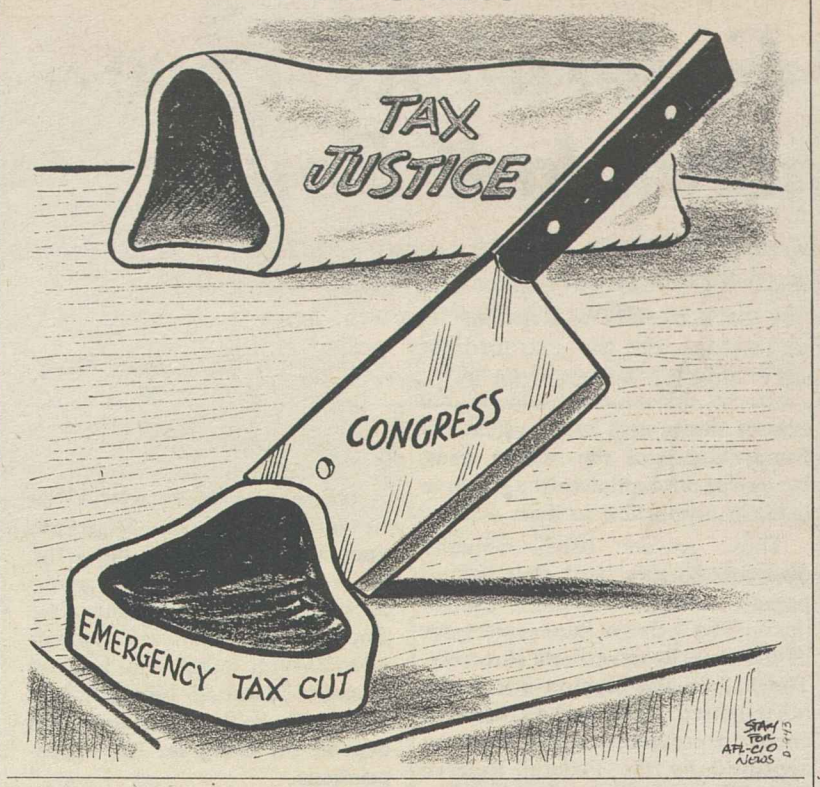
Another provision would provide federal financial assistance to low-income and particularly elderly homeowners to winterize their dwellings with insulation and storm windows.

Harry Boyer Receives Jewish Appeal Award

Philadelphia—Harry Boyer, president of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, received the 1975 Humanitarian Award from the Labor Division of the Federation Allied Jewish Appeal-Israel Emergency Fund.

Boyer, who accepted the award at the division's annual fund raising luncheon, was recognized for "his tireless service to organized labor and commitment to the struggle for universal human rights."

First Course



Ford, Congress Spar On Economic Policy

(Continued from Page 1)

ported the legislation to suspend it.

In a move to complete action on a tax cut and refund bill before Easter so that a multi-billion dollar rise in buying power flows into the economy this spring, the Senate Finance Committee agreed to postpone a battle over repeal of the oil depletion allowance.

The House had added a repealer to the tax cut bill brought to the floor by the Ways & Means Committee on a 248-163 vote—despite warnings that it threatened to delay Senate action on the tax cut.

To avoid that delay, senators on the Finance Committee on both sides of the issue agreed to delete that portion of the House-passed bill in return for a promise by Chairman Russell B. Long (L-La.) to hold hearings on the issue and press for a Senate vote by July.

The House bill would pump $21.3 billion into the economy—$8.1 billion in individual icome tax rebates of $100 to $200, a roughly equivalent reduction in 1975 individual income taxes and a cut of $5.1 billion in business taxes.

Ford's tax rebate plan would have given $1,000 rebates to persons with incomes over $41,000 and less than $100 to most moderate-income taxpayers. The House bill would provide the minimum rebate of $100 to both the lowest income and the highest income taxpayers with up to $200 for those in the middle range.

A resolution calling on the Federal Reserve Board to expand the money supply in the first half of 1975 "so as to lower long-term interest rates and thus do its part in promptly and steadily reducing unemployment" sailed through the House by a 367-55 vote.

Even if passed by the Senate, it remains a "sense of Congress" resolution which is neither subject to a presidential veto nor binding on the Federal Reserve Board.

A stronger bill that would have directed the "Fed" to take such action—asserting the power of Congress to instruct an "independent" agency it created—was rejected by a 20-19 vote of the House Banking Committee.

The congressional alternative to the Administration's price-raising energy conservation plan appeared to be shaping up in the House Ways & Means Committee.

Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) unveiled a plan that would link the pace of measures to curb dependence on imported oil with the nation's gradual recovery from recession. It includes elements of import quotas, allocation of fuel, and a gasoline tax that would apply only for purchases above a specified number of gallons a week.

Senate Nears Showdown on Rules Reform

(Continued from Page 1)

percent of the entire Senate membership enlarged the rules reform bloc from a simple majority to the two-thirds support that enabled Allen's filibuster to be broken, even under the old Rule 22.

For the key vote on a cloture motion, 94 senators were on hand with five absent and one vacancy because of the still unresolved New Hampshire election dispute.

Under the old Rule 22, which applied in this case, 63 votes were needed to limit debate. The actual vote of 73-21 was well above that.

The original rules reform proposal, sponsored by Senators Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) and James B. Pearson (R-Kan.), would have enabled 57 senators to end the filibuster.

The proposed compromise, based on a formula suggested by Sen. Russell B. Long (D-La.), would require 60 votes for cloture.

Even if the rules change is adopted, a minority of the Senate would be able to keep a majority from acting—a power that has been used in the past by both liberals and conservatives. But the number of successful filibusters would presumably be less.

Last September for example, a labor-backed bill to set up an independent consumer protection agency was killed by a Senate filibuster. The vote to invoke cloture on Sept. 19, 1974, was 64-34. That was two short of the number needed under the two-thirds requirement of the old rule. But it would have been adequate under the proposed rules change.

IUE Locals Report 20% Jobless Rate

The Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers announced that a survey of its locals showed that more than 20 percent of U.S. workers represented by the union are unemployed.

IUE locals reported 56,254 workers on layoff, including 46,352 on indefinite layoff. A total of 304 locals, including the vast bulk of IUE's U.S. membership, responded to the survey, covering conditions in January.

As for future prospects, the survey indicated that 6,000 to 8,000 additional layoffs are likely by April, boosting the unemployment rate to more than 22 percent.

"An unemployment rate of over 20 percent is just sickening," IUE President Paul Jennings commented. "Jobs are an urgent, absolute must."

Key Economic Indicators Plunge, Jobless Aid Rolls Top 6 Million

(Continued from Page 1)

economists a better measurement because it is adjusted to remove the effects of inflation. The Commerce Dept.'s index is unadjusted.

Seven of the nine indicators for which January data were available when the Commerce Dept. compiled its index showed unfavorable or declining trends. Two—stock prices and change in consumer installment debt—showed improvements.

The unfavorable indicators were the average workweek, initial claims for unemployment insurance, new orders for durable goods, plant and equipment orders, the ratio of price to unit labor costs, industrial materials prices and building permits.

Contributing most to the decline in the index were building permits, which were off 19.5 percent.

Reflecting the slump and the mounting joblessness accompanying it, the number of persons drawing unemployment insurance benefits has now topped the six-million mark, the Labor Dept. reported.

During the week ended Feb. 15, unemployment benefits were paid to 6,085,000 workers under regular state or special federal programs. Under state programs alone, a record 5,037,900 persons drew jobless aid during the week, an increase of 51,000 from the previous week.

The states posting the highest volumes were Pennsylvania, California, Virginia, Arizona and Louisiana. The unemployment rate for workers covered by state jobless insurance remained at 7.6 percent for the second week in a row.

A total of 605,200 new claims for unemployment benefits were filed under all programs for the week ended Feb. 22, the Labor Dept. said. Of this number, 564,300 initial claims were lodged with state employment offices.

Amid company announcements of more worker layoffs and production cutbacks, there were these other gloomy reports on the economy:

- Construction spending fell 2.7 percent in January to an annual rate of $128.1 billion, the lowest level since November 1972, the Commerce Dept. said.
- Both business and personal bankruptcies continued to spread. Dun & Bradstreet reported business failures rose 27 percent to 2,177 in the first two months of 1975, after increasing only 3 percent during all of 1974.
- The volume of help-wanted ads in the country's major newspapers fell 7.6 percent in January to 73 percent of the 1967 average, and was 34.2 percent under the year-earlier level. according to the Conference Board, a business-oriented research organization.
- As the recession deepened, more Americans enrolled in the food stamp program. The Agriculture Dept. reported an additional 700,000 persons participated in the program in January, bringing the total enrollment for the month to 17.9 million.

NEW STAMP COMMEMORATING the collective bargaining system will go on sale Mar. 13 at post offices across the country. The stamp's design features two overlapping circles to symbolize the cooperative partnership between labor and management.

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$30 Billion Tax Cut Urged To Turn Economy Around

8.2% Rate Hides New Job Losses

The nation's unemployment rate in February—at 8.2 percent of the work force—remained unchanged from a month earlier, but behind the jobless rate were clear signs of "continuing deterioration" of the economy, AFL-CIO President George Meany observed.

"No one can take any satisfaction from these figures," Meany said of the latest monthly report on joblessness by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In an analysis of the February employment situation, Meany cited a loss of nearly 540,000 jobs over the month, bringing the decline in total employment since last September to a staggering 2.4 million.

"For an economy that needs an additional 2 million jobs a year just to keep pace with the growing work force," Meany said, "this is a disaster."

"America has not made progress in dealing with the problem of unemployment, and has not even reached a brief respite in rising joblessness," Meany declared.

Total employment in February declined for the fifth straight month, dropping to 84,027,000. The loss of jobs in the September-February period was the largest five-month cutback recorded since the end of World War II, BLS noted.

The fact that the unemployment rate remained unchanged last month was due to a statistical subtlety, not to any improvement in the economic picture.

The jobless rate is the percentage

(Continued on Page 7)

McDONNELL DOUGLAS workers battle freezing weather as well as stubborn management as they picket the company's corporate headquarters in St. Louis, Mo. Some 20,000 members of the Machinists at installations in California, Cape Canaveral and St. Louis struck the giant aerospace firm Feb. 10 in a contract dispute over wages, pension benefits and other conditions. **(Story, Page 6.)**

Measure Cleared in 8 Days:

Speedy House Action Adds $6 Billion to Jobs Program

The House voted to pump an additional $6 billion in federal funds into job-creating programs. It approved by a veto-proof 313-113 margin an emergency appropriations bill put together by Democratic leaders and cleared for Senate action just eight days after it was initiated.

During the same week, the House rejected a request by President Ford that Congress cancel $1.2 billion in spending authority for an assortment of federal programs, most of them under the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

The budget rescission was rejected by a lopsided 371-17 vote after a Republican attempt to rescind a portion of the amount was defeated, 252-132.

Since the House rejected the budget cut, there is no need for the Senate to act on the President's request. Disapproval by either the House or Senate kills the plan.

In a last-minute concession, Ford asked Congress to appropriate $2 billion for public service jobs and a summer youth employment program — the biggest items in the Democratic emergency appropriations bill.

But that did not deter the House from voting the full $5.9 billion in the bill put together by its Appropriations Committee. Most of the money represents the difference between the spending ceilings that had been set by Congress for various programs and the money that had actually been appropriated.

Major provisions include $375 million for the job opportunities program of the Economic Development Administration, $465 million for construction and repair of public buildings; $443 million to purchase vehicles for the Postal Service and other agencies; $385 million in small business loans; $120 million for college work-study programs, and substantial funds for reclamation and flood prevention projects. There are also funds for work incentive job training and child care services.

(Continued on Page 2)

Meany Asks Quick Vote By Senate

By David L. Perlman

A tax cut of at least $30 billion is needed to turn the economy around and start America on the road to full employment, AFL-CIO President George Meany testified.

Meany praised the $21.3 billion tax cut voted by the House last month as "a significant step" towards economic recovery. But he told the Senate Finance Committee that the nation is so close to economic collapse that a bigger stimulus is needed.

"Measures which seemed adequate a month ago or even a week ago are no longer sufficient," Meany testified.

The AFL-CIO proposals he presented to the committee would add more than $9 billion to the combination of refunds and tax reductions provided in the House-passed bill.

Like the House bill, Meany said, the Senate amendments should be targeted to give more purchasing power to low-income and middle-income Americans. And he expressed the AFL-CIO's sharp disagreement with the Ford Administration position that the biggest share of tax relief should go to those who already have the biggest incomes.

Meany scoffed at the claim by Treasury Secretary William E. Simon that tax relief for upper-income persons would be better for

(Continued on Page 3)

Federally Funded Health Insurance Pressed for Unemployed Workers

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to provide health insurance coverage for workers who lose their jobs.

Labor's two-part program was presented by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman at hearings held by committees of both the House and Senate.

It called for:

- Continuation of the health insurance coverage that had been provided by a worker's last employer. Under a bill introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and other sponsors, the federal government would pay the cost of the premiums after employer payments ended.
- Automatic eligibility for Medicaid—without a means test—for jobless workers who did not have health insurance coverage in their last employment. The cost would be fully met by federal funds, without a state matching payment.

Seidman urged Congress to act without delay, noting that most of the 5 million persons on the unemployment compensation rolls have lost or are about to lose the coverage that went with their previous jobs.

It's hard enough for jobless workers to stretch their unemployment insurance checks to pay for food and shelter, Seidman said. "They certainly can't shoulder the high cost of the health insurance they lost."

(Continued on Page 8)

Housing Spur Tied to Lower Interest Rates

By John R. Oravec

Housing starts in the depressed home building industry could rebound 50 to 100 percent by the end of the year if the Administration and Congress implement needed programs quickly, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

He said that a healthy housing industry would stimulate the nation's economic recovery and reduce unemployment.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the National Housing Conference, Meany renewed the AFL-CIO's call for subsidized 6 percent home mortgage rates and protections against foreclosures of unemployed homeowners.

(Continued on Page 8)

JOB DEVELOPMENT proposals are outlined by New York Gov. Hugh L. Carey to delegates at the State AFL-CIO jobs and legislative conference. Carey also proposed increased jobless benefits for the state's unemployed workers.

N.Y. Labor's Campaign for Jobs Gets Strong Support of Governor

Albany, N.Y.—The New York State AFL-CIO's campaign for job development programs and increased unemployment benefits got a major boost from Gov. Hugh L. Carey.

Addressing the state federation's jobs and legislative conference here, Carey told the 1,000 delegates he was ready to propose legislation to raise jobless assistance payments 70 percent for workers with three dependents and 30 percent for single workers.

The two-day session was part of the AFL-CIO national effort initiated in January by the General Board's "Action Program to Put America Back to Work." Similar conferences have been scheduled by other state and local AFL-CIO bodies.

Citing the statewide unemployment rate of 9.3 percent, Carey said the main concern in America and the state is jobs. He assured delegates that new programs would be developed to meet the state's needs.

State AFL-CIO President Raymond R. Corbett called on delegates to step up the jobs campaign in their home localities by striving to expand support for labor-backed legislation in Congress and the state legislature.

Carey's proposal for increased unemployment compensation would raise the maximum weekly benefits for single workers from $95 to $125 and to $162.50 for workers with three dependents.

He also said the state is formulating a plan with hopes of receiving federal cooperation to permit the use of the unemployment insurance fund to supplement earnings lost by reduced working hours.

Such a plan, Carey said, would keep workers in contact with the labor force, with their unions and keep them qualified for fringe benefits. He said it was particularly essential that employers and workers cooperate to make the program work.

Carey said the court-ordered release of $1 billion in water and sewage treatment funds illegally impounded by the Nixon and Ford Administrations would be quickly translated into jobs.

"In normal times, that would mean 25,000 additional jobs for New York state," he said. "But these are not normal times and I have instructed the staff . . . to accelerate the use of these funds to create as many jobs as they possibly can in drawing up the construction contracts."

In all future programs, Carey said he would follow two basic principles: to cut through federal and state red tape wherever possible and to make every project as labor-intensive as possible.

Carey also called for a massive federal program of public service jobs, patterned after the Public Works Administration of the 1930s "to give meaningful work in building day care centers, community centers for the aged, neighborhood health centers and the kind of housing we can afford."

He also urged Congress to quickly enact the labor-endorsed legislation providing health insurance coverage for workers who have lost their jobs.

House Votes $6 Billion In Emergency Jobs Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO President George Meany had hailed the introduction of the emergency funding bill as "welcome news" to the unemployed and those fearing unemployment.

Any delay in its enactment would be "unthinkable," Meany said, and labor is pressing for the Senate to complete action on the bill before the Easter recess.

With its filibuster rules battle out of the way, the Senate was stepping up its legislative pace.

It took up, debated and passed a strip mining bill that would set environmental standards for surface mining and tax future coal production to pay for restoration of land already devastated.

President Ford vetoed a similar bill last year, but the 84-15 vote in the Senate for the new bill was substantially more than the two-thirds that would be needed to override a veto.

The House is expected to take up its version of strip-mining legislation shortly, with a wide variety of views reflected in statements by members of the Interior Committee.

The shaping of an alternative to the Administration's energy tax proposal continued in the House Ways & Means Committee. No effort was made in either the House or Senate to override Ford's veto of the bill to block any rise in oil tariffs for 90 days. The President's agreement to defer the second step of his planned increase was seen on Capitol Hill as a conciliatory step that made it unlikely the veto could now be overridden.

The House chose to send the veto message for consideration to the Ways & Means Committee, thus making it possible to mount an effort to override the veto if the President should try to revive his inflation-breeding oil tariff plan.

Claude Jodoin Dies at 61, First President of CLC

Ottawa—Claude Jodoin, first president of the Canadian Labor Congress, died at a hospital here at the age of 61, and the trade union movement in the United States joined the workers of Canada in mourning.

Jodoin had been president of the former Trades & Labor Congress of Canada and was elected president of the CLC at the founding convention in 1956.

"He gave his life for the working people of Canada," CLC President Joe Morris said in a tribute. "We remember him on the picket line . . . at trade union conferences, national and international. His working life was cut tragically short with a paralyzing stroke in May 1967, and he remained hospitalized for the rest of his life."

AFL-CIO President George Meany declared that "the cause of free, democratic trade unionism has lost a valiant fighter" in the death of Jodoin. The Canadian leader had often been a fraternal delegate to AFL-CIO conventions, Meany noted, "and all of us have lost a friend."

Jodoin, survived by his wife, Lily, worked in the garment shops of Montreal as a youngster and became an organizer for the Ladies' Garment Workers in 1937 and manager of its Montreal Joint Board in 1947 after World War II military service. He was president of the Montreal Trades & Labor Council before his election as president of the national trade union federation in 1954.

Succeeds Seidman:

Irving Brown Joins ILO Governing Body

Geneva—Irving Brown, AFL-CIO European representative, has succeeded AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman as a member of the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization.

The changeover was effected on the eve of the recent session of the United Nations specialized agency. The worker members designated Brown to take the place in their ranks that Seidman had vacated after three years to give his full time to his social security post.

Under the 125-nation ILO's unique tripartite structure trade unionists and employers both have 12 seats on the 48-member Governing Body, while governments hold the other 24.

The key role played by collective bargaining in giving workers their say in management decisions was emphasized by Brown when addressing the executive group for the first time.

He praised as "going to the very heart" of the issue the report prepared on an ILO-sponsored meeting dealing with "worker participation" in industry matters.

While some European unions call for representation on company executive boards, the ILO report noted that collective bargaining by workers through their unions "is itself a form of workers' participation."

Such bargaining on wages, working conditions and other questions "makes what used to be in the past a unilateral decision on the part of management a joint decision," the report said.

Describing collective bargaining as "basic in the relationships between workers and management," Brown urged the ILO to give the report the "widest possible distribution in as many languages as possible."

The Governing Body dropped the Arab-introduced issue of granting the Palestine Liberation Organization observer status in the ILO by referring it without debate to the annual conference, the agency's general assembly, to be held in June.

This action avoided a repetition of the waste of many hours by the executive body at its preceding session on a question that can be decided only by the conference in any event.

Gideon Ben-Israel of Histadrut, the Israeli federation of labor, assured the Governing Body during a discussion on the situation of Arab workers in his country that "wages and social benefits are exactly the same for all."

"The Histadrut is strong enough to insure that every worker in Israel gets fair treatment," he said.

In a preliminary report to the Governing Body, a fact-finding commission of three jurists sent to Chile by the ILO found that the human rights of trade unionists had been "seriously impaired" since the present military government seized power.

As a result, the commission said, "important sections of the trade union movement have been crippled."

ILO officials were rebuked by Joseph Morris, chairman of the workers' group, for failing to take more effective action to secure the release of Beyene Solomon, president of the Ethiopian trade union confederation, who was arrested last September by the new military rulers of his country.

Doll, Toy Union Elects Serpico, Widens Board

New York — The Doll & Toy Workers elected two new executive officers and approved changes in the union's constitution at a special convention here.

John Serpico of Chicago was elected secretary-treasurer to succeed Milton Gordon, who resigned but will continue to serve as administration assistant to President Julius Isaacson.

Delegates also elected Andrew Arcuri executive vice president. He replaces Victor Failla, who resigned because of health reasons.

The constitutional changes, which include the expansion of the executive board to 18 members and the addition of a fifth vice president, were proposed by Isaacson to streamline the union's operations.

To fill an existing vacancy, Henry Harrison of Chicago was elected fourth vice president and Robert Fox was elected fifth vice president, a newly created office. Delegates also elected five new members to an expanded executive board.

NEW U.S. WORKER MEMBER of the International Labor Organization's Governing Body, Irving Brown, confers with his predecessor, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, left, at a recent ILO session. Brown is the federation's European representative. Seidman relinquished the ILO post to give full time to his departmental duties.

Protection Lags:

States Rated Poor On Safety Record

States with federally approved safety plans are not providing workers adequate protection on the job from injury and health hazards, an AFL-CIO analysis of state performance reports filed with the Labor Dept. concluded.

The study zeroes in on "the many areas of unevenness and inadequacy" of performance among the 26 state plans operating under Section 18 of the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

That section of the law allows states to enforce their own safety and health programs if they are "at least as effective" as federal standards. The study, conducted by Neill DeClercq, staff assistant with the federation's Dept. of Research, finds that workers covered by the state plans are provided with "second-best protections."

Two major conclusions drawn from the analysis of state plans by DeClercq are:

- There is waste of money and manpower, which would have yielded better results if spent to meet federal responsibilities.
- Millions of workers are deprived of protections as effective as those under federal programs.

"The AFL-CIO summary is not our findings," DeClercq points out, "but rather a compilation of those by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration itself in semi-annual reports evaluating the performance of the state programs."

The study attributes much of the shortcomings of the state programs to the policies of the Nixon and Ford Administrations and finds that most of states even fail to meet the overly lenient guidelines set up by OSHA.

The AFL-CIO has consistently opposed OSHA's expansion of the state plan program, contending that federal funds used for that purpose should be used instead to improve federal programs.

For fiscal year 1976, the Administration has budgeted $48.5 million for state programs and only $48.05 million for federal OSHA programs.

But since the budget was submitted, New Jersey and Illinois have abandoned their state safety programs and requested OSHA to resume federal job safety and health enforcement in their states.

New York has until the end of March to adopt enabling legislation for its safety plan. But it too is expected to opt for federal enforcement.

With Illinois and New Jersey dropping out, and New York's anticipated pull-out, only 23 state plans will be left. Because of the millions of workers in the three states, the AFL-CIO has asked OSHA to reprogram its budget to provide more funds for federal enforcement.

George H. R. Taylor, the federation's job safety specialist, noted that by shifting 393 qualified compliance officers from the three states, the federal inspection staff could be enlarged to 1,500.

DeClercq's analysis was based on 18 of 26 state plans which submitted reports.

In all but three of the 18 states, the safety programs are understaffed. Nine of the states were reported to have too few health compliance officers and three others—Alaska, Hawaii and Nevada—had none.

Expenditures for safety and health programs in nine states were below the amounts originally appropriated, the study showed.

The reasons for the underspending included manpower shortages, slow development of programs in some states, lack of enabling legislation and inability to match federal funds.

The analysis also cites numerous deficiencies in enforcement, inspections and program development. In some states operations manuals were lacking or incomplete. In others, the inspection scheduling process was poor, or few health inspections were conducted. Follow-up inspections were often lacking, and state inspectors passed over violations which were later uncovered by federal inspectors.

In 10 state reports, there was a substantial lack of evidence of workers' representatives witnessing inspections, ignoring the federal safety law.

The average amount of fines assessed by the states, especially for serious violations, was substantially less than proposed by federal inspectors.

In Maryland, for example, penalties for nonserious violations averaged $2.90, compared with $15.57 for federal penalities. For serious violations, the Maryland penalty averaged $229, compared with $615 for federal fines.

In South Carolina, the average of state fines was $1.83 for nonserious violations and $253 for serious violations. But federal compliance officers in the state assessed fines averaging $19 for nonserious violations and $802 for serious violations.

IMMEDIATE TAX CUT of at least $30 billion is needed to point the economy toward full employment, AFL-CIO President George Meany tells the Senate Finance Committee. With him is Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller.

Meany Asks $30 Billion Tax Cut To Give Quick Stimulus to Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

the economy than putting income in the hands of those who most need the money. Simon's contention, Meany noted, is that the affluent would use their tax savings to buy high-priced appliances while the poor would fritter the money away on food and shelter.

Meany termed this "trickle-down economics with a "vengeance." An administration whose "disastrous economic policies" have cut so deeply into workers' buying power, he suggested, is in no position to contend that "the poor should not get a tax cut so that the rich can buy cars, color televisions and dishwashers."

The AFL-CIO statement called on the Senate to make these improvements in the House-passed tax bill:

- Provide for the sake of equity a tax reduction for a significant middle-income group that would not benefit from the increase in standard deductions in the House bill. The group affected is made up of families with annual incomes of $10,000 to $20,000 who itemize their deductions for reasons such as mortgage interest payments and unusually high medical expenses.

To help this group, Meany endorsed an amendment that has been proposed by Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.). It would give taxpayers the option to claim a $200 tax credit instead of the present $750 personal exemption for themselves and each dependent.

A tax credit is deducted from federal income tax owed; the exemption is deducted from the amount of income subject to taxation.

Generally, families with incomes under $20,000 would benefit from taking the proposed $200 per exemption tax credit. The Mondale proposal would add $5.8 billion to the tax relief in the House bill.

- Reduce the tax rate for all taxpayers on the first $2,000 of taxable income. The AFL-CIO proposed that the present 14 percent tax on the first $1,000 of taxable income be dropped to 7 percent and that the 15 percent rate on the second $1,000 be reduced to 13 percent. It would reduce everyone's taxes and provide a maximum $90 savings for most taxpayers. It would add an estimated $3.5 billion to the House bill reductions.
- Raise the 10 percent business investment tax credit provided by the House bill to the 12 percent that had been recommended by the President's Labor-Management Advisory Committee, with AFL-CIO participation. But Meany made clear the AFL-CIO's position that "as soon as this emergency situation is over, the investment credit should be repealed."

While that proposal would add $1.1 billion to the business tax relief in the House bill, the AFL-CIO also urged deletion of a House provision for an additional $1.2 billion in exemption from the corporation surtax.

Meany noted that the provision was supposed to provide relief for small business firms but most of the tax savings would go to "huge corporations which are already the prime beneficiaries of existing tax loopholes."

Generally, however, Meany praised the House bill as "equitable" and a sharp contrast to the President's proposal to give $1,000 rebates to the "elite" 2 percent of the population while "a $5,000 wage-earning family of four would receive $12—in two installments."

In questions and comments, members of the Senate Finance Committee indicated considerable agreement with Meany's testimony.

Meany repeatedly pressed the urgency of the legislation and the added damage to the economy and social structure that would result from delay in passing the tax cut.

He spoke of the heavy inner city unemployment, the joblessness facing young people entering the labor market and the economy's deterioration "with each passing day."

On the controversy over the House-passed repeal of the oil depletion allowance, Meany reiterated the AFL-CIO's belief that the allowance is a tax loophole that should be eliminated. But he said it would be "very, very unwise" to try to use this bill as a vehicle for repeal if it would result in a lengthy delay in the tax cut.

While the tax cut will head the economy in the right direction, Meany said, other actions and programs are still needed to create full employment and the AFL-CIO has a long "shopping list."

But the biggest single step, Meany suggested, would be to reduce mortgage interest costs to 6 percent to bring housing payments within reach of millions of families now priced out of the market.

And not even the Republicans on the committee spoke up in defense of Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns, who Meany considers the architect of the disastrous economic "game plans" of the Nixon and Ford Administrations.

Before Burns and his cohorts began putting their economic theories into practice, Meany recalled, the inflation rate was about 4 percent and unemployment closer to 3 percent.

Burns tried to apply the "classical" economics he learned in college 40 years ago, Meany suggested. But while he learned his lessons well then, "he hasn't learned a damned thing since."

Effect of Tax Proposals On Family of 4 in 1975

Wage or Salary Income	Present Law Tax	Tax Relief House Bill	Tax Relief AFL-CIO Proposals	Tax Relief Administration Proposal
$ 3,000	$ 0	$150	$150	$ 0
5,000	98	296	296	12
6,000	245	275	345	29
8,000	559	289	644	67
10,000	867	252	572	104
12,500	1,261	197	457	151
15,000	1,690	170	386	204
17,500	2,156	200	355	259
20,000	2,660	200	322	319
25,000	3,750	150	240	450
30,000	4,988	100	190	599
35,000	6,398	100	190	768
40,000	7,958	100	190	955
50,000	11,465	100	190	1,000

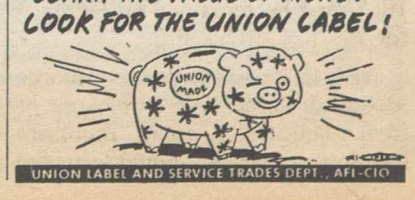
House Tax Proposal:
1) Rebate on 1974 taxes of 10%—minimum of $100 (or total income tax, whichever is less), maximum of $200, phaseout over $20,000 of income down to $100.
2) Increase in minimum standard deduction to $2,500; Increase standard deduction to 16% maximum of $3,000.
3) Earned income credit of 5% phasing out between $4,000 and $6,000 of earned income.

AFL-CIO Proposal:
1) House proposals plus:
2) $200 optional credit in lieu of $750 personal exemption.
3) Reduction in first bracket tax rate from 14% to 7% and in second bracket tax rate from 15% to 13%.

Administration Proposal:
1) 12% rebate on 1974 tax liability, maximum of $1,000.

Table assumes family has deductible expenses equal to 17% of income and therefore takes the standard deduction, the minimum standard deduction or itemizes—whichever is higher.

Source: AFL-CIO Dept. of Research



Taxes and Jobs

THE AFL-CIO IS HERE TODAY because America is in the worst economic emergency since the Great Depression. The situation is frightening now and it is growing more ominous each day.

The tax cut legislation before this committee was initiated and developed as a means to check the drastic downslide in the economy, to restore economic growth and move the nation closer to full employment.

It is our view that the House bill represents a substantial step in that direction—but only a step. Unfortunately, with each passing day, the economy's deterioration becomes more pronounced and more widespread. Events are rapidly overtaking all of us and measures which seemed adequate a month ago or even a week ago are no longer sufficient.

We therefore urge this committee and the Congress to build upon the House action and to cut taxes by at least $30 billion to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

An injection of purchasing power of at least that amount—targeted primarily to low- and middle-income Americans—is essential to help halt the downward spiral and move the economy from depression and the brink of disaster. Just as important, such a tax cut would provide a vitally needed signal to all Americans that their government is aware of the emergency and has the capacity and the will to take decisive and effective action.

Consumer purchasing power has fallen so sharply that it would now require some $60 billion to bring the average buying power of every man, woman and child in America merely back to the pre-recession level of the July-September quarter of 1973.

This drop in buying power and sales has resulted in huge inventories and an alarming drop in industry's operating rate. The nation's factories were operating at three-fourths of capacity in the fourth quarter of last year, according to the Federal Reserve Board. And sharp and protracted reductions in the real volume of business investment in plants, machinery and equipment are expected. Moreover, every cut in weekly work schedules and every additional week of layoffs, results in further drops in buying power and further declines in sales, production and employment.

THE NATION'S JOB SITUATION is far more serious than the official statistics indicate.

Last Friday the Labor Dept. reported that 7.5 million workers, 8.2 percent of the labor force, were unemployed. In just two months the number of jobless workers increased by almost 900,000. Since August 1974 unemployment has increased by 2.6 million. And since October 1973 unemployment has gone up by 3.4 million.

If you add together the officially unemployed, the hidden unemployed, and the under-employed, you get a total of 12.7 million American workers—13.7 percent of the labor force—who are suffering serious job and earnings problems. That's more than one out of every eight workers.

It is clear to us that the economy has reached a point where unemployment is feeding on unemployment and the economy's downward slide is gaining momentum. This is not just another "recession" for it has no parallel in the five recessions in the post-World War II period. America is far beyond the point where the situation can correct itself. Massive government action is needed.

—From AFL-CIO testimony before the Senate Finance Committee on tax reduction.

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A Word Edgewise:

Revisionists Distort U.S. Role In Debate on Cambodian Aid

By John P. Roche

WITH OMINOUS HEADLINES about the imminent collapse of Cambodia dominating the news, there has also been a great deal of flagellation about the nefarious role played by the United States in dragging the friendly, peaceful little country into the war. It is not uncommon to rewrite yesterday's history to suit today's needs, but the Cambodian instance is just a bit too much.

The fact is that we no more "enlarged" the war to include Cambodia than Gen. Eisenhower "enlarged" the war when he invaded Normandy in June 1944. For almost a third of a century the Indochinese Communists (as they once called themselves) have been fighting a war for Indochina. Not just for both Vietnams, but for Laos and Cambodia as well. Ho Chi Minh's clear objective, followed by his successors, was to establish a Communist successor state to French Indochina.

As early as the Geneva Conference of 1954 the Cambodian delegate was bitterly complaining about North Vietnamese aggression. Hanoi maintained the fiction that the trouble in Cambodia was caused by autonomous rebels, but when the time came to sign the military agreements (the only things signed at Geneva), he signed for the so-called "Red Khmers." As the war in Vietnam began to heat up in the early 1960s (particularly after the North Vietnamese ignored the Laos neutralization accord of 1962), Hanoi, with its characteristic ruthlessness, moved to consolidate its power along the Laotian and Cambodian borders of the Republic of Vietnam. Several Cambodian provinces (virtually unpopulated) were integrated into the Ho Chi Minh Trail, and sanctuaries were set up for the benefit of Communist troops in Vietnam.

The then ruler of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, began an intricate game designed to maintain the independence of the Khmer kingdom, an ethnic enclave of some five million surrounded by traditional enemies: Thais and Vietnamese. It would take a volume, preferably fiction, to convey the extent of Sihanouk's efforts. One consequence was his willingness to put the telescope to his blind eye when American bombers went after the Cambodian sanctuaries—as long as he had no official knowledge, he would not complain.

But while the Prince was working one side of the street, his wife Monique (a Vietnamese) was working the other. The simplest way to get stuff to the North Vietnamese troops in the South was by boat to Sihanoukville and thence overland to the sanctuaries—the so-called "Sihanouk Trail." For years, top American military figures wanted to cut this line by a limited invasion of (already Communist-invaded) Cambodia, claiming that (if memory serves) Hanoi's forces were getting about 6-8 million tons of equipment a year via that route. The State Dept., opposed to any incursion, downgraded this estimate to some 3-4 million tons. To get ahead of the story, when Sihanouk was toppled and a thorough investigation launched, it turned out that Monique, using the Cambodian army to run her transport, had probably set up the biggest arms-running operation in history, delivering some 10-12 million tons a year. Cambodia had become an arms syndicate that issued postage stamps.

In the spring of 1970 an event occurred which took all hands by surprise. In a sudden convulsion, triggered by the conviction that Sihanouk was selling out his people, the Cambodians threw out the Prince and established a republic headed by Gen. Lon Nol. Initially there was enormous popular enthusiasm for this coup, particularly among nationalist students, and Sihanouk wandered off to Peking.

Unfortunately, in terms of American war-weariness, the change was about five years late. Thus, in asking military aid for the Cambodians, Sec. of State William Rogers flatly told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that "Administration officials have said repeatedly that the furnishing of aid to the government of Cambodia does not constitute a commitment to see that the government survives."

Quickly passing over the years intervening, three things are now quite clear. First, the Cambodian government is going down the tubes under concerted and heavily supplied Communist assault. Second, we did not enlarge the war—Hanoi did—and our later invasion of the sanctuaries was a perfectly legitimate riposte done at the request of Lon Nol. Third, on the record we have no legal commitment to Pnom Penh: They can sink or swim. The real question, then, is on another level: Do we want the Khmers to be enveloped by Communist totalitarianism? Is Congress capable of looking at the issue on this moral level?

Rights Gains Threatened:

Faltering U.S. Economy Breeds Atmosphere of Social Tension

The following is excerpted from an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany on accepting the National Brotherhood Citation of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at a dinner in Washington, D.C.

HUMAN RIGHTS RESTS ON human dignity, on a common recognition of the worth of the human personality. If we lose that sense of self-worth—of dignity—we become careless of the rights of others and we fail to claim our own rights as well. Before we know it, we have passively acquiesced in our own enslavement.

It is not surprising, therefore, that totalitarian governments must rob their citizens of dignity.

The business of dictatorship is to dictate—to control all the way—including the thought processes of its victims. In carrying on its business, it destroys the dignity of all those under its control.

But dictatorship is not the only enemy of human dignity. Poverty, hunger, disease, unemployment—these are also things that demean the human personality.

That is why a man who is out of work—a man who can not properly feed or clothe or shelter his family—does not feel like a whole man, and the same goes for women who bear like responsibilities.

And, I believe, the labor movement has done more than any other single force in American life to enhance the economic security of the great mass of America's working people. I also believe it has done more than any other segment of our society to build the broad base of dignity that supports the human rights we often take for granted.

In this sense, the labor movement is a human rights movement—no less than the National Conference of Christians & Jews or the NAACP.

And yet, much of what we do in the field of human rights does not carry a human rights label. It is a natural byproduct of our day-to-day role in the world of work.

For example, we do not recruit to the ranks of organized labor on the basis of race, creed, sex or ethnic background. We do not have quotas in the labor movement.

We don't ask a man where he comes from or what his political views are before he joins a union. All we want to know is—does he work here and what kind of work does he do. If he works for a living, we feel he belongs in the union.

And, despite all of the anti-union propaganda that has been beamed into the black community, the latest studies show that black workers are more prone to join a union than are white workers. And, no wonder. The earnings of unionized black workers are, on the average, substantially higher than among their non-union counterparts.

I contend that when you substantially raise a man's earnings, especially if he is a poor man, you don't just put more meat on his table; you help him hold his head a little higher.

But, these days, we must admit our job is getting more difficult each day, and you all know the reason.

It is not because we have stopped trying. It is because the policies of the Administration that has been in power in Washington since January 1969 have thrown this nation into an economic crisis.

I believe that we are sitting on social dynamite. As the recession deepens—and all signs point in that direction—racial and social tensions are bound to rise, posing a threat to the real accomplishments of organizations like the National Conference of Christians & Jews and so many others that have labored so hard to eradicate bigotry and prejudice from the land.

The point I want to make is that all of us who are deeply concerned about human rights and human relations must turn our attention to the economy, because if it continues to go downhill it can become the breeding ground of ugly social impulses and emotions, among them the ancient curse of anti-Semitism.

TODAY WE HAVE an additional danger. Not only does our deteriorating domestic economy provide an all-too-rich soil for scapegoating and demagoguery, but we are faced on the international scene with powerful waves of anti-Semitism emanating from the Middle East.

Make no mistake about it, the Arab fanatics are not just anti-Israel or anti-Zionist. They are anti-Jewish. They are plain, old fashioned anti-Semites in the spirit of Adolph Hitler. But the most outrageous thing is that the venom with which they have poisoned their own societies they now seek to inject into our society.

I think President Ford is to be commended for speaking out so clearly against the Arab blacklist. The idea that any foreign investors would discriminate against Americans who are Jewish or who do business with Israel is a monstrous abomination.

But what is worse is the fact that there are American governmental agencies that cooperate in this despicable practice. Imagine! The Army Corps of Engineers admits that it goes along with the demands of the Arab states that no Jews be sent into their countries.

I think we have to go farther than the President's statement. I think we have to let the whole world know that in the United States of America, that in our country, human rights still take priority over the dollar.

I think we should tell the Arabs that any would-be investors from any country who subscribes to the blacklist are henceforth barred from doing business in the United States. There is some business we don't need.

Bills Pending in Congress:

Registration by Mail Would End Barriers to Election Process

ENACTMENT OF A federal voter registration-by-mail law would end the arbitrary and needless barriers blocking many citizens from taking part in the election process, Richard Murphy of the Service Employees declared on Labor News Conference.

Stressing that low- and moderate-income citizens can't afford to take time off from work to go to the city hall or other registration offices, the SEIU legislative and COPE director charged that harsh registration rules have "de facto disenfranchised" a great number of Americans.

Narrow and strict laws add up to a built-in poll tax, he declared, and have no place in a political system that draws its strength from the widest possible citizen participation.

Murphy said chances are very good that Congress will pass the voter registration bill this year. He pointed out that the measure was adopted by the Senate last year, despite a Republican-led filibuster, and lost by only four votes in the House on a procedural motion.

Murphy turned aside contentions that voter registration by mail would increase the work load and costs of state registrars and open the door to massive fraud. Pointing out that several states already have registration by mail, he said that the experience in those states shows no administrative havoc or increase in fraud since the laws were adopted. He added that the federal measure spells out severe penalties for fraud, and anyone trying to skirt the law would end up in very serious difficulties.

Stiffest opposition to registration by mail has come from Republicans, he said, who fear that making it easier for the poor and blue-collar workers to register will add a large proportion of Democrats to the rolls.

Murphy was questioned by Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, with its independent monetary powers, has come increasingly under attack for the tight money policies that have led to the current recession-inflation crisis.

Under the chairmanship of Arthur F. Burns, a Nixon appointee, the seven members of the Board of Governors of the "Fed" pretty much determine interest rates and money supply and, as a result, the health of the economy.

Members of the board are appointed by Presidents and must be confirmed by the Senate. Their term of office is 14 years.

With the Fed playing such a critical role in the lives of each citizen, every worker and his family should know more about this agency.

The Federal Reserve System—a cherished achievement of the Woodrow Wilson Administration—was established in 1913, largely a result of the 1907 panic which had produced many bank failures and a painful depression. A lengthy study of the nation's monetary system, dominated by private commercial banks at the time, convinced Wilson and Congress that a more orderly and responsible system was needed.

The Federal Reserve System was the result. It operates under a Board of Governors of seven members. The board presides over 12 Federal Reserve Banks, each located in one of the 12 regions into which the country has been divided. These banks hold the reserve balances of their member commercial banks and the deposit accounts of the U.S. Treasury. They perform a number of services for their member banks including loans and check clearance.

The job of the system is to regulate the nation's money supply and banking system in such a way that production, consumption and employment are maintained at a high level. In addition, the system is expected to maintain the stability of the dollar.

The board has a number of techniques by which this is supposed to be accomplished.

- It can buy or sell government securities in the open market to maintain a proper money supply and stabilize the bond market.
- It can determine the discount rate, that is the rate at which member banks can borrow from the system.
- The board can determine what reserves must be maintained by member banks which, in turn, determines how much they can lend out. A one-point change in the ratio of reserves to loans can make a huge difference in the availability of money.

A POWERFUL OPERATION of the Fed is its Open Market Committee. It is made up of the members of the Board of Governors plus five representatives of the Reserve Banks who are elected annually. The committee buys and sells securities in the open market to supply the banks' reserves to support the credit and money needed for its long-term operations.

The board has not always carried out its mission with distinguished success. It failed to halt the Great Depression of the '30s, for example. And while its supporters can point to national fiscal policies over which it has no control—that is whether the federal government balances its income and expenditures—it obviously is one of the nation's basic economic determinants.

A growing challenge to both the power and the independence of the Fed is taking place in Congress and among some of the nation's most recognized economists. AFL-CIO President George Meany has labeled Burns a "disaster."

The Fed's relentless policy of pushing up interest rates until they reached levels unequaled since the Civil War, opponents charge, blazed the path for the devastating recession-inflation crunch.

There are serious questions about interest rates, about money supply and the influence that the central bank has had over money and credit through the Fed.

VOTER REGISTRATION by mail would end the artificial and needless barriers that now block a great many citizens from taking part in the election process, Service Employees COPE and Legislative Director Richard Murphy, center, declared. Questioning him on Labor News Conference were Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine.

EDUCATORS ATTENDING the annual AFL-CIO education conference discuss current problems with Andrew J. Biemiller, director of the federation's Dept. of Legislation, second from left, and Walter G. Davis, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education, right. George Boyle, director of labor studies at the University of Missouri, is at the left. Robert Ozanne, director of the School for Workers at the University of Wisconsin, is next to Davis.

Applying Labor Solutions:

Education Role Held Critical in Slump

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller told a group of union educators their help is urgently needed in applying labor solutions to the current economic crisis.

Addressing the federation's annual education conference in Washington, D.C., Biemiller told 100 delegates from across the nation that the AFL-CIO's action program to halt the recession must be promoted back home as well as in Washington.

The place to start, he suggested, is with their elected members of Congress.

"Even though they had labor backing, they aren't automatically going to vote for labor's program," Biemiller reminded his audience. "You're going to have to keep after them."

Citing a labor-backed proposal to set federal unemployment insurance standards—"a bill that has been kicking around for years," Biemiller said "here's a real opportunity" for union educators to assist.

"There's no question the unemployment insurance system is falling apart. It needs revamping," he said. "If it's going to be overhauled, you're going to have to keep after your congressman." And this approach can be multiplied by educating rank-and-file members on the need for federal standards.

Biemiller was preceded earlier in the three-day conference by economist Stanley Ruttenberg, former director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, who told the educators "it's going to take bold leadership—and I see that leadership coming out of the labor movement—to avoid a 1929-style crash."

Ruttenberg called for "serious economic planning" to prevent recurrences of the kind of inflationary recession the country now finds itself in.

He said the current "anti-inflation induced recession" resulted from the economic philosophy inherent in the Nixon Administration. This "upside-down economic thinking" is being perpetuated in the Ford Administration, he charged.

"What we need is hard, effective leadership," Ruttenberg declared. "We're not getting it from the White House, and little of it from Congress."

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, urged the union educators to work for changes in the National Labor Relations Act to protect the working poor who are being frustrated by its cumbersome, complicated provisions.

He noted that one of the most frequent unfair labor practice charges is that alleging discriminatory firing. By the time the National Labor Relations Board has heard the charge and resolved the matter one way or another, the victim has lost wages he can never make up, Kistler pointed out.

Kistler also urged the educators to train young unionized workers to organize young non-union workers, noting they tend to identify with their problems more than older organizers.

Other approaches to economic education for trade unionists were explored during several workshops. A main objective of the conference was to overcome "economic illiteracy" among some trade-unionists, AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis observed.

Delegates focused on a variety of education programs connected to the economic situation, including ways of handling in-plant problems created by job layoffs. They also heard a report on labor's role in forthcoming bicentennial celebration activities.

During the conference, the educators toured the new AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center in Silver Spring, Md.

IAM Aerospace Strike Begins Second Month

The strike of nearly 20,000 aerospace workers employed at seven McDonnell Douglas Corp. facilities entered its second month with little reported progress in resolving the dispute.

The Machinists' walkout is aimed at achieving a new contract in line with settlements elsewhere in the aerospace industry. It began Feb. 10 when picket lines went up at the firm's giant headquarters outside St. Louis. IAM members struck simultaneously at five McDonnell Douglas plants in California and at the firm's Cape Canaveral, Fla., facility.

All but the company's plant at Long Beach, Calif., shut down as the union reported high morale and a solid front among the striking workers. Talks guided by the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service broke down Mar. 6, and no further meetings are scheduled.

Affected by the walkout are more than 12,000 IAM members at St. Louis, another 7,000 in California, and a unit of 200 at Cape Canaveral.

The union's previous contract expired last October and IAM members rejected a substandard offer from the company last month, charging that it was particularly deficient in the areas of wages and pension benefits.

Besides the plant at Long Beach, the firm's other California plants involved in the walkout are at Torrance, Santa Monica, Palmdale and Huntington Beach.

The strike was beginning to have an impact on the company's Long Beach plant where members of the Auto Workers continued to work under a new three-year contract ratified at the end of February. The firm said it will lay off 6,000 workers over a two-week period because of a shortage of parts.

At the company's big St. Louis plant, members of the strike coordinating committee at IAM District 837 headquarters were assisting strikers with transportation, food stamps, communications and other necessities.

Temple Award Cites Philadelphia Leaders

Philadelphia—President Edward F. Toohey of the Philadelphia AFL-CIO was presented the Rerum Novarum Award from Temple University's School of Business Administration.

Toohey was cited for his contributions toward improving social conditions of Philadelphia workers. Dr. Seymour L. Wolfbein, dean of the school, presented the award.

80-Day Transit Strike Settled in New Orleans

New Orleans—The Amalgamated Transit Union worked out a compromise agreement on a two-year contract to end an 80-day strike by bus and street car operators here. Members of ATU Division 1560 ratified the agreement by a vote of 593 to 27 before returning to their jobs Mar. 10.

The settlement provides for increasing basic wages to $4.41 an hour, union dues checkoff and improved hospitalization and life insurance coverage. The wage package, however, is subject to arbitration, along with vacations, holidays and spreadtime pay—the waiting time between morning and evening rush hours.

The agreement, retroactive to July 1, 1974, is the first the ATU negotiated since it regained representation of the New Orleans transit system in September after a lapse of 35 years. In the interim, the 800 operators had been represented by a company union.

New Orleans Public Service, Inc., which operates the transit system, is a subsidiary of a conglomerate company that has vast holdings in gas, electric and transit companies in the South.

Earlier efforts of the ATU to negotiate a settlement had been rebuffed by management, the union said, until the agreement was reached with the assistance of federal mediators and city officials.

The American Arbitration Association will determine the final provisions covering wages and fringe benefits. The contract will expire June 30, 1976.

Machinists Ratify New TWA Pact

Machinists at Trans World Airlines approved a new 26-month contract giving them their first wage increase in over two years. The pact, covering 12,000 workers across the country, was ratified by about a 3 to 1 ratio.

The agreement is retroactive to Sept. 1, 1973, when the workers' previous contract with TWA expired. The accord raises a top-rated mechanic's base pay in steps from $6.60 to $7.77 an hour as of May 1. The increase includes a 10-cent hourly cost-of-living adjustment for 1974.

The base pay of a mechanic is expected to rise another 10 cents to $7.87 an hour on Sept. 1 when another COL adjustment is made. Proportionate wage increases are provided for workers in other classifications.

The COL provision in the contract calls for increases of 1 cent an hour for each rise of three-tenths of a point in the consumer price index, up to a maximum of 10 cents a year, with payment made Sept. 1 of each year.

The last time IAM members at TWA got a raise was on Jan. 1, 1973. Negotiations on the newly approved contract strung out over the past 18 months. The new pact expires on Oct. 31.

Besides wage increases, the agreement provides for the following improvements:

- Retirement benefits are raised. Past service theretofore earned retirees $8 a month times the number of years' service. Under the new pact, benefits are raised to $10.50, $12 or $15 per year of service, depending on an employe's income group.
- Dental and major medical benefits are increased by 35 percent. Hospital and life insurance benefits also are improved, the latter by $2,000.
- Premiums for licensed mechanics are doubled. Mechanics licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to work on airframes and power plants will receive an hourly premium of 10 cents up to a maximum of 20 cents. Premiums under the old agreement were 5 cents up to a maximum of 10 cents an hour.

Other contract gains included an additional paid holiday, four weeks' vacation after 12 years instead of 15, fully paid parking, and increased severance pay.

Consumer Agency Bill Gains with Senate Shift

The Senate Government Operations Committee approved a bill to establish a consumer agency, and last November's elections plus this month's rules reform greatly enhanced its prospects.

Last September, at the tail end of the 93rd Congress, supporters of an independent consumer agency were unable to muster the two-thirds majority then needed to limit debate and break a filibuster.

The closest they came was a 64-34 vote for cloture, two short of the number needed.

Of the group of senators most active in fighting against establishment of a consumer agency, an analysis by Congressional Quarterly magazine showed, only Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.) is still in the Senate. Six of his key supporters on the issue retired or were defeated for re-election.

Allen was the only member of the Government Operations Committee to vote against sending a new bill to the floor, but his filibuster weapon has already been whittled down.

The new Senate rules allow 60 senators—three-fifths of the total membership of the Senate—to invoke cloture and halt a filibuster. Such a rule would have meant passage of the bill last year.

The Senate bill would establish an Agency for Consumer Advocacy, headed by an administrator appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. (The previous title of Consumer Protection Agency was dropped because certified public accountants were concerned at possible confusion over the CPA initials.)

The agency would be authorized to intervene in proceedings before federal agencies, such as regulatory bodies, to speak up for consumer interests. It would also act as a clearinghouse for consumer information and complaints.

The current strategy of opponents appears to be to burden the bill with amendments that would lose the legislation the support of groups allied with the consumer interest.

Thus, in committee, foes of the bill sought to delete a section barring the agency from intervening in labor-management proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board.

That attempt to scuttle the bill was rejected by a single vote, but will probably be proposed again when the legislation reaches the Senate floor.

8.2 Percent Rate Continues:

540,000 More Lose Jobs As Total Workforce Drops

(Continued from Page 1)

of the total labor force that actively seeks work but is unable to find it. In February, the recession had so discouraged many Americans that they gave up looking for employment, believing jobs were not available to them.

A worker who stops looking for work drops out of the work force as measured by BLS and is no longer considered unemployed.

The result in February was a 580,000 decline in the labor force, which had been rising steadily since last November. Last month the labor force numbered 91,511,000—only 960,000 above the year-earlier level.

If the labor force had not shrunk as it did, the February unemployment rate would have been about 8.8 percent since a loss of 90,000 jobs is roughly the equivalent of an increase of one-tenth of 1 percent in the jobless rate.

As it was, there were 7,484,000 workers out of jobs last month, virtually the same number as the month before. The jobless rate of 8.2 percent in January and February was the highest since the end of World War II.

The two major sectors of the economy hardest hit by unemployment in February again were construction and manufacturing.

Factory jobs declined by 427,000 over the month to a total of 18.3 million, the lowest total since September 1965. The February decline raised the factory jobless rate five-tenths of 1 percent to 11 percent.

The increase in the manufacturing unemployment rate was the ninth consecutive monthly rise in this category. A year earlier, the rate was 5.2 percent.

The jobless rate for construction workers rose from 15 to 15.9 percent over the month, as the industry slipped even further into depression. The year-earlier level was 8.2 percent.

Other indications of economic deterioration:

- Nonfarm payrolls dropped 600,000 from January for the fourth straight monthly decrease. At a seasonally adjusted 76.6 million, the number of payroll jobs in the whole economy outside agriculture was 2.3 million lower than last October.

- The average number of hours worked per week again declined in February. "Consequently," BLS noted, "total man-hours, the most comprehensive measure of labor activity, continued to drop sharply."

The average workweek for all workers on nonfarm jobs fell by one-tenth of an hour to 36.1 hours, seasonally adjusted. Compared with February 1974, the workweek was down seven-tenths of an hour.

Total man-hours fell by 1.8 percent in February, following declines in the previous four months, BLS noted. Since last September, total man hours declined 6 percent.

- The number of workers unemployed 15 weeks or more—the long-term unemployed — rose by 300,000 to a total of 1.8 million. The average length of unemployment among the jobless rose from 10.7 to 11.7 weeks.

- The number of persons who lost their jobs due to layoffs, rather than because they quit voluntarily, increased 200,000 over the month.

Since last August, BLS noted, layoffs have accounted for 80 percent of the overall increase in joblessness, and job losers now comprise 55 percent of the total unemployed. This compares with 41 percent in August and about 33-35 percent in good times.

- The number of persons working part time because they were unable to find full-time jobs remained high, at 3.7 million. Thus, there were more than 11 million persons without full-time employment.

Summarizing his analysis of the February jobs situation, Meany pointed out that the high level of unemployment is equal to the total work force in the 16 states of Alaska, Wyoming, Vermont, Nevada, Delaware, North and South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, New Hampshire, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Maine, New Mexico, Utah and Nebraska.

"If the President and the Congress looked at unemployment figures this way, maybe there would be more progress on the necessary programs to get America back to work," Meany said.

White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen, conceding the February jobs report indicated "continuing significant weakness in labor markets," predicted "some additional increase in unemployment rates . . . in the immediate future."

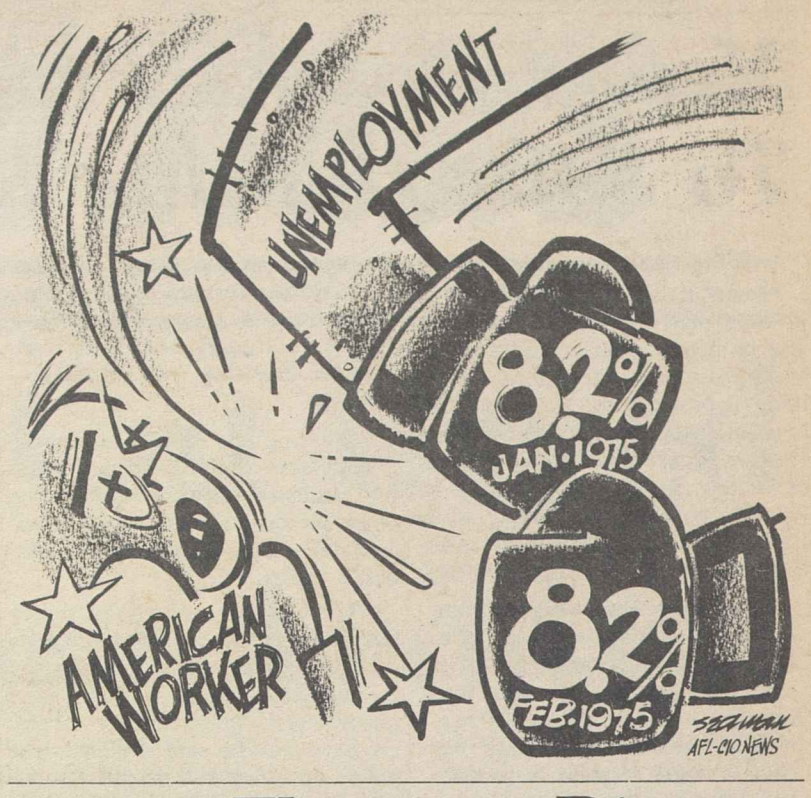
Since last August, when unemployment began its rapid upswing, the jobless rate has risen 2.8 percentage points, the sharpest surge for any comparable period since the Great Depression of the 1930s. The number of unemployed persons since last August has increased by 2.6 million.

While unemployment rates for most of the major work force groups varied little from January to February, the rate for household heads continued to climb steadily—up by two-tenths of 1 percent, and 2.4 percent above the year-earlier level.

The jobless rate for adult men went from 6 to 6.2 percent while that for women remained unchanged at 8.1 percent. The rate among teenagers dropped from 20.8 to 19.9 percent.

At 7.4 and 13.5 percent, respectively, the rates for white and nonwhite workers were essentially unchanged over the month.

The One-Two



Harry Flannery Dies, Radio 'Voice' of Labor

Los Angeles—Harry W. Flannery, retired radio coordinator for the AFL-CO and an editor of the AFL News-Reporter before the merger of the federation died Mar. 10 after a long illness. He was 74.

Flannery, a pioneer in radio journalism, retired in 1967 following 12 years of service with the federation and four years with the AFL.

While with the AFL-CIO, Flannery produced three radio shows a week—Washington Reports to the People, As We See It and Labor News Conference — with an audience running in the millions.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said in a message to Flannery's wife, Mary, that they were saddened on the news of his death.

"For many years, he was the radio 'voice' of the labor movement, bringing our message of social action and humanitarianism to millions," Meany and Kirkland noted.

He was a charter member and a president of a St. Louis local of the Television & Radio Artists and in addition held cards in the Newspaper Guild, Screen Actors Guild and the Radio Writers Guild.

Flannery began his long journalism career at age 16 at the Hagerstown (Md.) Mail as a reporter and later as sports editor. He worked at several other newspapers throughout the country before entering radio journalism in the early 1930s.

Prior to World War II, he was a correspondent for the Columbia Broadcasting System in Berlin, and during the war served as a CBS correspondent in the China-Burma-India theater.

Throughout his career, Flannery was closely associated with the union and social action movements. He was a former president of the Catholic Association for International Peace and a founder of the Catholic Labor Institute, Leo XIII School of Social Action.

Flannery was the author of four books, including "Assignment in Berlin," and was a frequent contributor to national magazines. He earned his journalism degree in 1923 at the University of Notre Dame, where he was founder and the first editor of the Notre Dame Daily as well as editor of other university publications.

Besides his wife, survivors include one daughter. Services were held in Los Angeles Mar. 14.

Sabatine Gets Number 2 Post In Oil Workers

Denver — B. J. Schafer has retired as secretary-treasurer of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and the union's executive board named Vice President Anthony C. Sabatine to succeed him.

Schafer has been OCAW secretary-treasurer since 1965 and was a vice president for 14 years before then. He worked at refineries in Illinois and Indiana and joined the Oil Workers International Union in 1933.

Sabatine was first elected vice president at the same OCAW convention that elected Schafer secretary-treasurer. He had helped form the Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers — a breakoff from the former District 50 of the Mine Workers — that merged with the Oil Workers 20 years ago to form OCAW.

To fill the new vacancy as one of the union's two vice presidents, the OCAW board elected Robert Goss, chief administrative assistant to OCAW President A. F. Grospiron.

Terms of all officers expire this year.

B. A. Gritta Dies, Headed AFL-CIO Metal Trades

Coral Springs, Fla.—Bowen A. Gritta, president-emeritus of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept., died at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston following surgery Mar. 6. He was 68.

Gritta served as an executive officer of the department for 19 years, both as secretary-treasurer and president, before retiring in 1969. He began his trade union career in 1926 as a member of the Sheet Metal Workers.

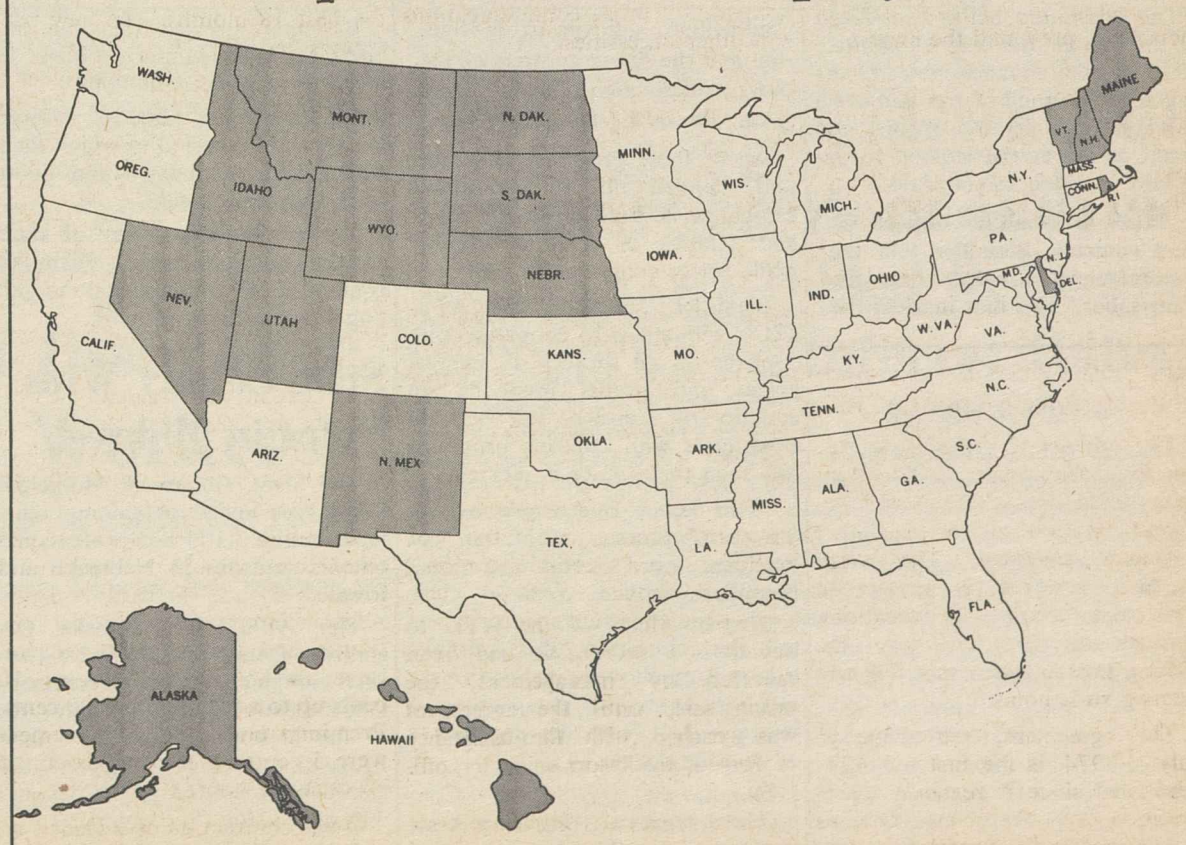
In a message to Gritta's wife, Mary Alice, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec-Treas. Lane Kirkland said that "his hard work and leadership over nearly half a century earned him respect and affection in and out of the labor movement."

Gritta became business agent of Sheet Metal Workers Local 144 in Galveston, Tex., in 1927 and president of the Galveston Central Labor Union in 1935. He also served as a business agent for the Galveston Metal Trades and Building Trades Councils.

In 1949 he was appointed a general representative of the Metal Trades Dept. and elected its secretary-treasurer a year later. He served in that post for 12 years until his election as president of the department in 1962.

Beside his wife, survivors include two sons, two daughters and seven grandchildren. Services were held Mar. 10 in Margate, Fla., and interment was at Tamarack, Fla.

A Perspective on Unemployment



Joblessness increased last month to a level equal to the total labor force in the 16 states shaded in gray above. The number of Americans without jobs was nearly 7.5 million, and growing.

Full Implementation Urged:

Meany Presses Programs To Spur Housing Rebound

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany traced the severe drop in housing starts to faulty economic and monetary policies and a deliberate phase-out of federally assisted home construction programs for low- and moderate-income families. He also accused the Administration of merely presenting a facade on federal housing programs while failing to make needed funds available to deal with housing problems.

"We know that when housing production falls sharply, so does the rest of the economy—inevitably and rapidly," he said, noting that a drastic decline in residential construction always has been a major element in producing economic depression.

"Yes, America is in a depression," Meany declared.

"When the unemployment rate is 8.2 percent, representing nearly 7.5 million people without jobs, it is time the Administration stop kidding itself and trying to kid the people. It is time that appropriate policies be adopted to reverse the decline; time for measures more immediate and far-reaching than any the Administration is contemplating."

Meany warned that in coming months there could be an avalanche of home foreclosures reminiscent of the 1930s as supplementary unemployment benefits run out for thousands of workers and insured jobless compensation is exhausted by many others.

"Wholesale foreclosures could cause a domino effect of declining property values that could erode lender confidence and dry up mortgage credit," he observed.

That tragedy can be avoided, he advised, by enacting legislation pending in Congress that would provide for temporary payment of mortgages of jobless homeowners. He also urged that the Home Owners Loan Corp. be reinstated to purchase delinquent mortgages and work out needed financing with the homeowners.

Exploring the ripple and multiplier effects of the depressed housing industry, Meany noted that other sectors of the nation's economy fell victim to the Administration's errors.

"There is an underlying policy which got America into the depression and which would prolong the economic hardships of millions of unemployed Americans for several more years," he said. "That is the policy of trying to fight inflation by using methods which have failed in the past and will fail again."

He charged that the tight money, high interest rate policies of the Federal Reserve Board brought the nation six serious economic declines since World War II. And the vigorous pursuit of this policy by FRB Chairman Arthur Burns in the last half of 1974 resulted in the worst economic collapse since the Great Depression, Meany said.

"Soaring interest rates became a significant factor contributing to inflation. They were passed on—directly and indirectly—to consumers, home buyers, small business, public utilities and government itself."

The nation now needs policies and programs that will provide millions of jobs and restore health to the economy this year, Meany stressed, not four or five years from now.

"Yet, the Administration has not shown any sign of taking the necessary course of action. The President and his economic advisers seem to prefer a protracted depression in housing and the economy.

"The rationale for the Administration policy is that if large federal deficits have to be financed by borrowing after economic recovery is underway, it could spark an increase in the rate of inflation; there would also be a rise in interest rates, and housing and economic recovery would be aborted."

The tight money policy that would follow, Meany suggested, would result in a new cycle of housing declines and economic failure.

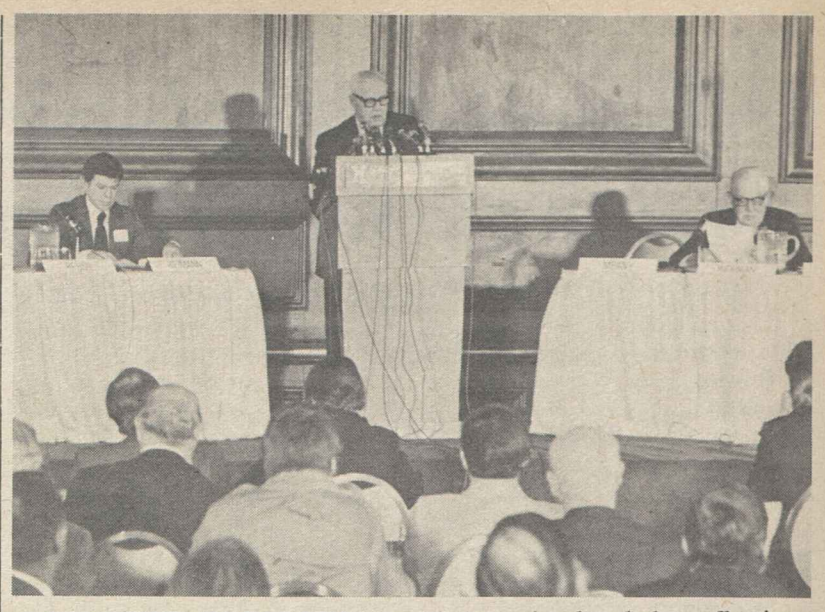
He said the White House has largely ignored the national housing goals established by Congress in 1968 through the Nixon-initiated moratorium of federally assisted housing programs. The effect is that the production of low- and moderate-income housing has been cut back by more than 300,000 units between 1971 and 1974.

"From both a housing policy and economic policy viewpoint, the last two years were the worst possible time to cut back on assisted housing production," Meany stressed, pointing out that unassisted housing production also declined drastically over the same span.

Total housing starts between January 1973 and January 1975 dropped from about 2.5 million to below a million. In January of this year building permits were issued at an annual rate of 661,000.

"Both housing and public works construction programs are needed and should be supported," Meany emphasized. "The economic decline is growing like a snowball going downhill, at a much faster rate than anybody anticipated."

He said there are enough unemployed construction workers available to handle both programs and stressed that there is a vital need to immediately raise the level of residential construction for social as well as economic reasons.



ECONOMIC RECOVERY could be stimulated by effective federal programs to spur the depressed home building industry, AFL-CIO President George Meany told the National Housing Conference. He is flanked by AFL-CIO Vice President Joseph D. Keenan, right, and John C. Heimann, conference session chairman. Keenan is a vice president of the conference.

Health Care Coverage Urged for Unemployed

(Continued from Page 1)

An alternative approach, in a bill sponsored by Sen. Lloyd M. Bentsen (D-Tex.) and others, would provide Medicare hospitalization insurance for persons receiving unemployment compensation, but not the Medicare Part B provisions for doctor payments.

Seidman said the AFL-CIO prefers the combination of continuing job-related health coverage plus Medicaid for those unprotected as the least controversial approach and therefore the one most likely to be speedily enacted. He noted that hospitals and private health insurors have also endorsed the approach of the Kennedy bill.

If Congress should choose the Medicare approach, Seidman said, it should cover the unemployed by both the basic Medicare benefits and the supplementary physician services.

He noted that a recent Bureau of Labor Statistics study found that 40 percent of workers covered by health insurance as part of their employment would continue to be protected for at least one month after a layoff, but only about 20 percent would be protected for three months or longer.

Without a federally funded program, he stressed, jobless workers would have to exhaust their resources and apply for Medicaid when they become ill—"putting an increasing burden on the states when they are already hard pressed to meet their financial obligations."

Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Caspar W. Weinberger opposed both the Kennedy and Bentsen bills and said that next year the Ford Administration will again be proposing its version of comprehensive health insurance. But he conceded under questioning that even if Congress were to enact it in 1976, no benefits would be paid for two years thereafter.

Anyway, Weinberger said, health insurance is just "a small piece of a big problem" and he claimed that economic recovery will be retarded if government spending programs are added to tax cuts.

Seidman, appearing before two House and two Senate panels, stressed the AFL-CIO's continued commitment to national health security legislation and noted that there would be no need for special legislation for the unemployed if health security had been enacted earlier.

But the special jobless benefits legislation must be passed promptly, he said, because "we have an emergency that needs to be dealt with now."

Because of varying committee jurisdictions affecting provisions of proposed legislation, hearings have been held by subcommittees of the House Ways & Means Committee and the House Commerce Committee, and the Senate Finance Committee and Senate Labor & Public Welfare Committee.

Labor Opposes Revival of Controls Under Federal Wage-Price Council

American workers had a bitter taste of inequitable economic controls under the Nixon Administration and the AFL-CIO told Congress that labor wants no part of any revival of controls.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller warned that a bill to expand the power of the Council on Wage & Price Stability "opens the door to the same kind of unfair restrictions" on the workers' pay that marred the earlier programs.

The legislation being considered by the Senate Banking Committee would require advance notice to the wage-price council of pay and price increases affecting large groups, and would empower the council to delay any increase for 60 days.

While it wouldn't impose direct controls, Biemiller told the committee, it would continue the "zap-labor" bias that marked the "guidelines, guideposts, jawboning and the direct controls of the late, unlamented Nixon game plan with its freezes and phases."

All of these programs, Biemiller said, "ended up as government campaigns to hold down the wages and salaries of working people" while prices continued to rise.

Biemiller reiterated the AFL-CIO's willingness to cooperate with controls on all sources of income, prices and profits involving an equality of sacrifice. But he said experience with controls programs has been that equity is lacking.

"This belief is strengthened by the pro-business orientation of President Ford's Administration," Biemiller testified. Without challenging the President's sincerity, he told the committee, "this Administration is much more inclined to see inflation from the perspective of business than from the perspective of working people."

Despite the intentions of Congress, he suggested, "any wage-price monitoring by this Administration is going to be more sympathetic to the needs of business than to the needs of workers and consumers."

Biemiller stressed that the nation's key economic problem is "jobs and the need for jobs."

Workers have already suffered the brunt of a period in which their wages were held down and living costs shot up, he said.

The purchasing power of their catch-up wage increases, Biemiller contended, is "fundamental" to getting America back to work.

State-County Wins Votes in Midwest

The State, County & Municipal Employees added bargaining units representing 3,100 non-professional school employes in Nebraska and Iowa.

The AFSCME Nebraska Organizing Committee capped a two-year campaign to win a representation election for 2,600 employes of the Nebraska Dept. of Public Instruction. More than 1,300 members voted for AFSCME and 499 voted for "no union."

In Des Moines, Iowa, the 500-member School Building & Service Employees Association voted 230 to 29 to affiliate with AFSCME.

Senate Confirms Dunlop As Secretary of Labor

The nomination of John T. Dunlop as Secretary of Labor was confirmed by the Senate and he will be sworn in Mar. 18 to succeed Peter J. Brennan.

Dunlop becomes the fourth new member of President Ford's cabinet this year. The others are Sec. Carla Anderson Hills of the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, who was sworn in this week, Attorney Gen. Edward H. Levi and Sec. William T. Coleman, Jr., of the Dept. of Transportation.

Dunlop, 60, has taught economics at Harvard University since 1938 and served as chairman of the Economics Dept. and Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences.

He also has wide experience as a labor-management mediator and consultant, and as an arbitrator of disputes on the Alaska oil pipeline project. Dunlop also was director of the government's Cost of Living Council and chairman of the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee.

Mrs. Hills, 41, was an assistant attorney general when she was nominated to replace James T. Lynn as the head of HUD.

Levi, 63, former president of the University of Chicago, replaced William B. Saxbe as attorney general. Saxbe resigned to become ambassador to India. During earlier government service, Levi headed the Justice Dept.'s Antitrust Division in the 1940s and was chief counsel to the House subcommittee on monopoly power later.

Coleman, 54, was a lawyer in Philadelphia when he was named to succeed Claude S. Brinegar as secretary of transportation. He also was president of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and is the second black to hold a cabinet post.

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Rising Joblessness Grips 74 Metropolitan Centers

Tax Slash Nears Vote In Senate

By David L. Perlman

The Senate moved towards passage of a tax cut and refund package that would inject about $30 billion in job-creating purchasing power into the economy this year.

Details of the bill were being shaped and reshaped on the Senate floor as the AFL-CIO News went to press, but its overall thrust appeared in line with the proposals Federation President George Meany had made to the Senate Finance Committee.

The amount of money released into the purchasing stream would almost certainly be greater than the House version, as the AFL-CIO had urged. And the Senate change also retained the labor-endorsed emphasis in the House bill that the bulk of tax savings should go to low- and middle-income Americans.

By contrast, the Ford Administration tax plan would have made persons in the highest income brackets the chief beneficiaries of a tax refund.

Among the unresolved issues in the Senate bill was a final decision on repeal of the oil depletion allowance—a loophole that allows 22 percent of oil company profits to go untaxed.

The House voted for outright repeal. The Senate initially approved a compromise that would deny big multinational companies the depletion allowance but leave it in effect for the smaller "independents."

That amendment was one of several that were wiped out through a technicality when the Senate gave tentative approval to a substitute bill proposed by Majority Leader Mike Mansfield.

Also sidetracked by the parliamentary maneuver were two amendments sponsored by Sen. Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) that had been taken from the labor-endorsed Burke-Hartke trade bill.

As initially approved by the Senate, oil companies would no longer be able to deduct royalties paid to foreign governments from taxes owed to the United States. The royalties would be treated merely as tax deductions, like other business expenses. The other Hartke amendment would close a loophole that allows firms to avoid paying taxes on profits of overseas operations until the money is brought back into the United States.

Mansfield's substitute bill included one major new feature—a $100 payment to every person

(Continued on Page 2)

SHEET OF NEW ISSUE STAMPS commemorating collective bargaining is presented to President Ford by U.S. Postmaster Gen. Benjamin F. Bailar. Joining in the ceremonies are Vice Pres. William W. Winpisinger and President Floyd E. Smith, front right, of the Machinists and Theodore W. Kheel, rear, director of the Institute on Collective Bargaining & Group Relations.

Continuing Trend:

Real Wages Down, Living Costs Climb

The purchasing power of the average American worker's paycheck shrunk again last month while living costs jumped another six-tenths of 1 percent, or at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 7.2 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Real spendable weekly earnings for a worker with three dependents in February averaged only $87.87, the lowest for any February since 1964 when BLS began keeping such records on a monthly basis. Real spendable earnings are take-home pay expressed in 1967 dollars. The average worker's gross weekly earnings in February—before tax deductions and without adjustment for inflation — were $159.56.

Since October 1972, when they stood at $97.96, real spendable weekly earnings have plummeted $10.09. This represents a 10.3 percent decline in the average worker's standard of living over a 28-month period, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research calculated. In contrast, average gross weekly earnings over that period went up $19.68.

Last month's weekly average of $87.87 for real spendable earnings was 42 cents less than the January figure and $4.62 below the year-earlier level. In terms of percentages, February real spendable earnings fell five-tenths of 1 percent from the previous month and were down 5 percent over the year.

In its report on retail price changes, BLS noted that the six-tenths of 1 percent rise in its consumer price index meant the cost of living still was 11.1 percent higher than a year earlier.

The February increase in the CPI was the same as in January, and raised the index to 157.2 percent of its 1967 level.

Price increases in a wide range of goods and services—especially utilities, medical care, rent, houses, clothing and fresh fruits and vegetables—accounted for the February CPI rise, BLS said.

While consumer prices have moderated somewhat over the past three months, they haven't yet reflected steadily dropping wholesale prices over the same period.

(Continued on Page 7)

Ford Hails Success of Bargaining

Collective bargaining is essential to building a better America and to resolving the nation's vital concerns, President Ford declared as a new U.S. postage stamp commemorating collective bargaining was issued.

Ford related collective bargaining to the strength of democracy, stressing that "history has shown that only where there is free collective bargaining is there a free society."

"The fact that we have developed a strong, flexible collective bargaining system stands as a tribute to the millions of men and women of both labor and management who have devoted themselves to building a better and better America," he said.

The new 10-cent stamp was issued by the Postal Service Mar. 13.

(Continued on Page 2)

Aid Rolls Rise Above 6.3 Million

By James M. Shevis

Unemployment continued to spread throughout the nation as the Labor Dept. added seven more metropolitan areas to its list of major job centers with "substantial" unemployment and reported the number of persons receiving jobless insurance benefits had ballooned to more than 6.3 million.

There are now 74 major labor markets on the substantial unemployment list—the highest total since August 1961 when there were 85.

Substantial unemployment is defined by the department as a jobless rate of 6 percent or more, discounting seasonal factors, which is expected to continue for at least two more months. In February, the following were added to the list of high jobless areas:

Syracuse, N.Y.; Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla.; Columbus and Macon, Ga.; Rockford, Ill.; Portland, Me., and Lorain-Elyria, Ohio. Factory layoffs in most of the areas were responsible for the increased jobless rates.

In Columbus and Macon, textiles and apparel led the employment downturn. The principal job losses in Syracuse were in steel and electrical machinery. Higher unemployment in Rockford resulted chiefly from cutbacks in the auto and fabricated metals industries.

Recent job losses in the apparel, electrical machinery, food products, leather and paper industries were largely responsible for the jobless rise in Portland.

In Lorain-Elyria, the unemployment increase stemmed primarily from losses in manufacturing,

(Continued on Page 8)

Rubber, Oil Unions Okay Merger Plans

Executive boards of the Rubber Workers and the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers have approved a preliminary merger agreement, and committees of the two unions hope to draft a constitution and merger plan that can be acted on at conventions this year.

The current series of meetings is being held at Akron, Ohio, headquarters of the 200,000-member United Rubber Workers. The OCAW, based in Denver, has about 180,000 members.

Under the "first step" agreement approved by the boards of the two unions as the basis for continuing discussions, the merged union would have four general officers—a president, a secretary-treasurer and two vice presidents. Under the terms of the agreement, the Rubber Workers will designate the president and one vice president while the OCAW will name the secretary-treasurer and a vice president.

OCAW President A. F. Grospiron and Vice President E. D. Swisher have announced plans to retire if the merger is consummated. On the URW side, Sec.-Treas. Ike Gold also announced his intention to retire if final agreement is reached on the merger. All three took part in the negotiations and recommended approval of the first-step agreement.

(Continued on Page 7)

Direct Federal Loans Urged for Mortgages

Labor pressed for direct government financing of home and apartment purchases by middle-income families as the best means of bringing down excessive mortgage interest rates.

AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Driector Henry B. Schechter said a bill sponsored by Senate Banking Committee Chairman William Proxmire (D-Wis.) would accomplish the goals sought by a pending House bill, without the undesirable side-effects.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, the House was preparing to vote on a bill that would provide a partial interest subsidy for persons who buy homes or apartments, subject to ceilings on both the purchase price and the family income of the buyer.

For purchases that qualify, the government would pay the amount of the mortgage interest above 6 percent for the first three years, with an additional three-year phase-out in which the interest rate paid by the buyer gradually rises.

Schechter told a Senate sub-

(Continued on Page 8)

Postal Stamp Sought to Mark Women's Year

The AFL-CIO has urged the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp in 1975 commemorating International Women's Year.

"Issuance of such a stamp would be entirely appropriate and desirable," AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a letter to Postmaster General Benjamin Bailar.

Noting that other nations have issued such commemorative stamps, Meany said he hoped the U.S. would join in the observance.

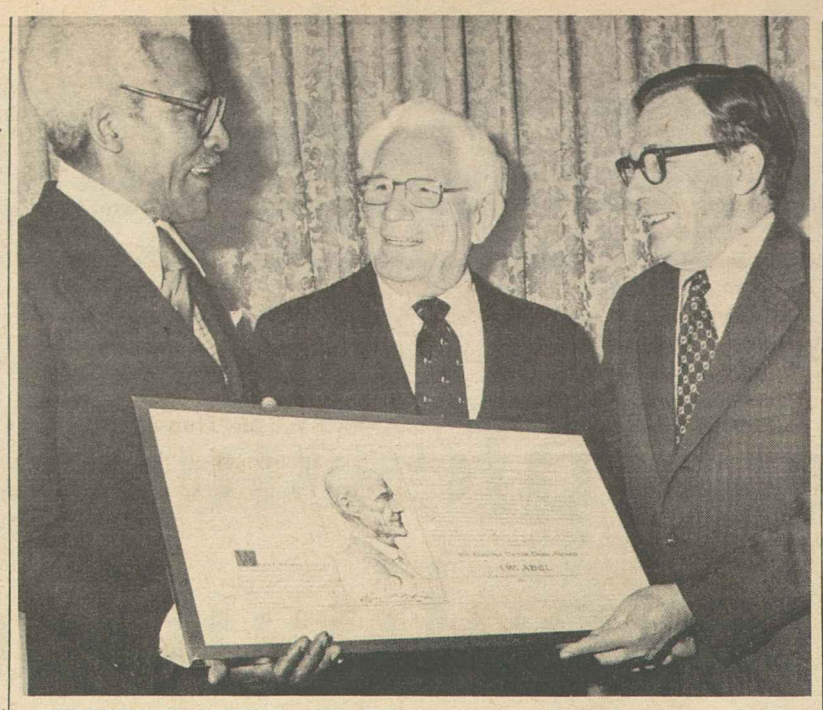
"Women of the United States and of the other democratic nations of the world were in the forefront of the effort to establish International Women's year, and are in the forefront of the effort to make full equality for women a fact of life," Meany observed.

IWY is dedicated to achieving full participation by women in every aspect of national life. Meany cited a statement adopted by the federation's Executive Council last month renewing the AFL-CIO's commitment to "true equality for all Americans, without regard to race, religion, color or sex."

The council also pledged to continue its campaign for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Thirty-four states already have ratified the ERA; only four more must do so for it to become law.

Meany also urged Bailar and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, which is currently considering issuance of the commemorative stamp, against "a lesser form of recognition" of IWY. He noted the committee was considering an IWY postcard or some other device to draw attention to the observance.

"It would seem to me better to do nothing than to confirm all of the worst fears of U.S. women's groups by relegating our observance of International Women's Year to second-class status," Meany said.



EUGENE V. DEBS AWARD is presented to President I. W. Abel, center, of the Steelworkers by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. Bayard Rustin, left, is national chairman of the Social Democrats USA, which honored Abel at a New York dinner.

Social Democrats Honor Abel with Debs Award

New York—Steelworkers President I. W. Abel, cited for his "devotion to social reform," was presented the annual Eugene V. Debs Award by the Social Democrats USA at a dinner here.

The award is given each year to a figure from labor, civil rights or public affairs who has demonstrated a commitment to the cause of working people in the Debs tradition.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, in presenting the award, praised Abel's "pioneering leadership, solid achievement, and unbending commitment to democracy in his union in America and throughout the world."

Kirkland specifically cited the addition of 500,000 new members since Abel was elected president of the Steelworkers in 1965, a 100 percent increase in wages during that period, the conclusion of three important mergers and advances in industrywide bargaining. He noted that the USWA's Experimental Negotiating Agreement with the steel industry was responsible for saving 50,000 jobs.

Kirkland said that Abel typifies the "kind of leadership that has made the American labor movement strong and independent, always ready to cooperate in seeking solutions to problems, yet equally ready to demand and command whenever its interests or democratic values are under attack."

And they are under attack now, he observed, both "at home and abroad." Domestically, they are threatened "because two consecutive administrations have managed this country straight down the chute toward depression." On the international scene they are threatened "because throughout the world economic blackmailers, political terrorists, and totalitarian dictators have taken the initiative."

Kirkland said that few in America, aside from labor, had demonstrated a willingness to defend freedom and democracy in the world. In this regard, he said the Social Democrats had "earned the respect of the labor movement" for having upheld "a universal standard of domestic justice and international integrity."

Abel said he was honored to receive an award named for a man who had distinguished himself as a political leader of working people and as a leading force in the early drive for industrial unionism.

"Eugene V. Debs believed that to serve the working class was the highest calling a man could aspire to . . . . He fought an unyielding crusade against corporate greed. He made a profound difference in this century."

The Social Democrats also honored the dancers Galina and Valery Panov with the Norman Thomas Freedom Award. The Panovs emigrated from the Soviet Union to Israel last year after several years of harassment and imprisonment.

While the Panovs were unable to attend the awards ceremonies because of an artistic engagement in England, another Soviet dissident artist, poet and singer Aleksandr Galich, performed several of his works at the banquet. Galich recently left Russia after having been subjected to official harassment because his songs joked about the Soviet regime.

Spur to Buying Power:

$30 Billion Tax Cut Nears Senate Vote

(Continued from Page 1)

on the social security rolls. That would benefit a large group of elderly poor that has been hurt by inflation but wouldn't be helped by a tax cut.

Earlier, when it appeared that debate over a long list of amendments might throw off the timetable for Senate action before Easter, an attempt was made to limit debate. The majority for cloture was 59-38, only one short of the 60 votes needed under the Senate's new rules. It came so close, however, that a future attempt was likely to succeed if the bill ran into undue delay.

The bill originally sent to the Senate floor by the Finance Committee included the same refund on 1974 federal income taxes provided in the House bill—between $100 and $200 for most taxpayers, or the total tax paid in 1974 if less than $100.

The Senate committee also wrote into the bill a labor-supported provision that would benefit a substantial number of families earning less than $20,000 a year.

Everyone would have a choice between the present $750 deduction for the taxpayer and each dependent or a $200 tax credit. This would substitute for a rise in the minimum standard deduction in the House bill and would enable moderate-income families who itemize deductions to share in the 1975 income tax reduction.

The Senate panel also adopted a modified version of another AFL-CIO proposal that would have the effect of reducing nearly every tax bill by $40 a year.

Even after the Senate acts, a House-Senate conference committee will have to reconcile the two bills and submit the final version for approval by both bodies.

The House, meanwhile, approved a farm subsidy bill after trimming back the level of price supports that had been voted by its Agriculture Committee.

Labor and consumer groups generally supported amendments that would prevent a sharp rise in prices for cotton and milk and supported passage of a modified bill as a safeguard to farmers against losses.

Earlier, the House voted decisive approval to a labor-endrosed strip mining bill similar to the measure President Ford vetoed last year. The Senate has already passed a comparable bill.

The House vote of 333-86, following the Senate vote of 84-13, demonstrated such strong congressional aproval that President Ford may not veto the measure again.

It would require coal companies to return land torn up by open-surface mining to its original contours and condition, and it would tax the industry to pay for reclamation of already despoiled land.

State University Must Negotiate with Union

Jefferson City, Mo.—The Missouri Supreme Court ordered the University of Missouri to bargain with the Laborers, which represent more than 1,500 workers on two campuses.

The ruling upholds the decision of a circuit court judge who last year directed university officials to abide by a state law that gives unions the right to negotiate with public employers.

Representatives of Laborers Local 45 and 1272 have been seeking a first contract with the university for a decade. The state high court's decision stems from a suit the university brought against the LIU Local 45 following a 1972 strike.

In effect, the ruling declared that the university could not have its legal cake and eat it too.

Before the strike, the university refused to bargain with the Laborers, contending that the state public employe relations law did not apply to the university on the ground that the state constitution gave the board of curators control over the university.

Yet, the university also argued that the workers could not strike because they were public employes subject to the restrictions of the law. The university obtained a court injunction ordering the striking Laborers back to work, which the union obeyed.

But even after the union honored the injunction and returned to work, the university ignored a section of the injunction which directed it to negotiate with the union on wages, hour and other conditions.

The lower court ruling, upheld by the supreme court stated that "The university cannot selectively take these provisions, the prohibitions against the right to strike . . . and use them as a basis for seeking an injunction (against striking) and reject other provisions which set up a procedure, hopefully, for the resolving of labor disputes and grievances."

The state supreme court, noting that the university never questioned the union's majority representation of the more than 1,500 employes, added in its affirmation that "the public body or its designated representative must acknowledge such (bargaining) proposals and grievances and must discuss them with the bargaining representative."

Following the ruling, Laborers President Peter Fosco said in Washington that the union would immediately seek to bring the university to the bargaining table and "press for an agreement that will provide union wages and conditions."

The Laborers represent the university's maintenance, food service, custodial, health care and other employes on the Columbia, Mo., campus through Local 45 and on the Kansas City campus through Local 1272.

Bargaining Process Called Vital to Nation

(Continued from Page 1)

Two overlapping circles depict the cooperation derived from negotiations. Superimposed over the circles are the words: "Collective Bargaining—Out of conflict . . . accord."

In the search for social and economic progress in America, Ford said, the nation's people cannot live on islands of self-interest.

"We must build bridges and communicate our agreements as well as our disagreements. Only then can we honestly solve the nation's problems," he observed, adding that "one of the longest and sturdiest bridges in this land is collective bargaining."

Ford also suggested that the interests of three parties are involved in negotiations—labor, management and the nation's welfare—urging that the two principal parties use responsibility and restraint in their deliberations with a special consideration for the national interest.

William W. Winpisinger, a vice president of the Machinists and president of the Institute on Collective Bargaining & Group Relations, noted in an address at the ceremonies that American workers have made more progress since they were given collective bargaining rights 40 years ago than in any other period of the nation's history.

Yet despite great advances in human dignity, Winpisinger said, much remains to be done for those who are outside the collective bargaining process.

"Lest we become too smug and self-congratulatory, let us note that in 19 states right-to-work-for-less laws continue to keep unions weak and collective bargaining off balance," he said.

Other barriers to progress in collective bargaining Winpisinger cited were the airlines' mutual aid pact to prolong strikes, token negotiating rights for federal employes, and delays in the administration of the National Labor Relations Act.

House Confirms Elections Panel

Thomas E. Harris, AFL-CIO associate general counsel since the federation was formed, was confirmed by the House as a member of the Federal Elections Commission, which will oversee the new campaign reform law.

The Senate was scheduled to act shortly on the nomination of the six members, selected by the President and by the House and Senate leadership. Harris will leave the AFL-CIO to take the post.

Also confirmed by the House were four former members of Congress appointed to the commission—Republicans Thomas Curtis of Missouri and Vernon Thomson of Wisconsin and Democrats Robert Tiernan of Rhode Island and Neil Staebler of Michigan, and Joan Aikens, a Pennsylvania Republican.

Martin J. Bond Dies, COPE Director for D.C.

Martin J. Bond, COPE director of the Greater Washington Central Labor Council for the past 16 years, died after a heart attack while at work Mar. 18.

Bond, 56, also was a member of the Virginia AFL-CIO executive board since 1959 and the former first vice president of the central labor council. He began his trade union career as a member of the Amalgamated Transit Union in 1941, serving as secretary-treasurer, president and business agent of ATU Local 1131 during the 1940s and early '50s.

Message Spread at Grass Roots:

Labor's Program for Jobs Pressed in State Capitals

Labor's "put America back to work" message is being heard in state capitals as well as in Congress and the White House.

The AFL-CIO "action program," adopted by the federation's General Board in January, has become the framework for follow-up activity by state labor councils. Seventeen states have already held conferences, rallies or other special activities to press for job-creating programs. Nineteen other states have activities scheduled for the weeks ahead.

At the same time, AFL-CIO city and county central bodies have been focusing on measures to deal with the human tragedy of unemployment—often in cooperation with the job opportunity focus of the federation's Human Resources Development Institute or the family-aiding resources of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services.

A single week's schedule of state jobs rallies and conferences brought pledges of cooperation from governors, legislators and congressional delegations in California, Minnesota and New York.

At St. Paul, Minn., an all-day legislative conference in support of the AFL-CIO's action program drew more than 900 delegates from all sections of the state.

Labor's call for lower interest rates as a stimulus to the depressed housing industry and economic growth generally was echoed by Gov. Wendell R. Anderson, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey and other members of the state's congressional delegation.

An end to the recession-breeding tight-money policy, the governor said, would "put union members to work building houses and roads and sewage facilities and other things that help people."

Humphrey called for labor, consumer and farm representation on the Federal Reserve Board, and Minnesota State AFL-CIO President David Roe told the conference that Federal Reserve Chairman Arthur Burns "must go."

At Sacramento, 2,500 workers rallied at the California state capitol in a drizzling rain.

"We want jobs now," they chanted. The State AFL-CIO's executive officer, John F. Henning, and other union leaders presented labor's program for state as well as federal action to halt the depression that has left a million Californians jobless.

Gov. Edmund G. Brown enlisted labor's support for legislation to provide $450 million for low- and moderate-income housing and endorsed both unemployment insurance and collective bargaining for farm workers—"the most exploited workers in our state."

State AFL-CIO President Albin J. Gruhn, Building & Construction Trades President James S. Lee, and top officers of AFL-CIO affiliates and the unaffiliated Auto Workers and West Coast Longshoremen & Warehousemen addressed the rally.

Sen. John V. Tunney told the gathering that he backed labor's call for a $30 billion tax rebate and cut "to kick this economy in the rear end and get it going again."

At the state level, the AFL-CIO program presented to the California governor and legislature called for a large-scale state housing and public works construction program. It asked for improved unemployment insurance benefits, a higher state minimum wage and a comprehensive state health program.

Across the continent, at Albany, N.Y., Gov. Hugh L. Carey told 1,000 delegates to a two-day AFL-CIO legislative conference that he will propose higher unemployment insurance payments to ease hardship.

As Congress and the courts succeed in forcing the Ford Administration to release funds for water and sewage plants and other public works, Carey pledged that the money will be swiftly translated into jobs.

State AFL-CIO President Raymond Corbett called on the delegates to continue the drive for labor's action program in their home communities, just as labor at the state level is backing the national AFL-CIO program.

AFL-CIO regional directors, helping to coordinate state programs through the federation's Dept. of Organization & Field Services, have reported major programs during the past month in Georgia, Maryland, Maine, New Jersey, Kentucky, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oregon and Vermont.

In many communities, previously-scheduled trade union functions were quickly converted to emphasize the follow-up to labor's action program. That was the case in Springfield, Mass., for example, when the AFL-CIO jobs program was the focus of the annual conference of the Springfield-Chicopee-Westfield Labor Council attended by 400 local union leaders representing 40,000 union members.

U.S. Jobless Rate Worst In Industrialized World

The United States has the highest unemployment rate of any industrialized nation in the world, according to a Bureau of Labor Statistics study.

BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin reported to the Joint Economic Committee of Congress that the average 6.6 percent U.S. jobless rate for the fourth quarter of 1974 compared with rates of 1.6 percent for Japan, 2.9 percent for Germany, 3.2 for the United Kingdom, 3.3 for Italy, 5.4 for France and 5.7 for Canada.

Jobless rates for January 1975 were available for only four countries, in addition to the United States. The U.S. rate of 8.2 percent for that month compared with rates of 6.7 percent in Canada, 6.1 percent in France, 3.4 percent in the United Kingdom, and 2.8 percent in Italy.

The same BLS study reported the U.S. inflation rate during the last three months of 1974 was lower than four of the six other major industrial nations, but higher than the other two.

Prices in the U.S. rose at a 12.1 percent rate, compared to 12 percent in Canada and 6.5 percent in Germany. Fourth-quarter inflation rates for the remaining industrial countries were 15 percent in France, 18.2 percent in the United Kingdom, 23.4 percent in Japan, and 24.7 percent in Italy.

In January 1975, preliminary estimates indicated that prices in Germany were 6.1 percent above the same month a year earlier, compared to 19.9 percent in the United Kingdom, 12.1 percent in Canada, and 11.7 percent in the United States. Data for the other three countries were unavailable.

New Pamphlet Analyzes Record of 93rd Congress

A detailed report on the record of the 93rd Congress on 85 legislative issues important to the labor movement is now available from the AFL-CIO.

The 147-page report, Labor Looks at the 93rd Congress, was prepared by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation, headed by Andrew J. Biemiller. It includes a special section on the resignation of President Nixon and the impeachment articles voted by the House Judiciary Committee.

A foreword to the legislative report terms the record of the 93rd Congress "better than most" and suggests that the record achieved by the new 94th Congress will answer whether Congress has succeeded in re-establishing itself "as a co-equal branch of government."

Single copies of Labor Looks at Congress, Publication 77P, are available free. Larger quantities are 40 cents each or $35 for 100 copies. Orders should be sent to the AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division, 815 16th St., NW., Washington, D.C. 20006.

2 Rail Accords Reached, Clerks Slate Strike Vote

Two more unions reached agreement with the nation's railroads on new wage and fringe-benefit improvements but others remained deadlocked and one, the Railway & Airline Clerks, ordered a strike vote taken.

The Machinists and the unaffiliated Locomotive Engineers agreed to three-year contracts similar to those previously signed by five other rail unions. Retroactive to Jan. 1, the agreements provide increases in wages and benefits valued at about 41 percent over the life of the contract.

BRAC President C. L. Dennis called for the strike authorization vote after the union reached an impasse with the industry. Talks between the union and the carriers had been conducted under the auspices of the National Mediation Board since Jan. 10.

"Assuming a favorable vote on the strike ballot," Dennis said, "we will be legally free to strike as of 12:01 a.m., Friday, Apr. 18."

Under the Railway Labor Act, a Presidential Emergency Board could be established to investigate the dispute, a move that would head off a strike for about 60 days.

Dennis described the industry's latest offer as "insufficient" to offset inflation. He also charged the carriers with failure to provide protection against layoffs during the current economic slump.

While the Locomotive Engineers ratified their accord, the Machinists put their agreement to a membership vote, a procedure expected to take about three weeks.

Talks between the industry and the shopcraft unions that make up the AFL-CIO Railway Employees' Dept. broke off, and the unions awaited the start of active mediation under the supervision of the NMB.

The Yardmasters continued their negotiations with the carriers. The Railway Supervisors, which bargains with individual carriers instead of on a national basis, reported agreements with four units of the Norfolk & Western.

Unions which earlier had ratified agreements with the industry include the United Transportation Union, the Waymen, Sheet Metal Workers, Dispatchers, and Signalmen.

Labor Board Caseload Up

The caseload of the National Labor Relations Board during the second quarter of its fiscal year, October through December 1974, increased 12.7 percent over the level of the year-earlier quarter.

A total of 10,911 cases were filed with the board, a record number for an October-December period. The total included 7,604 unfair labor practice charges by employers or unions, an increase of 1,202 above the same quarter the preceding year.

Petitions for employe representation elections, union-shop deauthorization polls and other actions totaled 3,307, up 39 from a year earlier.

During the most recent quarter, the NLRB conducted 2,411 secret-ballot collective-bargaining elections petitioned for by unions, employers and individuals.

JOBS CONFERENCE sponsored by the New York State AFL-CIO brought labor's program before Gov. Hugh L. Carey and members of the legislature at this Albany rally. The state's unemployment rate is a staggering 9.3 percent.

AT BALTIMORE, where the Maryland AFL-CIO sponsored a "Put America Back to Work" rally, public officials joined with union delegates in the discussion. Meetings and rallies are being held from coast to coast.

The Continuing Crisis

BACK IN JULY 1969 President Nixon announced that the nation was facing a crisis in health care. Health care personnel were not only in short supply, they were maldistributed. Health care costs were rising twice as rapidly as the consumer price index. Americans were spending more for health care every year—$63 billion in 1969—but not feeling any healthier for it.

Since that time Congress has passed legislation to improve health planning, train more personnel in the health care field and encourage the formation of prepaid health groups, but the basic problems that prompted Mr. Nixon to declare a crisis in 1969 are still with us in 1975, and more so.

Five thousand communities have no doctor. Health care costs rose at an annual rate of 18 percent after price controls were lifted last Apr. 30. Americans spent $104 billion for health care in the 12 months ending June 30, 1974.

That the private health insurance industry has failed to alleviate the crisis can be seen from the fact that private insurance pays only 40 percent of the total health care bills of those it covers; that it pays less than one-third of all health care costs, and that about 40 million persons have no health insurance of any kind. The obvious solution is and has been for many years a system of national health insurance, such as every other industrialized nation in the world enjoys, and the one that appears best to us is the plan formulated by the Committee for National Health Insurance and the AFL-CIO.

Introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the insurance system would be financed with a payroll tax and federal general revenues. For workers, the payroll tax would be 1 percent for earnings up to $20,000 and for employers it would be 3.5 percent, also up to $20,000. Whatever amount this raised would be matched by an appropriation from general revenues. Unlike its numerous rivals, the plan would cover almost all medical services without a co-insurance or deductible feature. To keep costs from rising unreasonably, as they did after passage of the Medicare legislation, a Health Security Board would issue regulations for all health care providers and approve the amount and allocation of funds.

President Ford has already put the Congress on notice that he opposes any health insurance legislation this year, ostensibly because of the impact it would have on the mounting federal deficits, which are developing because of the recession.

However, the argument has no application in the case of the Kennedy legislation because if it were enacted this year the payroll tax would not go into effect until Jan. 1, 1977, and the program itself would not be implemented until July 1, 1977.

The nation can well afford comprehensive national health insurance. What it cannot afford is to continue denying access to medical care to millions because they cannot pay for it and to allow hundreds of thousands of others to bankrupt themselves when beset by a health disorder that requires prolonged or unusual treatment.

—Editorial in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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Out of the Picture

A Word Edgewise:

'Curse of Nixon' Haunts Ford, Erodes His Position as Leader

By John P. Roche

WHILE SOME SARDONIC Washington observers have baptized the present Congress "Nixon's Revenge," I am afraid that the former President's most appalling benefaction to the republic was the effective destruction of executive power. Like the "Curse of Cromwell" that hangs over Ulster, the "Curse of Nixon" haunts the conduct of Administration policy, particularly in the areas of national security, intelligence and the conduct of foreign relations.

I have never been an advocate of what is called by Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and others the "Imperial Presidency," but I have never wanted to see the United States with an impotent chief executive. What is necessary is an equilibrium of power between the Hill and the White House founded on mutual respect and tempered by mutual distrust.

Let us take for example the current, semi-hysterical campaign against the intelligence community. One would think from the clamor that Congress never had any say in the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency or the FBI. However, the record clearly indicates that there were instruments for congressional oversight and that these bodies were inert. At the time of the Bay of Pigs debacle I urged a full-scale discreet congressional inquiry into "black" activities, but President Kennedy was off the pole like a shot and appointed an in-house body of investigators headed by Gen. Maxwell Taylor.

With all respect to the late President and to Gen. Taylor, where I come from you don't appoint burglars to investigate its origins. But Congress just sat there, and the report of the Taylor inquiry is still classified.

Now, to atone for past sins, there is a likely chance that eager legislators will engage in overkill and virtually destroy the CIA. A strong President could intervene with a most persuasive case: The abuses of authority must be unearthed and eliminated, but in a world full of wolves an effective intelligence agency is essential.

The "Curse of Nixon," however, has made it impossible for President Ford to do more than emit some sad bleats. If he made a strong stand, particularly with the Nixon pardon file, the President would immediately be accused of launching a whitewash, organizing a cover-up, etc. Congress could have restrained the late J. Edgar Hoover any time it wanted to, notably when the FBI budget came up. But he had the whammy on them: Who knew what the director's secret files contained?

Similarly, because President Nixon took a strong position on national security, that viewpoint must be wrong. In my judgment, Sec. of Defense James Schlesinger is extraordinarily able (so talented indeed that Sec. of State Kissinger—basically an insecure man—feels compelled to knife him about once a month), but who has read his recent defense posture statement? It is a hard, realistic analysis of our strategic position, ominous reading on a subject that should concern Congress and all Americans.

Even allowing for "submarine sightings" (in the old days, just as the Navy budget was before Congress, mysterious, unidentified submarines would be sighted off California), Schlesinger has made a compelling case that we are in bad trouble. But he can not exorcise the "Curse of Nixon."

YET THE WORST IMPACT of the "Curse of Nixon" has been the erosion of the President's position as an opinion leader. For poor Gerald Ford, the presidency has not been Theodore Roosevelt's "bully pulpit."

When you realize that even Franklin D. Roosevelt could not generate a sense of urgency among the American people about the threat of Hitler (in October 1941 the draft bill was extended for a year by a one-vote margin in the House of Representatives), President Ford's efforts to arouse the nation from its post-Vietnam withdrawal syndrome seem doomed.

With Congress following the people, because they are its leaders, and the President's initiatives overpowered by the "Curse of Nixon," the ship of state seems dead in the water. Thus, when George Gallup indicates that eight out of 10 Americans oppose further aid to Indochina, and nine out of 10 oppose any military intervention to save Israel, those of us who refuse to believe the Cold War is over but, rather, think that we are losing, find ourselves paralyzed by the "Curse of Nixon."

'Let Us Not Forget...':

Collective Bargaining Progress Reveals Key Problem Areas

The following remarks were made by Machinists Vice President William W. Winpisinger at a dinner in Washington marking the issuance of a stamp on collective bargaining.

CONSIDERING HOW SLOWLY the mills of bureaucracy grind we should rejoice that it only took 40 years from the time the Wagner Act was passed until the federal government gave collective bargaining a stamp of approval.

Despite recurring cycles of boom and bust, including the present depressed state of the economy, the working people of America have made more progress since the Wagner Act codified the workers' right to bargain collectively than at any equivalent period in the almost 200-year history of the republic.

When I look around this hall I realize how far we've come from Homestead and Pullman, from Marion and Gastonia, from Bayonne and Ludlow and all the other places across the land where workers bought the right to bargain with their blood.

Yes, we've come a long way since a typical 19th Century autocrat named Jay Gould boasted that the best way to keep labor in its place was to "hire one half of the working class to kill the other half."

Human dignity has made great strides since a spokesman of the nation's coal operators disdainfully dismissed a presidential offering of mediation in a coal mine strike by stating that "The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for, not by labor agitators, but by the Christian gentlemen to whom God in his infinite wisdom has given control of the property interests of this country."

We've seen a lot of changes since the constitution of the Industrial Workers of the World proclaimed with uncompromising bluntness that "The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. . . . It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism."

The art of employe relations has improved considerably since Tom Girdler of Republic Steel set out to nullify the bargaining rights of his workers with a force of 370 thugs armed with 552 pistols, 245 shotguns, 64 rifles, 143 gas guns, 2,707 gas grenades, 178 billies and 232 night sticks.

Yes, we've advanced a long way from the rhetoric of the class struggle and the wretchedness of the open shop.

However, lest we become too smug and self-congratulatory, let us note that in 19 states, right-to-work-for-less laws continue to keep unions weak and collective bargaining off balance.

Let us remember that in no other sector of federal law enforcement is justice more likely to be delayed than in the administration of the National Labor Relations Act. Let us recognize that time after time the union's thrust toward collective bargaining is thwarted by willful violations that net anti-union employers no more than a slap on the wrist. Let us not forget that even today the collective bargaining rights of 345,000 workers in the air transport industry are systematically being subverted by an employer scheme, known as the Mutual Aid Pact, that makes it more profitable to lock out employes than to bargain with them. Let us not forget that since this pact came into being the average duration of airline strikes has gone from 15 to 102 days.

Let us remember that despite the success of collective bargaining in private industry the federal government has not been willing to give its own employes more than token rights to bargain.

YES, WE'VE COME A LONG WAY and the men and women of the labor movement appreciate and applaud the issuance of a stamp acknowledging the role of collective bargaining in the progress we've made.

But when Congress really becomes serious about collective bargaining it will do more than issue a stamp. It will repeal Section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act. It will prohibit the airlines Mutual Aid Pact. It will speed and strengthen the administration of the National Labor Relations Act. It will replace ineffective executive orders with a bona fide Federal Employees Labor Relations Act.

When collective bargaining is finally strengthened in the 19 states where it's now the weakest, when it's restored to the air transportation industry, when the National Labor Relations Act asserts real protections against unfair labor practices, and when federal employes enjoy bargaining equality with their brothers and sisters in private industry, labor and management will lay the class struggle finally to rest. And the way will indeed be cleared for less conflict and more accord in the relations between management and labor in America.

Unions Pitch In:

Job Corps Helps Half-Million Needy Youths in First Decade

THE JOB CORPS rounded out its first decade by helping nearly a half-million disadvantaged young workers find new and solid work careers, Reese Hammond, director of education and research for the Operating Engineers, reported.

The Job Corps has been an effective tool for affirmative action, Hammond said, pointing out that the program's two-pronged approach of remedial education and skill training has centered on minority group youngsters from urban areas.

He said that more than two-thirds of the enrollees scored below the sixth grade reading level when they entered the Job Corps, but those who have stuck it out have built new potentials for their futures.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Hammond said that although the Job Corps did survive the Nixon Administration's attempts to gut the program, its operations were severely cut back. And, he added, the current economic crisis and severe unemployment make it hard to commit to any large expansion of training programs in the construction industry at this time.

"Our concern right now," he said, "is to make sure that we place all of the graduates that come out this spring."

Hammond said that several unions in addition to the Operating Engineers have involved themselves and a great deal of time and money and effort in Job Corps centers and training programs. He said that the unions' involvement has stemmed from a determination that something should be done for these youngsters and the feeling that the unions are probably better equipped than anyone else to provide the education and training the Job Corps enrollees need. He said that some excellent trade unionists have also come out of the program.

He said the Job Corps, as a skills training program leading to a work career, is much different from the Civilian Conservation Corps of the Depression, which was primarily designed to ease the problem of youth unemployment. He said that while conversion of the Job Corps to a CCC-type program is a possibility, he knows of no such plan now under consideration.

Hammond was questioned by Charles Flinner of United Press International and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced public service program is aired Tuesday over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

"IT IS HELL TO BE OLD in this country. The pressures of living in the age of materialism have produced a youth cult. Most of us are afraid of getting old. This is because we have made old age a wasteland. It is T. S. Eliot's walking on broken glass. It's the nowhere in between this life and the great beyond. It is being robbed of your eyesight, your mobility, and even your human dignity."

Those are the sorrowful words of Sen. Frank E. Moss (D-Utah) who, in more than a dozen years of coping with the problems of the people who "walk on broken glass," has come to realize that their greatest single dread is confinement to a nursing home.

Back in 1960 a Senate subcommittee on aging concluded that "acceptable" nursing homes in the United States are in the minority. Studies have continued in Congress ever since then and conditions in nursing homes have deteriorated until a Senate subcommittee on long-term care for the aging has flatly concluded that:

"American nursing homes have become almost synonymous with death and protracted suffering before death."

This year, Moss, who has headed the subcommittee since 1962, Chairman Frank Church (D-Idaho) of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, Rep. Edward I. Koch (D-N.Y.), and others are trying to convince Congress that some firm standards for and controls over the $3.2 billion nursing home industry must be enacted.

Moss, Church and Koch have joined in sponsoring legislation. Rep. Edward Beard (D-R.I.), a member of the Painters union elected to Congress last year, has introduced a similar bill.

There are likely to be other bills introduced. None has reached the hearing stage. Organized labor and the National Council of Senior Citizens are studying the various measures and will make their voices heard because they have been among the forerunners in exposing nursing home abuses.

Unions like the Service Employees; Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union; State, County & Municipal Employees; Laborers and others have fought long and hard for representation at nursing homes, improved conditions, better training for employes and more adequate pay.

Congress has tussled with nursing home abuses in the past. But if anything, its actions have aggravated the situation, though not intentionally. Studies show that the industry has grown like a swampfire mainly because operators of homes qualify for federal assistance. They get big sums from Medicare and Medicaid.

IN 1971, PRESIDENT NIXON introduced a highly-touted "nursing home reform" program. The Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare has issued some standards, but consumer groups, health representatives and lawmakers charged they have been ineffective and watered-down. They also charge that enforcement, left to the states, has been almost nonexistent.

The infrequent physician visits and a shortage of trained nurses, the Senate subcommittee on aging points out, has resulted in thousands o nursing homes where physical examinations are non-existent, where patients receive insulin with no diagnosis of diabetes and digitalis with no diagnosis of heart disease, where there are no blood pressure readings, where up to 50 percent of all medications are given in error.

If that isn't shocking enough, the reader will learn of "not isolated but widespread" abuses such as unsanitary conditions, poor food, numerosu safety hazards, lack of dental care, misappropriation of funds and thefts, reprisals against complaining patients, over-prescription of tranquilizers, and profiteering and cheating by owners of the homes—many of whom are doctors.

Moss concludes realistically that the nation's collective conscience must be "stirred far more than is now the case" to get Congress to act. Until that happens, nursing home placement for the millions of older citizens will only confirm fears that their destiny is loss of health, liberty and human dignity.

A HALF-MILLION young workers have found solid careers through the Job Corps since it was created ten years ago as part of the Johnson Administration's War on Poverty, Operating Engineers Research & Education Director Reese Hammond, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc. and Charles Flinner of United Press International.

Key Rollcall on Emergency Job Funds

The House on Mar. 12 voted $5.9 billion in emergency funds for programs intended to create jobs for the unemployed. It rejected, 315-109, a Republican motion to send the bill back to the Appropriations Committee with instructions to cut the funds in half.

On the AFL-CIO scorecard, right votes (R) were cast by the 272 Democrats and 43 Republicans who voted against recommittal. Voting wrong (W) were 100 Republicans and 9 Democrats.

Numerals show congressional districts; AL—at large; A—absent.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) R

ALASKA
AL Young (R) R

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) A
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Mills (D) A
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) R

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) R
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) W
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Vacancy
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) A
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) W
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) R
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) W
5. Sarasin (R) W
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) R
2. Fuqua (D) R
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) R
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Haley (D) R
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) R
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) R
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) R
5. Young (D) A
6. Flynt (D) R
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) R
9. Landrum (D) R
10. Stephens (D) R

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Vancancy
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) R
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) R
21. Madigan (R) R
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) R
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) R
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) R
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) R
4. Shriver (R) R
5. Skubitz (R) R

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) R
5. Carter (R) R
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) R
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) R
5. Passman (D) R
6. Moore (R) R
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) R
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) W
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Esch (R) R
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
5. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) R
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) R
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) R

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1, Whitten (D) R
2. Bowen (D) R
3. Montgomery (D) R
4. Cochran (R) R
5. Lott (R) R

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) R
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) R
2. McCollister (R) R
3. Smith (R) R

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) A
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) R
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) R
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Fountain (D) R
3. Henderson (D) W
4. Andrews (D) R
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) R

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) R

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) R
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) R

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) R
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) A
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) W
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) W
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) R
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) R

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) R
4. Evins (D) R
5. Fulton (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) R
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) R
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) R
11. Poage (D) R
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) R
14. Young (D) R
15. de la Garza (D) R
16. White (D) R
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) R
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Krueger (D) R
22. Casey (D) R
23. Kazen (D) R
24. Milford (D) R

UTAH
1. McKay (D) R
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) A
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) R
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) R
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) A
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Continuing Trend:

Real Wages Down, Living Costs Climb

(Continued from Page 1)

Over the last three months, retail prices have increased at the seasonally adjusted compound annual rate of 8.1 percent.

Food prices last month rose at a slower rate than in January, but price increases for nonfood commodities were larger.

In February, the food index increased one-tenth of 1 percent while the nonfood commodities index rose eight-tenths of 1 percent for food and six-tenths of 1 percent for nonfood items.

The slowdown in food prices was chiefly due to declines in beef, pork, poultry and sugar prices, BLS pointed out. Prices of sugar-based products continued to rise sharply, however, and prices of most other grocery store items—as well as the cost of eating out—increased over the month.

A large part of the increase in the food index was due to higher prices of fresh fruits and vegetables, which rose more than seasonally, and large increases in prices of bakery products and other sugar-based items. Prices of dairy products also rose.

Prices for processed fruits and vegetables declined slightly. Egg prices also decreased but much less than is usual for the month.

About two-thirds of the increase in the nonfood commodities index —which normally declines a bit in February—stemmed from higher prices for houses, clothing, housekeeping supplies and alcoholic beverages.

New cars posted sizable increases over the month after registering declines in December and January. The increase reflected higher prices for imported autos, BLS said. Used car prices continued to decline but less than in December or January.

Clothing prices also rose following two months of decline, reflecting higher introductory prices for spring items. Prices of most other nondurable goods, such as textile housefurnishings, toilet goods, drugs and prescriptions, tobacco, gasoline and fuel oil also increased.

The average price for regular gasoline in urban areas last month was 53.3 cents a gallon, up one-tenth of 1 percent from January. The average premium grade price was up two-tenths of 1 percent at 57.4 cents a gallon.

The services index increased eight-tenths of 1 percent in February, about the same as in each of the previous four months. About a fourth of the rise resulted from higher physicians' fees and hospital charges.

Charges for all types of household services increased except mortgage interest rates. Gas, electricity, and water and sewerage rates rose sharply.

Among other services, there were large increases in charges for auto repairs and dry cleaning services and in taxi fares.

While the rate of inflation has apparently abated somewhat, the February CPI rise of six-tenths of 1 percent still was higher than historic norms.

E. L. McCabe, Shipbuilders Leader, Dies

Eugene L. McCabe, president of the Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, died Mar. 19 in a suburban Washington hospital after a lengthy illness. He was 58.

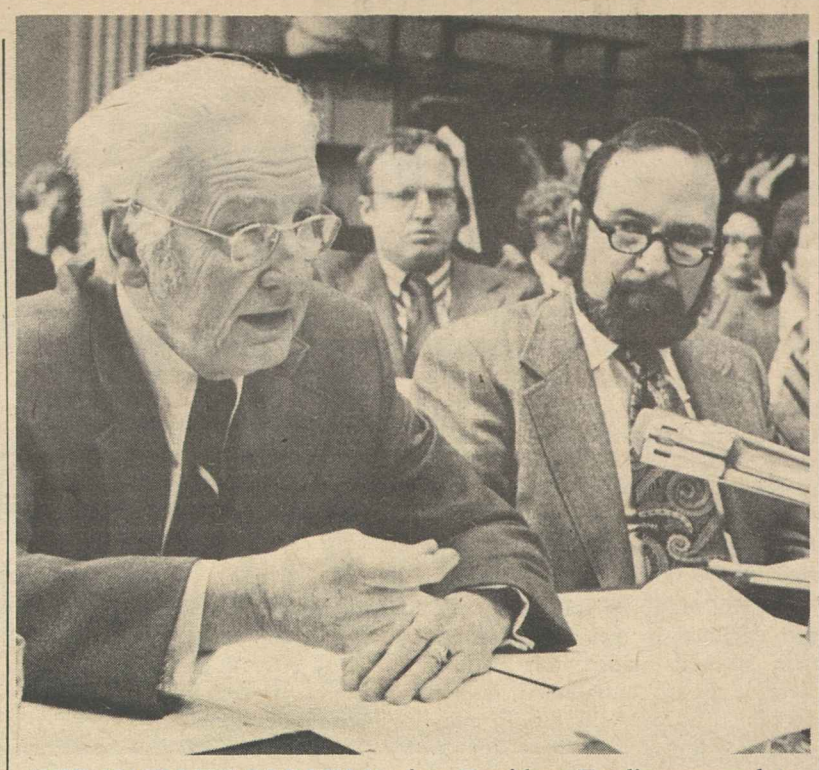
McCabe became a member of the union in 1941 while working at the Staten Island Yard of Bethlehem Steel. He held numerous offices until he became a national union representative in 1947.

In 1951, McCabe was appointed director of the union's New England region and held that position until 1970 when he was elected vice president. He was elected president in 1972.

In a telegram of condolence to his wife, Lucille, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said that McCabe "had justly earned a reputation for honesty, hard work and dedicated service to his union. His many friends in the labor movement shall miss him greatly."

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his mother, Mrs. Gertrude McCabe of Denville, N.J., and two children by a former marriage.

Funeral services were scheduled for Mar. 24 in Boston.



THE NATION'S ELDERLY view President Ford's proposal to limit this year's scheduled cost-of-living increase for social security recipients to 5 percent as "disastrous," President Nelson Cruikshank of the National Council of Senior Citizens tells a Senate committee. Testifying with him was Jack Ossofsky, executive director of the National Council on Aging.

Senior Citizens Assail Ford on Benefits Ceiling

President Ford's proposal to limit this year's scheduled cost-of-living increase for social security recipients to 5 percent would be "disastrous" for the nation's elderly, President Nelson H. Cruikshank of the National Council of Senior Citizens told Congress.

Testifying before the Senate Budget Committee, Cruikshank charged the President's proposal "has caused incalculable fear and worry" among those dependent on social security.

Under a law enacted by Congress in 1972, social security recipients receive COL increases geared to upward changes in the consumer price index. As matters now stand, recipients of social security are slated to receive an 8.7 percent increase in July for the nine-month period between July 1974 and March 1975.

"While we believe that the projected 8.7 percent increase may well be too small and too late to help thousands of financially repressed seniors, the President's planned lid of 5 percent would be disastrous," Cruikshank told the Senate committee.

Cruikshank noted increasing support among lawmakers for the National Council of Senior Citizens' position that what is needed is a cost-of-living boost of between 11-13 percent, payable July 1 and covering a full year since last July.

Last year's 11 percent social security boost actually represented a 4.2 percent shortfall as runaway inflation lifted the CPI at the rate of 15.2 percent, Cruikshank observed.

"In addition to this shortfall, there is a long wait until July 1975 when the next cost-of-living increase is due under the law," he pointed out.

"The staggering increases in the cost of food, health care, shelter and transportation—which normally take up about 80 percent of the older American's budget—make it imperative that the elderly poor get help as quickly as possible."

He said that the President's plan, if Congress goes along with it, would allow the Administration to use the improved financial position of the social security trust funds to offset part of the deficit in the overall budget—thus making the general budget appear better than it is in fact.

"Surely the President must realize that this proposal is seen for what it really is—an attempt to balance his budget on paper while dipping into the pockets of workers and simultaneously denying benefits to senior citizens," Cruikshank said.

"This plan to deny older people some $2.5 billion in fiscal year 1976 benefits doesn't save workers a cent since there is no plan to reduce workers' contributions to social security," he said.

"It's nothing more than a double ripoff aimed at the older retiree and the younger worker who makes the contribution."

Advisory Panel Explores Changes In Jobless Compensation Program

The Federal Advisory Council on Unemployment Insurance has launched a study of possible changes in the present method of financing benefits and administration of the nation's shaky unemployment compensation program.

A three-member committee will examine several proposals referred to it by the full council and report back to the 17-member advisory body within 60 days.

James R. O'Brien, an assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, will serve on the panel with the Rev. Joseph M. Becker of Georgetown University, the public member and chairman, and employer member Samuel E. Dyer, vice president of Federated Department Stores, Cincinnati.

The committee will study proposals to amend the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. One proposal would increase the taxable wage base from the present $4,200 to $6,000 in 1977 and to an estimated $7,000 in 1978. Another alternative would raise the tax rate by .05 percent to a total effective rate of .55 percent of payrolls.

The panel also will study proposals to improve the loan fund procedures by which states now borrow from the Federal Unemployment Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

The financing of the unemployment compensation system has been an area of concern to the AFL-CIO for many years. At its recent winter meeting, the federation's Executive Council stressed that financing of the program should be placed on a firm and adequate tax base.

The council said the taxable wage base should be increased in a series of steps to a level equal to the taxable wage base used to finance the nation's social security program, currently a maximum of $14,100.

The advisory council met at a time when mounting joblessness has placed the country's unemployment compensation program under its greatest strain since the Great Depression. Several states already have exhausted their reserve funds, and have applied for loans from the federal government to meet unemployment insurance payments.

The council, established by Congress in 1970 to advise the Secretary of Labor on the unemployment insurance program's effectiveness, also recommended appointment of a national commission to re-examine all phases of unemployment compensation. The commission would have a life of two years.

O'Brien noted that labor has no quarrel with the creation of such a commission, but said "it shouldn't be used as a device to delay improvements in areas we already know are deficient."

CONVENTIONS

The Florida AFL-CIO's 1975 convention will be held Sept. 29-Oct. 2 in Jacksonville.

The Utah AFL-CIO convention will be held Aug. 13-15 in Salt Lake City.

The Nebraska AFL-CIO convention will be held Aug. 18-20 in Scottsbluff.

The Massachusetts AFL-CIO convention will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 3 in Boston.

Rubber Union, OCAW Shape Merger Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

At the same meeting that acted on the agreement, OCAW Sec.-Treas. B. J. Schafer retired and Vice President Anthony C. Sabatine was named by the board to succeed him. Robert Goss, administrative assistant to Grospiron, was then elected a vice president to fill the vacancy.

URW President Peter Bommarito noted that both unions negotiate with several of the same companies and have been interested in the potential strength that a merger would bring. Bommarito and Grospiron are both AFL-CIO vice presidents.

Grospiron said the OCAW has cancelled plans for holding its convention in Denver, starting Aug. 4, and would reschedule it to coincide in date and city with the URW convention.

The URW had planned to meet at Anaheim, Calif., starting Oct. 13. But the problem of accommodating both union conventions in the same city may result in changing the location or dates of the convention.

If a final merger agreement is reached and endorsed by the executive boards of the two unions, it will be submitted to each of the union conventions.

A majority vote for ratification at each convention will complete the merger, the two union presidents said, and the delegates would then be able to meet jointly as a merged union.

'Jobs Now Rally' Planned by IUD

The AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. has announced that it will hold a "Rally for Jobs Now" at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium in Washington, Apr. 26.

IUD President I.W. Abel and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman said that large numbers of working people are expected to attend the rally. It is scheduled for three hours starting at 1 p.m.

The IUD plans to invite all members of Congress to the rally.

Court Backs UFW Stand On Short Hoe

Sacramento, Calif. — The California Supreme Court ruled that the state may prohibit the use of the short-handled hoe in agricultural work because it could cause serious back injuries.

The Farm Workers had long sought to ban the hoe, used extensively in crop cultivation, but the now-defunct State Industrial Safety Board refused to issue a regulation against the use of the hoe on the grounds that it was not inherently dangerous.

However, the court declared that "any tool which causes injury, immediate or cumulative, when used in the manner in which it was intended to be used, may constitute an unsafe hand tool within the meaning of the regulation."

The court's decision instructed the board, which has been succeeded by the California Occupational Safety & Health Standards Board, to reconsider the case for banning the tool. The hoe has a handle about one-foot long and requires constant stooping when used.

Physicians testified at hearings last year that prolonged use of the hoe could cause ruptured spinal discs, torn back ligaments and arthritis of the spine.

Benefit Rolls Surge:

Job Losses Spread, Key Areas Stricken

(Continued from Page 1)

chiefly in autos; shipbuilding, metals and machinery.

A year ago, only 33 areas had substantial unemployment.

Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. reported 6,380,700 workers drew unemployment insurance benefits of one type or another during the week ended Mar. 1. Of the total, 5,173,100 were receiving regular state unemployment insurance benefits.

The jobless rate for those covered by state unemployment insurance programs remained unchanged from the previous week at 7.9 percent. A year earlier, the rate was 4.1 percent when the volume was 2,589,800.

In addition, 610,000 new claims for jobless insurance benefits were filed in the week ended Mar. 8.

The new figures reflected the sharpest plunge in economic activity since the 1930s.

There were other developments:

● Housing starts in February dropped to their second-lowest rate on record while new building permits fell to a record low. The Commerce Dept. reported new starts were down 1.9 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 977,000 units. Permits declined 1.3 percent to a seasonally adjusted rate of 673,000 units.

● The nation's industrial output declined in February for the fifth straight month, the Federal Reserve Board announced. The 3 percent drop over the month compared with a 3.6 percent decline in the previous month. The January drop was the sharpest monthly decline since December 1937.

● Capacity utilization of the nation's factories, mines and utilities plunged to 78 percent in the last three months of 1974, the Commerce Dept. reported. The sharp drop—a decline from 84 percent in the third quarter—was the steepest since the government began the survey in 1968.

Industrial production slid further in January and February of this year, the Commerce Dept. said, noting the decline will show up as further drops in capacity utilization.

On the brighter side was the first monthly decline in business inventories in four and one-half years. The $148 million decrease in inventories in January indicated businesses were moving unsold goods built up due to slackened demand resulting from the recession.

Wholesale prices in February fell at a seasonally adjusted rate of eight-tenths of 1 percent, the third consecutive month of decline.

And the Federal Reserve Board lowered its discount rate half a percentage point to 6.25 percent, a move that led the country's major lending institutions to trim their prime rates.

The discount rate is the interest rate that Federal Reserve banks charge member commercial banks for loans. The 6.25 percent rate is the lowest since June 1973.

Taking their cue from the Fed, the nation's commercial banks pared their prime lending rates to 7.5 percent generally. Two large New York banks cut their prime rates to 7.5 percent. That is the lowest rate the industry has seen in 21 months.

The prime is the interest rate big banks charge their most creditworthy corporate customers for short-term loans. Steady drops in the prime rate usually show up eventually in other interest rates.

Airline Unions Shift Drive to 'Scrap MAP'

The Supreme Court declined to review an appellate court ruling upholding the airline industry's so-called Mutual Aid Pact, but unions in the industry promised to continue the fight to "scrap MAP" in Congress.

Under the pact, any signatory airline is eligible to collect 50 percent of its normal operating expenses during the first 14 days of a strike. The figure drops in steps to 35 percent after four weeks. The money comes from non-struck carriers which are parties to the 17-year-old agreement.

Airline unions, backed by the AFL-CIO, have sought for years to end the agreement, pointing out it has prolonged strikes while giving struck carriers an unfair edge.

The Supreme Court's decision denying a review of MAP's legality means the arrangement will remain in force until Congress takes action to outlaw it. The Senate Commerce Committee has scheduled hearings Apr. 23-24 on bills to do away with the pact.

Organized labor groups had appealed a 1974 decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia which had upheld the Civil Aeronautic Board's approval of MAP a year earlier.

In another action, the Supreme Court agreed to decide whether an Atlanta area shopping mall owner had the right to bar striking workers from picketing at the entrance to a store inside the enclosed mall. The court agreed to hear oral arguments in the case in its next term.

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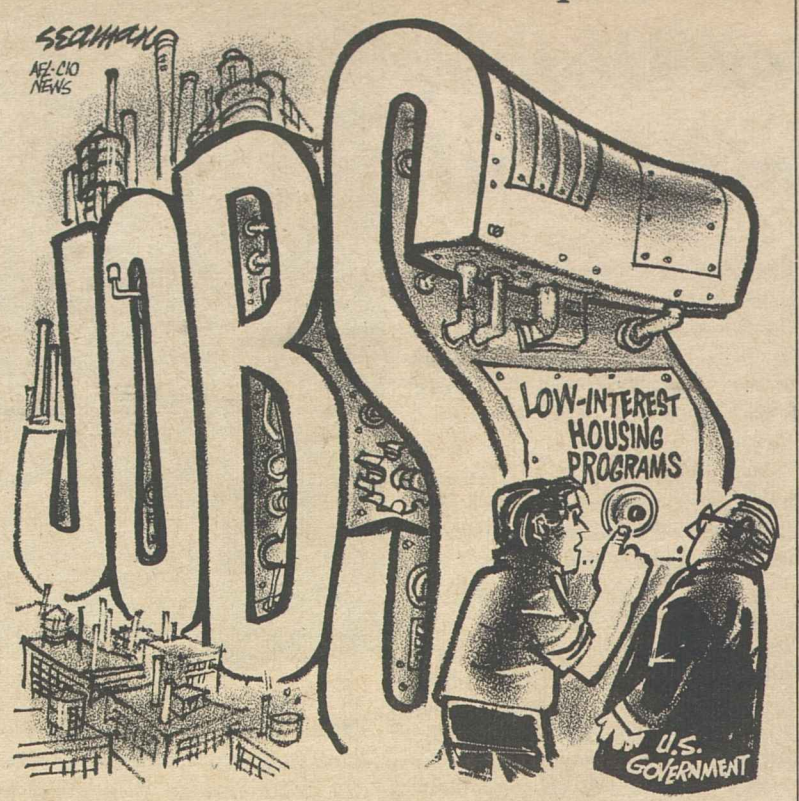
'You Can Start It Up!'



Congress Urged to Take Active Roll on Budget

Congress was urged by the AFL-CIO to look at the federal budget in terms of the nation's needs and as an opportunity to reshape national priorities.

The federation asked the new House Budget Committee to make its review of the President's proposed budget more than a decision as to the surplus or deficit to be sought within an arbitrary time period.

Waste should be eliminated and funds spent efficiently, the AFL-CIO said in a statement submitted to the committee, but Congress should avoid "competing" with the Ford Administration in seeking to economize by dismantling or underfunding essential programs.

Labor's statement asked Congress "to view its new role in the budget process as an opportunity to help assure a balanced, full employment economy with rising real incomes, expansion of badly-needed public facilities and services. . . ."

The federal government should use its vital power to tax and spend, the AFL-CIO said, to promote steady economic growth and to fill "vast unmet public needs" for jobs, housing, transportation, education, health care and other goals.

Although the law passed last year does not obligate Congress to follow the new budget review procedures in full until next year's budget is submitted, the House and Senate budget panels plan to bring out a resolution in cooperation with legislative committees that would set targets for appropriations and spending in various areas.

The AFL-CIO statement stressed that the economy has deteriorated to the point where unemployment feeds on unemployment and "massive" government action is needed.

It said the Administration "blueprint for America," as spelled out in its budget proposals, "would not in any way halt the downward spiral or move the economy from depression and the brink of disaster."

It asked Congress to use its power "promptly and wisely" to turn the economy around.

OATH OF OFFICE as the new Secretary of Labor is taken by John T. Dunlop as his wife, Dorothy, holds the Dunlop family Bible. Senior Judge Charles Fahy of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia administers the oath.

Speed Asked In Processing Food Stamps

The Meat Cutters have called on Congress to provide the means for speeding up the food stamp application process, reduce food stamp prices, and reject any new efforts to cut off strikers from food stamp eligibility.

Meat Cutters Legislative Rep. Arnold Mayer on behalf of Sec.-Treas. Patrick E. Gorman submitted the union's statement during Senate Agriculture Committee hearings on food stamp legislation.

"Our union has long been concerned with the food stamp program," the statement said. "We believe it is an essential and vital government effort to prevent millions of Americans from suffering hunger and malnutrition.

"It is literally preventing some of our fellow citizens from starving and it is especially important now, while our nation is going headlong into a depression. The program is also important to the health of the food industry since it permits some 17 million persons to purchase an adequate amount of food through normal distribution channels."

The union urged that the committee "act decisively to ensure that all food stamp applicants are fully processed within 15 days of their initial contact with the food stamp office" by providing both statutory instructions and money to hire the needed people.

Waits of from four to ten weeks for appointments to apply for stamps are being increasingly reported, while another month can pass before the applications are processed, the union said.

In addition, the union said, the price of food stamps should be reduced significantly to offset the effect of inflation.

Direct Loans Sought To Cut Home Costs

(Continued from Page 1)

committee that such an approach would tend to perpetuate the current high levels of mortgage interest. And he warned that some families, encouraged to buy homes by the temporary 6 percent interest rate, might find it hard to meet the rise in monthly payments after the subsidy runs out.

Under the House bill and most of the companion measures, families eligible for interest subsidies could not have an income greater than 120 percent of the median income in the metropolitan area or other community designated by the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development. Only homes valued at under $38,000 would be eligible for mortgage subsidies, except in designated high-cost areas where the purchase price could go as high as $42,000 in the 48 contiguous states, and even higher in Alaska and Hawaii.

Another provision of the House bill would allow HUD to substitute a life-of-the-mortgage 7 percent rate for the temporary 6 percent subsidy.

Schechter said the Proxmire bill would tend to bring mortgage rates down instead of propping them up, as in the House bill.

It would establish a fund to purchase mortgages bearing a 6 percent mortgage interest rate. The mortgages would not be resold in the private market to yield a higher rate — thus eliminating another source of upward pressure on non-subsidized mortgage rates.

Under the Proxmire bill, the assistance program would be triggered when there was a combination of relatively high unemployment — above 6 percent — and relatively low housing starts—below an annual rate of 1,750,000. At least 75 percent of the homes purchased with government-assisted mortgages would have had to be constructed within the previous 12 months.

Schechter also urged the subcommittee, headed by Sen. John Sparkman (D-Ala.), to approve legislation that would prevent foreclosure of homes being purchased by families whose income suddenly drops because of unemployment or other financial disaster.

The bill that comes closest to the need, he said, would provide for HUD payments of not more than $375 a month for not more than two years to cover the principal, interest, taxes and necessary insurance payments.

The funds advanced would be a loan, repayable under terms to be set by the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development.

"The relief payments are needed now," Schechter said, "since unemployment insurance benefits are inadequate" to cover mortgage costs as well as essential family living expenses.

On another bill before the Senate subcommittee, Schechter endorsed development of national minimum standards for insulation and other energy-conserving measures in construction. And he expressed the AFL-CIO's support, also, of grants to help winterize dwellings of low-income persons and particularly the elderly.

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Tax Cut Bill Sent to Ford To Aid Dragging Economy

An Editorial by George Meany

The Bitter Fruits of Detente

WITH THE COLLAPSE of Secretary Kissinger's latest Middle East mission, the policy of detente lies in ruins.

No less sweeping indictment can be made by sober and reasonable men. And Israeli security is not the only potential victim of this disastrous policy. The wreckage is global.

As if to cover up the consequences of its policies, the Administration is apparently passing the word that it holds Israeli "intransigence" mainly responsible for the failure of Mr. Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy.

Of what does this "intransigence" consist? Israel's refusal to give up the Sinai passes and oil fields without an Egyptian pledge of nonbelligerence. In other words, the Israelis wanted something tangible in return for their territorial concessions, not just vague guarantees by Dr. Kissinger.

As trade unionists, we know a little something about bargaining, and we know you don't give away something for nothing. We are also quite familiar with the techniques of unfair intimidation that can be brought to bear on the bargaining process. Certainly, to suggest that the U.S. will "reassess" its policies toward an ally of a quarter of a century, if that ally does not make more concessions to enemies sworn to destroy her, is an unmistakable threat.

The result of this disgraceful policy is that the United States appears to be striking a neutral pose in the Middle East, while the Russians are giving full backing to the Arabs. The Israelis have half an ally, while the Arabs have one and a half.

President Ford should indeed undertake a reassessment—not of U.S. relations with Israel, but of our recent actions in the Middle East and of the entire Nixon-Kissinger policy of detente, which has produced disillusionment everywhere and success nowhere.

Whatever reassessment the President may undertake, the AFL-CIO here and now reiterates its support of Israel and its deep solidarity with Histadrut in this critical hour.

In our opinion, the Israelis were right not to rest their future on "guarantees" by Henry Kissinger. No doubt they, along with our

(Continued on Page 4)

1974 Profits Up 17% Despite Economic Sag

American business and industry turned in another good year in 1974 despite the most severe economic contraction since the 1930s, posting after-tax profits totaling $85.4 billion—up 17 percent from 1973, the Commerce Dept. reported.

While the percentage increase lagged behind that of the two previous years, it matched that for 1971 when the nation was beginning its recovery from the 1969-70 recession.

Net profits in 1973 were $72.9 billion, or 26 percent above the year before when they totaled $57.7 billion. The profits rise in 1972 was 25 percent.

Corporate performance last year proved steady even though profits in the October-December period fell to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $81.1 billion, down $13.2 billion from the record $94.3 billion in the third quarter.

The 17 percent slide in fourth-quarter reported earnings was due "almost entirely to a substantial reduction in inventory profits," the Commerce Dept. said.

This drop in inventory profits resulted from bookkeeping changes many firms resorted to in the last half of the year to reduce their tax liabilities.

The switch to the LIFO (last-in, first-out) accounting technique enabled hundreds of companies to inflate their reported costs, thus lowering reported profits. This meant a reduction in taxes while cash flow increased.

Until mid-1974, most businesses employed the first-in, first-out approach under which it was assumed the oldest goods in stock are those used in current production. The FIFO method more closely reflects actual costs and profits.

Reporting on fourth-quarter

(Continued on Page 8)

REPRESENTATIVES of 21 national public, private and voluntary agencies attended a conference in Washington sponsored by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services to plan ways of coordinating services to the unemployed and their families, particularly at the local level. **(Story, Page 7)**

Despite Ford's Reluctance:

Anti-Recession Bills Gain on Capitol Hill

Congress continued to go beyond the Ford Administration's proposals in its effort to create jobs and revive the economy.

Despite Administration hostility, bills dealing with mortgage subsidies, funds for social programs, health insurance for the unemployed and home foreclosures moved up on the legislative ladder.

The House voted 259-106 approval of a bill intended to spur homebuilding by providing a partial subsidy of mortgage interest rates for middle-income families who buy newly-constructed homes.

The House bill would enable families who qualify to pay less than the current market rate of interest under one of two options—a temporary subsidy that would reduce the mortgage rate to 6 percent for three years with an additional three years of phase-in before the regular market level is reached, or a level 7 percent rate for the life of the mortgage.

While the Administration opposed any form of interest subsidy, the AFL-CIO has urged the Senate to improve on the bill by a federal loan program that would help bring all interest rates down.

Both the House and Senate continued to rebuff the bulk of President Ford's request that Congress rescind billions of dollars in appropriations as an economy move.

In the latest series of actions, Congress approved $260 million in budget rescissions requested by Ford—most of it in Defense Dept. funds.

But it refused to approve nearly $2 billion in other cutbacks proposed by the President. The Administration therefore will have to allocate funds it didn't want to spend for the National Cancer Institute, drug abuse and mental health programs, for educating the handicapped, higher education and li-

(Continued on Page 8)

Jobs Boost Chief Goal Of Measure

By David L. Perlman

Congress voted final approval of a job-creating tax cut and refund package that is substantially greater than President Ford had sought but short of the total urged by the AFL-CIO.

The White House said President Ford would take "several days" to decide whether to veto the legislation or allow it to become law.

All segments of the population, and business firms as well as individuals, would benefit from the nearly $25 billion in reductions and rebates voted by Congress. The largest share, however, would go to the lower- and middle-income families that have been hardest hit by the shrinking purchasing power of the dollar.

Their purchases, quickly pumped into the spending stream, are counted on to stimulate the economy and generate employment. If the bill is signed by the President, checks for 1974 rebates would start going out by May, and the 1975 reductions would be translated into lower withholding from paychecks this year.

By contrast, Ford's original proposal would have given far bigger refunds to the wealthiest taxpayers and what AFL-CIO President George Meany had termed "peanuts to the poor."

While tax reductions and cash payments in the bill total an estimated $24.8 billion, the Treasury would recoup $2 billion of that amount through a significant nar-

(Continued on Page 8)

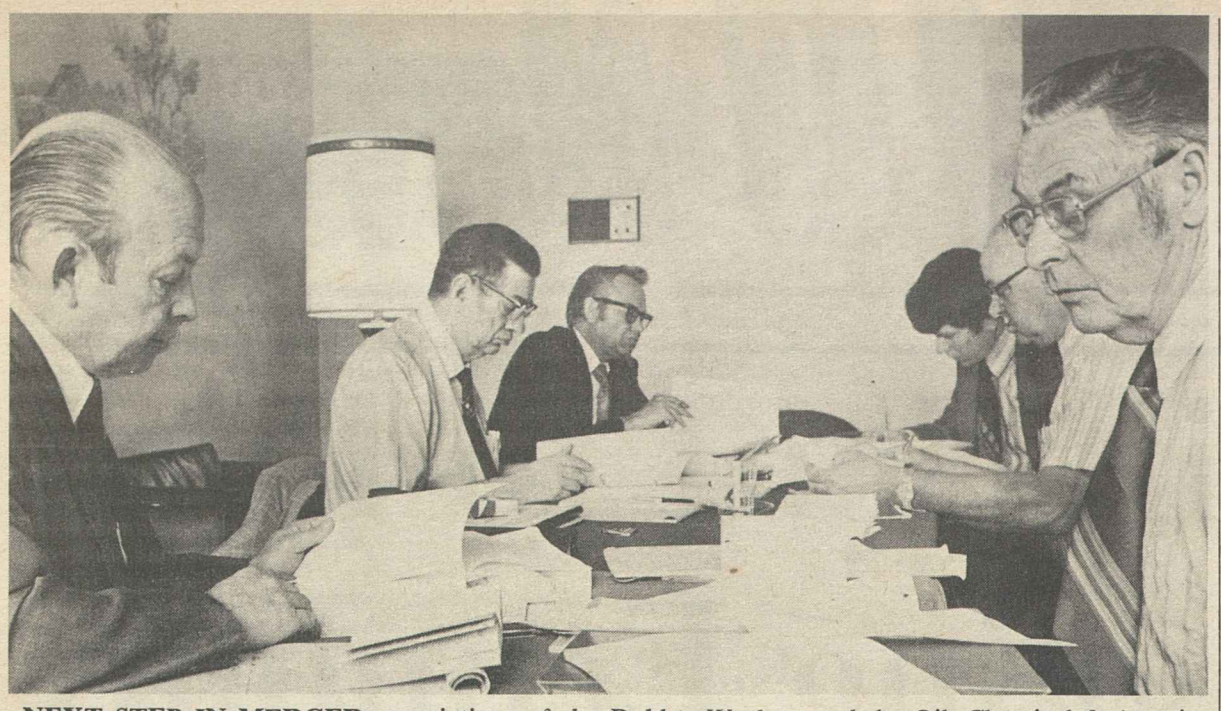
Bid to Shift Financing Of Medicare Assailed

The AFL-CIO took "strong exception" to a proposal for financing social security benefits that would have the effect of making the Medicare program entirely dependent on year-to-year congressional appropriations.

Federation President George Meany said the Advisory Council on Social Security took the wrong road to avoiding a future deficit in the program. The council proposed to drop the Medicare portion of the social security payroll tax and raise the tax rate for the basic Old Age, Survivors & Disability Insurance by an equivalent amount. Medicare benefits would then be financed out of general tax revenues, not related to earnings.

Meany warned that financing Medicare "totally from general revenues without any worker contribution would undermine the social insurance principle of benefits as a matter of right." He said it would lead to income and means tests, transforming Medicare into another welfare program.

(Continued on Page 2)



NEXT STEP IN MERGER negotiations of the Rubber Workers and the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers is the drafting of a proposed constitution. Committees from the two unions compared the two existing constitutions at this meeting in Akron, O. From the left, OCAW Vice President Robert Goss and Elwood D. Swisher; OCAW Counsel John Tadlock; URW Counsel Harley M. Kastner; URW Vice President Kenneth Oldham, and Jack Samels, administrative assistant to the Rubber Workers' president. Further talks are to be held at OCAW headquarters in Denver.

Labor Pushes State Drive to Scrap Inferior Occupational Health Plans

AFL-CIO efforts to establish exclusive federal enforcement of job safety and health standards received a temporary setback as a federal judge denied the federation a motion to disallow further development of state safety plans with Labor Dept. approval.

Organized labor is continuing to press, however, for the abandonment of inferior state safety programs at the state level while considering an appeal of the decision by Judge John L. Smith, Jr., of the District Court in Washington.

AFL-CIO safety specialist George H. R. Taylor said efforts would also be intensified to upgrade federal safety and health programs which the court decision held are the yardstick for state plans.

In a suit brought by the AFL-CIO, the Industrial Union Dept. and the Illinois AFL-CIO, the Labor Dept. was accused of approving state safety plans that did not meet the standards of the federal Occupational Safety & Health Act.

The key wording in the section of the law that provides for the development of state safety plans is that they be "at least as effective as" the federal standards.

But the labor lawsuit contended that the Labor Dept. and Occupational Safety & Health Administration regulations for state plans "are arbitrary and capricious."

It charged that the regulations merely parrot the language of the federal statute, establish no rational criteria and guidelines for evaluating the state's commitment to effective inspection and enforcement, and have resulted in non-uniform state plans with wide disparities in manpower commitments and fund allotments.

Judge Smith observed in his ruling that the yardstick for state standards, enforcement personnel and funding is determined by the federal safety program and should reflect the effectiveness of OSHA's performance.

However, this part of the ruling also suggests that should the federal standards and enforcement be under par, the state programs could be equally shoddy.

Attorneys George H. Cohen and Lawrence Gold, who are handling the federation's lawsuit, said this section of the ruling could form the basis for an appeal.

When the suit was filed a year ago, 26 state safety plans had been approved by the Labor Dept. That number has since dropped to 23 as three large manufacturing states—Illinois, New Jersey and New York—have pulled out of the program and switched to federal enforcement.

Several other states had withdrawn safety plans earlier, including Pennsylvania, Georgia, Mississippi, New Hampshire and North Dakota. Other major states which have chosen federal enforcement include Texas, Missouri, Massachusetts and Louisiana.

Only six states with large numbers of workers are participating through their own state plans. They are California, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Carolina. But labor-endorsed legislation is pending in Indiana and Wisconsin that would block further participation in the state plan effort.

In addition to administering their own programs, states must provide half of the funds and adopt other enabling legislation for manpower, training and safety and health standards.

The entire administration and funding is borne by the federal government in states that do not operate their own programs.

N.Y. Governor Shifts To Federal Safety Plan

Albany, N.Y.—Gov. Hugh L. Carey announced that New York state will abandon its occupational safety and health plan and develop an agreement for federal administration.

His move was greeted by State AFL-CIO President Raymond R. Corbett as "a significant victory for workers."

Carey made known his intention in a letter to John H. Stender, assistant secretary of labor.

In a public statement, Corbett noted that Carey had put special emphasis on the matter of protecting the jobs of the several hundred state safety inspectors in working out the agreement for federal administration of the program.

At the 1973 and 1974 sessions of the state legislature, the State AFL-CIO and its affiliates successfully opposed attempts to enact a bill to set up a state occupational safety and health plan. Labor stressed that the state proposal was not, as required by the federal law, "at least as effective as" the federal OSHA.

In mid-February, Carey met with Stender, State Industrial Commissioner Louis L. Levine, Corbett and State AFL-CIO Research Director Ludwig Jaffe to review the entire picture. At the conclusion of that meeting he directed that a proposal be drafted for federal job safety administration.

Carey pointed out in announcing his decision that the money savings resulting — $2.5 million the first year, $3.5 million annually thereafter—would make possible a job safety and health program for public workers "for the first time" and said the state would also set up a consultative service to aid employers both in federal and state jurisdictional areas.

The governor emphasized that there would be no lessening of the state's safety program in areas not under federal control, such as underground mines and certain types of radiation, and said that bills to maintain state licensing of operators of cranes and lasers and blasters would be proposed to the legislature.

Concerning the state job safety inspectors, Carey said that "in addition to retaining personnel to help develop and maintain the new programs which we will initiate, I will work with the U.S. Dept. of Labor in expediting the transfer of as many state enforcement officers as possible to the federal program."

He said he would see to it that New York would assume "a position of leadership in strengthening the federal program, and through our congressional delegation, I plan to press for the most effective federal program possible and for adequate funding for implementation of such program."

Carey urged that steps be taken to have the federal program operational by next June 30.

Financing Shift Opposed:

Medicare Proposal Called Wrong Road

(Continued from Page 1)

But Meany also criticized the Ford Administration for suggesting "even worse" methods of avoiding a future deficit, such as holding social security benefit increases below the rise in living costs and cutting back on Medicare.

President Ford said he is opposed to any use of general revenue funds for either the basic social security program or for Medicare.

Meany stressed that the AFL-CIO's position is that there should be a contribution to both programs out of general revenue, but that payroll taxes paid by workers and their employers should remain a key part of the program.

"A major factor in social security's popularity is the absence of a welfare stigma," Meany said. "The public looks upon benefits as an earned right because workers have made contributions during their working lives."

Meany criticized the council for rejecting the alternative of gradually raising the taxable wage base from the current $14,100 of earnings to a maximum of $28,000. He noted that only 15 percent of workers would pay a higher amount under this system, and they would receive higher benefits as a result of the higher wage base.

The advisory council also "totally ignored the inadequacy of social security benefits and the need to improve them," Meany said. At present levels, he declared, "the retirement years will continue to be ones of bitter desperation for millions of elderly citizens."

Meany said the dissent by one of the advisory council members, Rudolph Danstedt, "closely represents the views of the AFL-CIO."

Danstedt, who is assistant to the president of the National Council of Senior Citizens, suggested as one means of improving social security financing that the employer share of the tax be made applicable to the company's entire payroll, not just to the portion of earnings now subject to the social security tax. He noted that the employer payroll tax is actually less than was contemplated in the original Social Security Act.

On the proposal to abolish the Medicare portion of the payroll tax, Danstedt commented:

"If Medicare is to be supported entirely by the general taxpayer rather than in significant part by earmarked contributions from those who are to benefit from the protection, the question in the future will inevitably arise as to why general funds should go to pay for the hospitalization and physicians' bills of a selected group in the population—the elderly and disabled—regardless of whether or not a particular elderly or disabled person is entirely able to pay for the services on his own. Thus I fear that the recommendations of the majority could over time transform the Medicare social insurance program into a relief program."

Further, he suggested, a switch away from contributory financing would make it more likely that in times of budgetary restraint benefits for the elderly would be reduced and they would be required to pay a bigger share of health costs.

While an increase in the taxable wage base, a tax on the employer's total payroll and other adjustments would meet the short-range funding problems, Danstedt noted that an eventual government contribution may be needed by the last decade of the century.

He suggested restoration of language that was in the Social Security Act from 1944 to 1950, authorizing Congress to appropriate "such additional sums as may be required to finance the benefits."

For the long run, Danstedt anticipates "a social security system covering both cash benefits and health insurance financed partly by employer contributions, partly by employe contributions, and partly by contributions from the government in recognition of society's stake in a well-functioning social insurance program."

Transit Strikers Gain New Philadelphia Pact

Philadelphia—Transport Workers resolved an 11-day strike against the area's transit authority by approving a new two-year contract providing basic wage increases of $1.10 an hour in addition to other improvements. Members of TWU Local 234 ratified the agreement 2,704 to 2,051.

The 5,500 TWU operators, mechanics and cashiers employed by the Southern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority will receive a 60-cent-an-hour wage increase retroactive to Mar. 15, another 15 cents Dec. 15, and 35 cents next Mar. 15.

A cost-of-living escalator will go into effect next Mar. 15, providing for a 1-cent-an-hour adjustment for each increase of four-tenths of 1 percent in the Philadelphia area cost of living index. The first COL adjustment will be made in September 1976 with a maximum payment of 12 cents an hour.

Other improvements in the agreement call for an additional paid holiday, for a total of 10 annually, and increased contributions by the transit authority to the employes' pension plan.

Workers with 30 years of service will for the first time be able to retire with full pension benefits regardless of age.

The agreement also provides for a pharmaceutical plan under which members will pay only the first $1 for a prescription; increased payments by the transit authority for medical and insurance programs, and improved sick leave benefits. Weekly sick pay is raised $10 to $115 a week for the first 28 days and $5 to $100 a week for the remaining 122 days of coverage.

The union's negotiating team was headed by TWU President Matthew Guinan and Sec.-Treas. Roosevelt Watts, along with Local 234 President Ned LeDonne and Executive Vice Pres. James F. Horst.

Rubber Workers Name New General Counsel

Akron, O.—Harley M. Kastner was named general counsel of the Rubber Workers to succeed George V. Vasko, who resigned to enter private practice. Kastner, 25, has been the URW assistant general counsel since November 1973.

Congressional Report:

Ford Policies Point To 10% Joblessness

Unemployment in the United States could go as high as 10 percent by late this year if the Ford Administration's economic proposals were to be adopted, a report of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress warned.

The nation's jobless rate in January and February hung at 8.2 percent of the work force, the highest in 34 years, and is expected to show a further increase when the government releases its report on March employment on Apr. 4.

The committee report, issued as a response to the Economic Report of the President submitted to Congress earlier this year, also warned the Administration's economic strategy would result in a "staggering" decline in output—$1.5 trillion between now and the end of this decade.

"The above assessment, pessimistic though it may sound, is not the worst possible case," the committee declared. "It assumes a moderately easy monetary policy, some recovery in housing starts and some pickup in automobile sales.

"Should the Federal Reserve pursue a restrictive monetary policy, this—together with the restrictive impact which the President's energy proposals would have in 1976—could well serve to make 1976 the third successive year of declining output.

"Unemployment could rise above 10 percent," the committee observed. It noted national unemployment is now expected to go to 9 percent or above in the third and fourth quarters of 1975, and added:

"The outlook is even bleaker if we consider that in June of this year almost 4.5 million young men and women will graduate from high school, college and professional schools."

The committee offered its own "emergency economic recovery program" to stop the deterioration of the economy and get the nation back on a growth path. The plan includes personal and business tax cuts totaling $32-$35 billion, increased and expanded unemployment insurance benefits, grants to state and local governments, more public service jobs, quick aid to the housing industry, and tax reform.

The committee's report containing the tax reduction proposal was issued before congressional conferees moved to reconcile the differing tax-cut measures adopted by the House and Senate.

The joint committee said its recomendations are "designed to combat the most grave economic emergency in the postwar era."

It said adoption of its proposals would bring unemployment down to a range of 7.8 to 8.1 percent by the end of 1975—"compared to 9.2 to 9.5 percent under the President's program"—and 6.5 to 6.8 percent by the fourth quarter of 1976.

"In terms of jobs, an estimated 2 to 2.5 million more people would be working at the end of next year under the committee's program than under the President's," the majority report panel observed.

UNION WITNESSES told the Joint Economic Committee of Congress that unemployment has reached the crisis stage and faster action is needed on job-creating legislation. Shown testifying are, from left, President Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., Service Employees President George Hardy and Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts.

Union Sues City Officials For Food Stamp Denial

Danville, Va.—The United Textile Workers are suing Danville city officials for $2.1 million for illegally denying food stamps to UTWA members who were on strike last summer.

The suit filed in federal district court here charges that the civil rights of 6,000 UTWA members and supporters were violated by Danville's city manager, mayor, social services director and city council members. It accuses the officials of conspiring to withhold the food stamps to strikers in violation of federal law.

The union is seeking $600,000 in actual damages, $1.5 million in punitive damages and a permanent injunction against any future such illegal conduct by the municipal officials.

Food stamps were withheld from UTWA Local 248 members while they were engaged in a 1974 strike against the Dan River, Inc. textile firm.

Last December, the Virginia Board of Welfare found Danville guilty of denying the food stamps to the Dan River strikers on the instructions of City Manager James Lord. The state imposed a remedial penalty on the city by having state-reimbursed administrative costs withheld for two months. This amounted to a loss of $2,400 in city revenues.

The union pointed out that its suit is not against the city or its taxpayers, but rather against the individual municipal officials who it charged conspired to illegally withhold the food stamps.

UTWA President Francis Schaufenbil expressed regret that a lawsuit is necessary to assure that its members are treated as "first-class citizens."

"But whatever it takes," Schaufenbil declared, "we'll do it to protect our membership and their legal rights."

UTWA Sec.-Treas. Philip Salem said that the penalty for the violation should be borne only by the defendants.

"Any judgment we recover in this case will be paid by the individual defendants," he declared. "The good taxpayers of the city, and they include UTWA members, are not guilty parties here."

Youth Debates Set For Bicentennial

Nationwide speech competition for younger citizens commemorating the nation's bicentennial sponsored by the Speech Communication Association will begin in September and continue through June 1976.

The Bicentennial Youth Debates, supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, will be held on local, district, sectional, regional and national levels, with winners advancing to the next higher level. Debate topics will focus a number of national issues, including the role of workers and organized labor.

AFL-CIO President George Meany is a member of the advisory council for the youth debates. The program was endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council in urging union members to take part in the nation's 200th anniversary celebration.

Aerospace Strikers Vote Offer Down

Los Angeles—Striking Machinists employed by McDonnell Douglas Corp. overwhelmingly rejected a company contract offer, and continued their walkout at the firm's facilities in California and Cape Canaveral, Fla.

IAM Vice President Robert Simpson noted the company proposal was rejected by almost 75 percent of those voting at the Los Angeles Convention Center Mar. 23. About 5,000 of the 6,000 IAM members in the Los Angeles area turned out for the ratification meeting.

The giant aerospace firm proposed a three-year package providing for wage increases of 3 percent each year, along with a cost-of-living adjustment, and improvements in a number of fringe benefits.

Simpson said no new talks between the firm and IAM's District 720 were scheduled. Negotiations between IAM District 837 and the company at its corporate headquarters in St. Louis continued, however.

About 7,000 Machinists at five McDonnell Douglas plants in California and at Cape Canaveral are represented by District 720. Another 12,000 are represented by District 837 in St. Louis.

The strike began nearly seven weeks ago at all the McDonnell Douglas plant locations where the Machinists represent employes. IAM's contracts with the firm expired last October. The union now has twice rejected company settlement offers on grounds they failed to meet agreements reached earlier with other aerospace firms.

W. A. Copeland Dies, Retired Organizer

Pensacola, Fla. — William A. Copeland, retired AFL-CIO field representative, died here Mar. 9. He was 76. Copeland retired in 1963 after 21 years on the organizing staffs of the federation and the CIO before the 1955 merger.

He had been associated with the Newspaper Guild since its founding days and had served as a local president in Memphis, Tenn., and as a vice president of the international. Copeland also had been president of the Tennessee CIO state council and the state political action director. He aided several unions in organizing campaigns.

Union Leaders Press For Jobs Legislation

A panel of union officials sought to impress on the Joint Economic Committee of Congress the gravity of the nation's economic crisis and the human tragedy behind the unemployment statistics.

Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., reported on an industry that has suffered "double-digit unemployment for nine consecutive months" and has more than 225,000 of its workers unemployed for 15 weeks or longer.

President George Hardy of the Service Employees told the House-Senate joint committee that nearly half of all workers who have lost their jobs are in service occupations—and that most of these were in the lowest pay brackets, have no cushion of savings and are entitled to only minimum unemployment benefits.

Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts termed the economic collapse "the inevitable consequence" of a big business bias by this Administration and its predecessor.

He warned that "rampant recession and soaring unemployment are creating a potential powder keg of social dynamite." This could lead to "the ugliest mass emotions," he said.

Watts urged "a massive public service jobs program" and "authentic tax reform" including a $30 billion tax cut. He called for an energy policy aimed at achieving self-sufficiency and "social justice" to avert "a tragic waste of human resources."

Hardy told the congressional panel that in most states workers who had been receiving the federal minimum wage will get only about $40 a week in unemployment benefits.

He told the joint committee that it should be hearing from people like a nurses' aide laid off at East Los Angeles Hospital who has two children she was solely supporting, or the mother of five who lost her job "mopping floors in a building."

He said the Service Employees favor a cut in the workweek and strong curbs on overtime as a way of spreading employment.

Georgine said the construction industry is the chief victim of the high interest, tight money and impoundment policies of the Administration and the Federal Reserve Board.

In major cities, Georgine said, construction unemployment is above 25 percent and "the taxes lost to the federal government from unemployed construction workers is now close to $650 million."

He told the committee that "only massive emergency measures can halt the downward spiral, turn the economy around, put Americans back to work and restore public confidence in the government's ability to correct the economy's difficulties."

GE Workers Certified for Trade Act Aid

The Labor Dept. has certified 1,100 New York state workers eligible for trade adjustment assistance because their jobs were wiped out by increased imports of electronic components.

The affected workers, members of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the Machinists, were employed at General Electric Semiconductor Products Dept. plants in Syracuse and Auburn, N.Y.

Both the IUE and the IAM filed petitions with the International Trade Commission — the successor agency to the U.S. Tariff Commission — appealing for assistance for their members under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.

The commission found that the imports were the major factor in the layoffs of workers engaged in the production of transistors and diodes at the two GE facilities.

Cash allowances, testing, training, job placement and other benefits are provided in the trade adjustment assistance. The workers can receive up to 65 percent of the national average weekly wage. Benefits will rise to 70 percent of the average wage after Apr. 3.

Get Your Money's Worth!

UNION DOLLARS FOR UNION PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

The Bitter Fruits of Detente

(Continued from Page 1)

other allies, were watching the horrible tragedy unfolding in Vietnam—another fruit of detente.

In January 1973, Dr. Kissinger arranged a cease-fire in Vietnam and a withdrawal of American troops. This, we were told, with great fanfare, would bring an end to the killing. Mr. Nixon took credit for ending the war.

But the following year, more South Vietnamese soldiers were killed than in any other year of the war, save two. Then we were told, by leading members of Congress, that the way to stop the killing was to cut off military aid to South Vietnam.

No sooner did it become clear that Congress intended to do just that than the North Vietnamese launched a full-scale invasion of the South. We are now witnessing one of the most massive migrations of human beings in modern history—roughly a million Vietnamese fleeing south. (They are not, be it noticed, rushing to the workers' paradise in the North but to the "repressive" and "corrupt" regime in the South. They are voting with their feet.) And as these men, women and children flee, they are being fired upon by the advancing Communist troops.

Is this the kind of peace agreement Henry Kissinger has in mind for the Middle East? And what about those members of Congress who profess support for Israel but would withhold from another small country struggling for survival against Communist aggression the aid she needs to survive?

The question here is not whether Israel and Vietnam are the same but whether the dishonorable abandonment of our commitment to one ally will strengthen the credibility of our commitment to another. The AFL-CIO does not think so, and the Middle East debacle, coming in the midst of the Indochina tragedy, is powerful evidence to the contrary.

The "domino theory" is supposedly out of fashion, but events are reasserting it with a vengeance. We see before our horrified eyes plain and simple proof that the fate of the Western world rests on a series of interlinking alliances and relationships which cannot be damaged at one point without weakening the whole chain. This—rather than any oversimplified notion of adjacent countries toppling over each other—is what links Israel, Vietnam, and for that matter, Portugal.

There can be no doubt that the bold Communist push for power in Portugal is fed by an awareness of declining American power in the world. That decline has to do with the disarray of the Western economies and resulting political instability. It also has to do with America's deteriorating military position vis-a-vis the Soviet Union. But it also has to do with the belief, widespread in the world, that the rhetoric of detente masks a loss of nerve, a lack of will to bear any longer the burdens of defending freedom in the world.

Everywhere communism is on the march. Everywhere the West is in retreat. Such are the fruits, the bitter fruits, of detente.

George Meany

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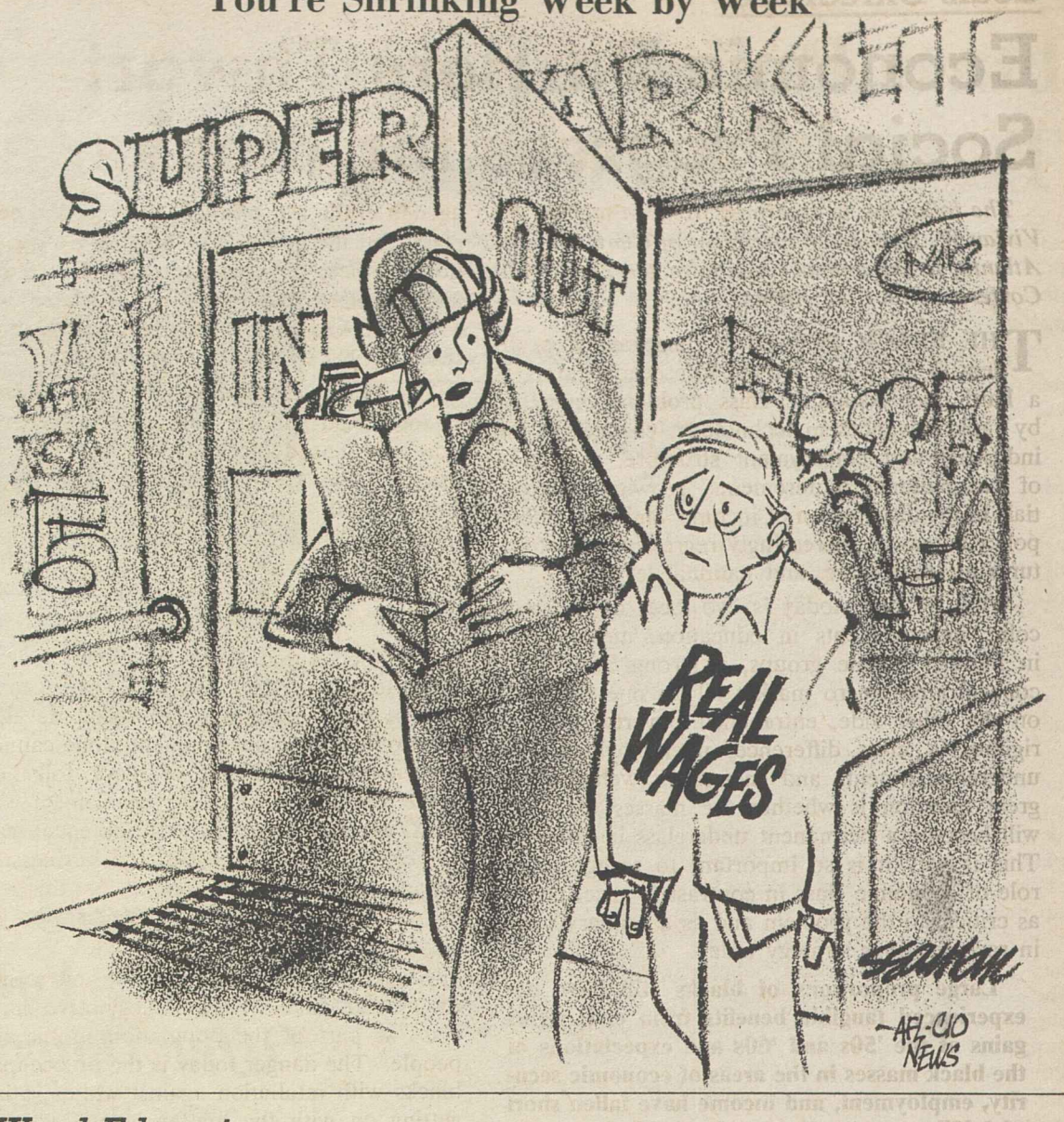


A Word Edgewise:

Properly Supervised CIA Vital To Best Interests of Nation

By John P. Roche

BEFORE OPENING this column, I feel it necessary to fulfill current standards of journalistic sanctity by a full disclosure of my relationship with the Central Intelligence Agency. In line of duty at the White House I visited CIA headquarters several times and once had lunch with two Vietnam experts in the cafeteria (I do not recall who picked up the check). Once in Santo Domingo I had dinner with a chap who turned out later to be a CIA man (though I thought he was from Graham Greene's cast of characters). Since we were introduced by Juan Bosch, president of the Dominican Republic at the time, I was a wholly unsuspecting dupe—besides which I had to pick up the quite substantial tab.

Finally, in retrospect, I am convinced that the Vietnamese kid who, in May 1966, threw a rock at me on the Gia Long in Saigon was inspired by the agency, which took a dim view of my attitude toward some of its operations. He missed, probably leading to the establishment of a CIA training camp in rock throwing which produced the guy who bounced one off Mexican President Luis Echeverria recently. I have indeed heard rumors of such a camp, located in New Caledonia, but that is purely hearsay. So much for the confessional.

To get down to serious business, I think that Congress—caught up in that incredible Washington echo chamber—and a number of journalists and commentators have wholly misread the mood of the American people on the subject of intelligence operations. I doubt, for example, if the news that the agency raised part of a sunken Soviet nuclear sub left the average citizen in an enraged mood.

So, in the best of all worlds, we should have given it back and, perhaps, nice letters should have gone off to the Soviet next of kin. But my hunch is that the populace 1) thinks the exploit absolutely miraculous (salvage 17,000 feet underwater is no task for scuba divers); 2) believes that whoever dreamed it up should get a medal; and 3) hopes that no time will be wasted going after the rest of the hulk.

Americans, to emphasize an often overlooked point, are not under the illusion that those submarine missiles were to be targeted on Rwanda. Moreover, while some of the pundits have poohpoohed the possibility of gaining any advantage from outdated code books, they miss the entire point. Of course, the Soviets change their codes, as we do, with some regularity.

But possession of the code books, and the intercepts from that era, can provide the U.S. Navy anti-submarine experts with invaluable information on the Soviet drill; that is, on how they run their program. You can change codes, but you can't—without a whole retraining program—change standard orders of procedure. In other words, you can get invaluable insights into how Soviets think about their strategy.

To take another area, it is true that no wholesome church-going American would overtly approve of the murder of foreign dictators. On the other hand, there are some 12 million of us who—perhaps at the risk of our eternal souls—wish that somebody had set off a landmine under Adolf Hitler.

AGAIN TO ESCAPE from the level of pious abstraction, I certainly wish that the CIA, or some intelligence agency, had maintained surveillance over Lee Harvey Oswald and Sirhan Sirhan. If you could ever see (as I have) the mass of letters that flow into the White House from psychopaths, you would hardly be surprised that the Secret Service has a rather extensive file. That is, unless—in this crazy country where anybody can buy a gun—you believe there should always be open season on Presidents of the United States, candidates for President, and other leading political figures.

To say this is not to "whitewash" any agency. As I have noted here before, any covert agency needs close supervision from the elected officials. Cicero observed long ago that a key problem for any society is "who guards the guardians?" And in realistic terms that is a task at which both President and Congress have failed.

Also, such agencies have a peculiar attraction for certain personality types who belong in comic strips, not in serious intelligence work. Lenin, who never took his eye off the essentials, once ordered that the Ochrana, the Czarist secret police, be infiltrated, but added, "If anyone volunteers, expel him from the (Bolshevik) party instantly." The point was that a volunteer for such work must be inherently unstable. Unfortunately, in my judgment, the CIA and other agencies have too often ignored Lenin's insight.

Goals Unrealized:

Economic Barriers Thwart Social Progress for Blacks

The following is excerpted from an address by Vivian W. Henderson, president of Clark College, Atlanta; to the annual meeting of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

THE BLACK PERSON'S fundamental problem in 1975 and for the foreseeable future is a hard core economic class problem generated by rapid advances in technology, changes in the industrial and employment structure, escalation of occupational requirements, growing differentials in the distribution of income, and such public policy forces as increasingly regressive tax structures at local, state, and national levels.

What we have today is two faces of the same coin: improvements in education, more blacks in middle income groups, a strong and highly concentrated Negro market all on one side, and on the other side, entrenched poverty, growing rigidity in class difference, unemployment and underemployment, and increasing welfare. The great question is whether the masses of blacks will become a permanent underclass in America. This is why it is so important to recognize the role of economic class in contrast to race, per se, as critical to the problem and as a primary target in race relations strategy today.

Large proportions of blacks still have not experienced tangible benefits from civil rights gains of the '50s and '60s and expectations of the black masses in the areas of economic security, employment, and income have fallen short of fulfillment. At the very least, blacks should enjoy the same distribution as others.

Thus open school enrollment means nothing to the family or child whose life is confined to the racial ghetto. Open housing occupancy means nothing to the man whose status in the job market denies him the means with which to acquire a house in the first place. Equal job opportunity is an empty promise unless enough jobs of the right kind, at decent wages, are available for those who need them; and the best consumer program has little or no significance to the income recipient who enjoys little or no discretion in the use of his or her income, particularly under conditions of high prices, high interest rates, tight money and credit.

There are sharply focused voids and vacuums between opportunity, access, and outcome, between the few who are making it and the masses who are not. There is a sharp delineation between remedies emanating from law and a prevalence of hard core realities associated with economically and socially victimized people. These factors describe the new and profound stage in race relations—the most difficult and urgent stage—it is one facet of a very important question: Black America, What Now?

Development of a high sense of black self-respect and racial pride is highly desirable and certainly black folks ought to have their own agenda in the war on race, poverty, and economic class. But the question is, how far do good intentions in these respects go toward diverting efforts and attention from realities associated with the economic and political process and liberation of black people by way of that process?

For example, every professional organization in social and political fields and in higher education now has a black caucus and not a single black caucus can reconcile its own limited resources with pursuit of a variety of objectives which are seldom agreed upon. Another example is the situation in our central cities where the brothers have been yelping about ghetto economic development and black capitalism.

The fact is that ghetto economic development ought to occur for its own sake and because racial ghettos need economic and social development. Ghetto economic development alone cannot solve the economic problems of black folks or even make a serious dent in the problem of economic class. Likewise, blacks should be encouraged and helped to be entrepreneurs and businessmen not because of the mistaken notion that this will solve the economic problems of blacks, but because we need more blacks in business.

Blacks need blacks who know how to negotiate the system. Blacks need a substantive managerial class as part of the population profile of black people. The danger today is the preoccupation of blacks with retaliation against whites rather than getting on with the matter of generating public policy to get at the fundamental economic problems of the society and the underclass.

THE SUCCESS OF BLACKS will rely less and less on conventional wisdom regarding civil rights and, increasingly, blacks will turn their old and new organizations into collective groups and union-type movements to press demands for a better stake and benefits from the gross national product of the nation. The working poor will become better organized to get a better piece of the action. Even the professional and white collar workers in black institutions will organize.

In other words, there will be increased realization that if all racial prejudice and discrimination and all racism in America were erased today, all the ills brought by the process of economic class distinction and economic depression of the masses of black people would remain.

The answer is found in public policy where tax laws should be made more progressive and less regressive; where jobs are guaranteed and at decent wages; where there are not moratoriums on housing construction but policies to stimulate housing construction; where education and health are not secondary to defense spending, but are of first priority on the national agenda; and where full employment is a realized and continuing achievement.

As Millions Lose Coverage:

Administration Tactics Delay Health Care Plan for Jobless

DELAYING TACTICS of the Ford Administration on emergency health care for jobless workers during the current economic crisis were denounced by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman as "irresponsible and heartless."

The Administration wants to completely ignore the plight of millions of workers and their families who have been suddenly cut off from health care plans as the economy sags, layoffs spread and unemployment tops post-World War II levels, Seidman asserted. He pointed out that three of five workers who have job-related health insurance lose the protection the day they go off the payroll, and only one-fifth have coverage for three months or more after a layoff hits.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Seidman said quick congressional action on emergency health care for the unemployed is likely, despite White House opposition. The AFL-CIO strongly favors the Kennedy bill, he said.

Seidman pointed out that the Kennedy approach to a short-term emergency program financed by a "straightaway provision for a federal appropriation" has also drawn the support of the American Medical Association and insurance groups—organizations most often at odds with the labor movement on health care issues.

Seidman acknowledged that the emergency program won't correct the serious flaws in the nation's health care system, such as lack of cost controls, quality and efficiency incentives. He stressed that it "simply mirrors what's in the existing private health insurance system," and that the long-range solution is National Health Security.

But, he declared, "you can't get the Health Security program enacted and . . . into operation overnight," while the immediate need is to "do something fast" for the millions who have been suddenly cut off from health care coverage.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT statistics released monthly by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics assume critical proportions during periods of economic decline. Statistics for February are a good case in point.

The unemployment rate remained at 8.2 percent. However, there was a decline of 535,000 employed workers from the previous month and 580,000 others left the labor force, many discouraged over not finding a job. A by-product of the February report was confusion and dissatisfaction with the statistics.

BLS acknowledges there are possibilities of error in the survey estimates; information-gathering is not a perfect science. It would be impossible to undertake a house-to-house survey each month so sampling is essential. And vast improvements have been made on its techniques even if improvements are still needed.

Sampling is of rather recent history. Before the 1930s, aside from attempts in some of the decennial censuses, no direct measurements were made of the number of jobless persons. However, with unemployment mounting in the Great Depression, urgency developed over the need for direct measurement. Initially, everybody got into the act—state and local governments, research groups and others.

In 1940 the Works Progress Administration (WPA) adopted a new set of classifications for the national sample survey of households. The household survey was transferred to the Bureau of the Census in 1943 and became a Monthly Report on the Labor Force.

In 1948 the survey title was changed to its present Current Population Survey. And in 1959 the responsibility for analyzing and publishing CPS labor force data was transferred to BLS, although the Census Bureau has continued to collect and tabulate the statistics.

CPS now collects each month from a probability sample of approximately 47,000 households. The sample, designed and selected by the Bureau of the Census, is comprised of 461 areas which include 924 counties and independent cities, covering some areas in every state and the District of Columbia. Each month one-fourth of the households in the sample are replaced so that no family is interviewed more than four consecutive months.

BLS said in 1973 that "the chances are 90 out of 100 that the estimate of unemployment from the sample is within 150,000 of the figure obtainable from a total census. Since monthly unemployment totals have ranged between 2.5 and 5.5 million in recent years, the possible error resulting from sampling is not large enough to distort the total unemployment picture."

Today, however, unemployment stands in excess of 7.5 million, which increases the chance of error.

A SPECIAL GROUP of 1,000 trained and experienced Census Bureau employes interviews the 47,000 households each month. They get information on jobholding, jobseeking or no-labor force activities during the preceding week of all civilian household members 16 years of age and over.

The total numbers are then "weighted" or adjusted to independent estimates (based on decennial census results). The weighting takes into account the age, sex, color and urban-rural distribution of the population so that these characteristics are reflected in the proper proportions in the final estimates.

There are sources of errors in the survey estimates, some by the interviewers and some by respondents, or by both. Responses are not obtained from 3 to 5 percent of the respondents. Also errors may be made in the independent population estimates.

Possibly of even greater concern is the fact that current reports do not adequately reflect discouraged unemployment, those who have stopped looking and are no longer considered in the labor force. And though there are some measurements of the underemployed—those working at shorter hours or below their skills—there is, in effect, no full picture of the severity of unemployment in this country.

ATTEMPTS of President Ford to stall emergency health care for jobless workers during the current economic crisis were branded "irresponsible and heartless" by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Jerome Brazda, left, of Washington Report on Medicine & Health and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

VIETNAMESE LABOR LEADER Tran Quoc Buu's recent visit to the United States began with AFL-CIO President Meany, and proceeded at the State Dept., on Capitol Hill and with members of the press. Clockwise, from top left, Buu and Meany chat at the AFL-CIO president's office; the Vietnamese trade union leader confers with Daniel Parker, administrator of the Agency for International Development; briefing for reporters on the grave situation in Vietnam; discussions with Sen. John J. Sparkman (D-Ala.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Accompanying Buu was Nguyen U. C. Dat, director of CVT's international affairs department, who served as his interpreter. The AFL-CIO has cooperated with the CVT on joint programs for years, channeling assistance through the federation's Asian-American Free Labor Institute.

Vietnamese Union Leader Warns Of Communist Reign of Terror

The head of the free trade-union movement in South Vietnam, Tran Quoc Buu, warned that Communist takeover of his country would mean brutal repression of workers and their leaders.

When the North Vietnamese occupy an area, the 61-year-old president of the Vietnamese Confederation of Labor (CVT) told newsmen in Washington, one of the first things they do is to search out leading trade unionists. When they find them, they either jail or assassinate them.

Buu, who came to the United States to appeal for military and economic assistance for South Vietnam, reported that a Catholic CVT cadre member had been crucified by his Communist captors.

Buu spent 10 days in Washington at the AFL-CIO's invitation. While not a political supporter of the Thieu government, he appealed for aid on humanitarian grounds in behalf of the 17 million South Vietnamese who face subjugation if the North Vietnamese succeed in overrunning their country.

When Buu arrived in the United States on St. Patrick's Day, he learned of the new Communist drive in South Vietnam. North Vietnamese tanks and troops have since occupied nine of the nation's 44 provinces.

Buu founded the strongly anti-Communist CVT 25 years ago to help bring economic progress and social justice to South Vietnam and its people. Today, headquartered in Saigon, CVT has over a million members, including railroad workers, farm workers, dock workers, fishermen and transport workers.

Speaking through an interpreter, Buu detailed the plight of hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese who have been forced to flee the northern and central provinces of the country to escape the advancing North Vietnamese troops.

"These are poor, working people," Buu declared. "We must take care of them as a labor organization."

Upon his return to Saigon, Buu will take charge of cadres of trade unionists to aid the streams of homeless refugees pouring into the south. Threatened several times with assassination in the past, Buu gives secondary consideration to his own personal safety.

During his visit in Washington, Buu conferred with AFL-CIO President George Meany, State Dept. officials, several senators and congressmen and other government leaders. As a member of a South Vietnamese parliamentary delegation, he also met with President Ford.

Buu's plea was the same wherever he went: "Give us sufficient aid to survive. Do not let us die slowly, agonizingly."

While receiving a sympathetic ear from most of the congressmen with whom he spoke, Buu told newsmen later he was "disappointed by the attitude of Congress" toward his appeal for emergency aid funds and previously authorized assistance.

Ford promised to make a "maximum effort" to persuade Congress to vote additional aid to South Vietnam, White House Press Sec. Ron Nessen said following the President's meeting with the South Vietnamese delegation. But the outlook was not very optimistic.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council at its February meeting expressed strong support for military and economic assistance authorized but not fully appropriated by Congress for South Vietnam. Meany told reporters during the council meeting that the South Vietnamese "should get the additional commitment in order that they can have something left to try to fight for their liberty."

Buu's meetings with top government and congressional leaders were arranged by the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs. They included discussions with Sen. John J. Sparkman (D-Ala.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Senators Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) and Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.)

Also on Capitol Hill, Buu met with Representatives Donald M. Fraser (D-Minn.), Bella S. Abzug (D-N.Y.), John J. Flynt, Jr. (D-Ga.), and William V. Chappell, Jr. (D-Fla.)

At the State Dept., Buu talked with Daniel Parker, administrator of the Agency for International Development; Philip C. Habib, assistant secretary for East Asian and Pacific affairs, and Robert S. Ingersoll, who was acting secretary of state while Henry Kissinger was in the Middle East.

In his meeting with newsmen, Buu noted that one million people have fled to the South since the partition of Vietnam in 1954.

"They have come to us for a better way of life," he said. "This is proof these people want freedom."

Despite the worsening military situation in South Vietnam, Buu said, the morale of the people is very high and they believe "some day they will again occupy their land."

But, he warned, his 40 years' experience battling communism tells him "the Communists will never give up their scheme of controlling the world."

He declared, too, that with or without U.S. aid the South Vietnamese will never give up their struggle against the North Vietnamese Communists.

"We have no choice," he said.

Under Social Security:

Sex Bias Invalidated In Survivor Benefits

Widowers with young children are entitled to social security benefits equal to those of widows with surviving children, the Supreme Court ruled in a unanimous decision.

The ruling found a provision of the Social Security Act unconstitutional on the grounds that it discriminated against women wage earners who must pay the same payroll taxes as male workers but receive less protection for their survivors.

Section 402 (g) of the act, which was written into the law in 1939, provides benefits based on earnings of a deceased husband and father to both the wife and the couple's minor children. However, when the deceased worker covered by social security was the wife and mother, only the children received benefits. There was no provision for benefits for the surviving husband.

Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., writing for the court, said that the distinction drawn by the provision is based on an "archaic and overboard" generalization that earnings of male workers are vital to the support of their families, but that the earnings of female workers do not significantly contribute to that support.

The high court's decision could have wide ramifications on a number of suits in the lower courts challenging other provisions involving sex discrimination under the social security law.

The 8-0 decision affirmed a three-judge federal district court ruling that found Section 402 (g) in violation of constitutional guarantees of due process and equal protection for men and women.

In a separate concurring opinion, Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., declared: "When the mother is a principal wage earner, the family may suffer as great an economic deprivation upon her death as would occur upon the death of a father wage earner."

The social security provision was challenged by Stephen C. Weisenfeld, whose wife died during childbirth in 1972, leaving him to provide sole care of their infant son. Mrs. Weisenfeld's earnings as a teacher were substantially higher than those of her husband, a self-employed consultant.

The Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare granted survivors' benefits for Weisenfeld's son under Section 402 (d) of the act, but the widower was told he was not eligible for benefits because Section 402 (g) provided benefits only for women.

Weisenfeld filed a suit in New Jersey federal district court in 1973, seeking to have the provision declared unconstitutional on the ground that HEW's denial of benefits was based solely on sex. The district court panel ruled in his favor.

Justice Brennan said the high court's ruling was governed by its earlier decision, Frontiero vs. Richardson, which held that a woman in the military service is entitled to the same dependency allowance as a man.

"Section 402 (g) clearly operates, as did the statutes invalidated by our judgment in Frontiero, to deprive women of protection for their families which men receive as a result of their employment," the court said.

"Indeed, the classification here is some ways more pernicious."

The decision held that not only did Mrs. Weisenfeld fail to receive the same protection for her family as a male worker would, "but she also was deprived of a portion of her own earnings in order to contribute to the fund out of which benefits would be paid to others."

"Since the Constitution forbids the gender-based differentiation premised upon assumptions as to dependency made in the statutes before us in Frontiero, the Constitution also forbids the gender-based differentiation that results in the efforts of women workers required to pay social security taxes producing less protection for their families than is produced by the efforts of men," the court said.

The justices rejected the government's argument in the case that the law was designed to compensate women beneficiaries as a group because of the economic difficulties they face in seeking to support their families and themselves.

The court found that the provision was intended to permit women not to work, if they choose, and to devote themselves to the care of their children. It concluded, however, that the gender-based distinction of Section 402 (g) was "entirely irrational."

"It is no less important for a child to be cared for by its sole surviving parent when that parent is male rather than female," the court said.

HEW has estimated that it will cost the social security fund about $20 million annually to equalize benefits for widows and widowers with children. The fund pays out nearly $70 billion a year in benefits including Medicare payments.

Teachers Get Montana Law On Bargaining

Helena, Mont. — Gov. Thomas L. Judge signed legislation giving teachers the same collective bargaining rights that apply to other public employes under a state law that permits strikes.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Duane Johnson, a member of the Paperworkers, narrowly passed the House but sailed easily through the state Senate.

Teachers had been specifically excluded from the Public Employees Bargaining Act adopted in 1973. The new law classifies Montana teachers with all other public employes for the purposes of collective bargaining.

The Montana Supreme Court ruled recently in a decision involving highway workers that the language of the act permitted "concerted activities" which include the right to strike.

Representatives of organized labor hailed the legislation as a major step forward for teachers in the state.

James J. McGarvey, executive director of the Montana Federation of Teachers, said the legislation does away with the old "meet-and-confer" language of the Professional Labor Relations Act "and gives us the right to bargain meaningful contracts with leverage."

James W. Murry, executive secretary of the Montana AFL-CIO, said it is obvious that the state legislature felt that teachers should have the same rights and privileges as other public employes.

Three-Part Program:

Community Services Dept., Agencies Map Aid to Jobless

A three-part program to better coordinate services for jobless workers and their families was agreed upon following a day-long meeting of 21 national public, voluntary and private agencies, sponsored by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, Director Leo Perlis reported.

The program, Perlis said, is aimed at increasing the effectiveness of local efforts to provide assistance to the unemployed. It calls for:

- National agencies to alert their local units to work with AFL-CIO Community Services personnel to set up local programs on services for the unemployed.
- The issuance of guidelines by these national agencies on how to meet the urgent needs of the unemployed, with the guidelines to be made available to local Community Services staff.
- Creation of ad hoc task forces in local areas to expedite services to the unemployed.

"While the AFL-CIO is fighting for its comprehensive legislative program to create jobs, there are unemployed workers who can't wait until the Congress and the Administration act or until economists agree; they need help now," Perlis stated.

Help for the jobless is not confined to unemployment compensation, public assistance and food stamps, Perlis emphasized. He noted that many of the unemployed are veterans and are therefore entitled to benefits under the GI Bill.

Mortgage foreclosures and debt payments are a major problem confronting the unemployed, requiring action to obtain credit extensions from retailers, banks, mortgage companies and other lenders, Perlis observed.

Health care and legal aid are often unaffordable necessities to an unemployed worker's family, and ways have to be found to obtain these services, he continued.

Perlis also pointed out two problems that are not commonly thought of as related to unemployment—Red Cross counseling for military personnel and Travelers Aid.

He explained that increasing numbers of minorities are joining the military because of increased pay brought about by the volunteer army. But with high unemployment at home, many minority service personnel are being called upon to aid their families, thus reducing their own income. As a result, there is an increased need for Red Cross counselors.

Also, many unemployed have taken to the road in search of jobs. Frequently, when they arrive at their destination there are no jobs available, and Travelers Aid must provide emergency help.

In developing programs to meet the needs of the unemployed, Perlis said, the AFL-CIO is working with some organizations whose policy on legislative matters is frequently at odds with that of the AFL-CIO—such as the American Medical Association and the Bar Association.

"We agree to disagree on those issues," he said. "but we work together to provide help to people who are in need."

Perlis said that the conference also reached a consensus on two recommendations:

- Greater utilization of public service job funds to create positions in those agencies handling claims from the unemployed. "Many of these agencies are swamped with applicants and need increased personnel to certify the applicants with the dignity they deserve as human beings." He added that agencies were urged to use union halls as certification centers.
- Establishment of one-stop centers where the unemployed would be able to obtain needed services under one roof "without having to run all over town."

Among the agencies represented at the Washington conference were:

From the federal government—the Assistance Payments Administration of HEW; Food Stamp Division of the Agriculture Dept.; Office of Loan Management of HUD; Veterans Administration, and ACTION.

From private and voluntary agencies — American Public Welfare Association, Mortgage Bankers Association, National Foundation for Consumer Credit, Council of Better Business Bureaus, Blue Cross Association, Blue Shield, ABA, Family Service Association, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Volunteers of America, United Way, Travelers Aid.

About 20 union and Community Services representatives attended.

GOVERNING BODY of Pulaski County, Ark., includes six members of the Ladies' Garment Workers who serve as justices of the peace on the county's Quorum Court. They were elected as part of a reform group demanding more responsive representation. Four of the six are, from left, Frances Barnes, Mary Day and Jean Wilson, members of ILGWU Local 589, and Art Martin, rear, manager of the union's Southern Missouri-Arkansas District Council. Two others elected to the court are Alberta Rogers of Local 589 and ILGWU organizer Steve Parrish.

Labor Studies Center Lists Schedule for April

Six trade union groups will use the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center at Silver Spring, Md., for leadership training during April. In addition, the center will sponsor an off-campus institute on job safety at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Here is the April schedule:

Safety—The Building & Construction Trades is sponsoring two advanced institutes for officers who attended the department's first OSHA session last autumn. The first will run from 9 a.m., Monday, Mar. 31, through Friday, Apr. 11; the second from 4 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 27, through Friday, May 9.

Civil rights—A three day seminar on effective union action in civil rights is organized in cooperation with the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights for 40 union participants. From noon, Friday, Apr. 11, to noon, Sunday, Apr. 13.

Pensions and insurance—An institute for labor trustees of pension and insurance plans in the construction industry deals with the fiduciary responsibility, reporting and disclosure and other requirements of the new pension reform law, with pension planning and costing and with investment policies. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Apr. 13, through Friday, Apr. 17.

Railroaders—A seminar co-sponsored with the United Transportation Union for its general chairmen covers initial claim and grievance processing and presentations before public law boards, railroad economics and current legal problems. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 13, through Friday, Apr. 25.

Bricklayers—The Bricklayers will conduct a special staff conference for 40 from Thursday, Apr. 20, through Sunday, Apr. 23.

Federal employes—The American Federation of Government Employees, National Capital Area Dept., will sponsor a seminar on equal employment opportunity for local union members of the Washington area. 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Apr. 26.

The off-campus institute at Madison, Wis., is presented with the cooperation of the Wisconsin School for Workers. It trains union officers and staff in union rights and responsibilities under Occupational Safety & Health Act, including filing complaints, preparing for plant inspections, dealing with OSHA area offices. It will offer exercises in identifying noise and mechanical hazards, toxic substances and airborne contaminants. From 3 p.m., Sunday, Apr. 13, through Friday, Apr. 18, in the Wisconsin Center Building, Madison.

Further information about these and other Labor Studies Center programs is available from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903.

Institute Slated On Personnel Test Methods

The AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center will offer union officers and staff members an opportunity to learn more about personnel testing methods and techniques in both private and public service employment.

In cooperation with the Wisconsin School for Workers, the center will sponsor a four-day institute May 4-8 at Madison, Wis. on "Testing and It's Implications for Collective Bargaining."

Participants will study the methods by which tests for hiring and promotions are constructed and validated.

Applications for enrollment in the institute may be submitted in writing to the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903, or by telephone to Ms. Rachlin at (301) 431-6400.

Canadian Labor Asks Action on Economic Ills

Ottawa—The Canadian Labor Congress has proposed a comprehensive program of government action to overcome the twin problems of unemployment and rising living costs.

Its annual "memorandum" to the federal government—a formal presentation of labor's program to Canada's Cabinet—foresaw rising "social unrest" if the nation can't solve its economic problems.

Tax cuts to increase purchasing power, a guaranteed annual income to avert poverty, and cost-of-living increases in all wages through a link in the consumer price index were among the CLC's proposals.

The CLC, however, opposed wage-price controls and argued the case for catch-up increases to compensate for past inflation and to bring about a more equitable distribution of income. It also proposed a $50 a month rise in old-age pensions.

A section of the CLC memorandum said the 17 percent jump in food prices last year and the prospects of a sharp increase this year impose "a terrible burden on low-income consumers."

The memorandum urged the reinstatement of a government subsidy that had held down the price of milk, and termed its removal last year "a callous act."

The CLC criticized the federal government for ineptness in dealing with the energy crisis and noted industry predictions of sharply increased prices despite "a profit explosion that has been nothing short of breathtaking."

It expressed opposition to "any move toward continentalism in energy use," and urged establishment of a national agency for research and development of all energy sources "including coal, nuclear power, oil, natural gas and tidal power."

The CLC reiterated its opposition to any exclusive bilateral trade agreement with the United States and said reduction of tariff barriers should be sought through multilateral trade agreements.

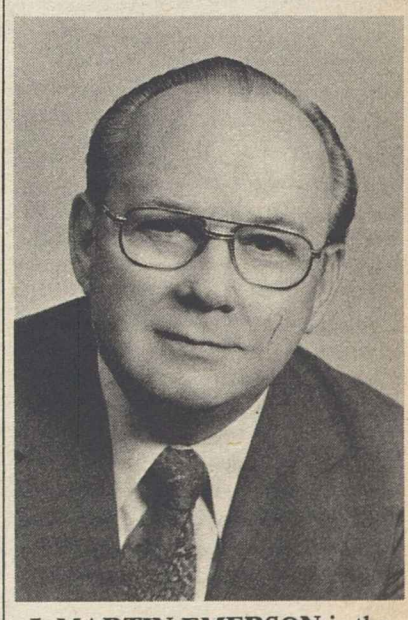
The government was urged also to move quickly toward development of a Canadian merchant marine that would be able to enter international trade "in a significant way."

In the human rights area, the CLC strongly urged that discrimination based on sex and marital status be outlawed on the same basis as race, color, and religious discrimination.

It also voiced concern over the treatment of immigrants to Canada and said "there must be no discrimination" in considering potential immigrants.

In other areas, the 1.9 million-member labor federation:

- Reiterated its support for a gradual rise in the public pension program so that benefits would equal 75 percent of earnings by the year 1996, with the opportunity to retire at age 60. The CLC said the program should be financed by a 5 percent tax on total earnings paid by workers and employers, matched by a government contribution.
- Asked a $3 an hour minimum wage, up from the present $2.20 level.
- Expressed opposition to proposed amendments to the Public Service Staff Relations Act, which governs collective bargaining in Canada's civil service.



J. MARTIN EMERSON is the new secretary-treasurer of the Musicians. He was named by the AFM executive board to succeed Stanley Ballard, who retired. Emerson has been secretary of AFM Local 161-710 in Washington since 1950.

Job Stimulus Key Goal:

Tax Cut Bill Sent to Ford To Aid Dragging Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

rowing of the oil depletion tax loophole and other tax reform provisions.

Initially the House approved a tax cut-rebate package priced at about $20 billion, while the Senate bill's total was close to the $30 billion that Meany had urged to turn the economy around.

A House-Senate conference committee struggled to reconcile widely differing features of the two measures, while Treasury Sec. William E. Simon and other Administration officials pressed for changes that would make the final version more acceptable to the President.

In the end, as House and Senate members put off their Easter recess departures to be present for a late night vote, the conference agreement shaped up as a compromise that was generally acceptable although no group's favorite bill.

In a somewhat surprising show of strength, House Republican leaders put together a coalition with conservative Democrats that almost toppled the conference agreement.

The GOP motion to recommit the bill to the House-Senate conference committee—presumably to make it more acceptable to the President by providing less of a tax reduction—was only narrowly defeated. The vote was 214-197.

But the House then approved the legislation by a decisive 287-125 margin, with most Democrats back in the party fold.

There was no problem in the Senate, where the final passage vote was 45-16.

With the legislation cleared for presidential action, Congress then recessed until Apr. 7.

The amount of the tax refund and reduction depends both on income and family size.

Thus, for a couple with two children the biggest savings would be for a family with an adjusted gross income of $6,000. The combination of payments and reductions would total $510. At the $15,000 level, the total would be $290. It would rise to $320 at about $17,500 but drop gradually to $220 at a family income of $30,000 and higher.

For unmarried taxpayers, the savings would range from $175 at the $3,000 level to a top of $230 at the $12,500 to $20,000 level, dropping to $130 at adjusted incomes of $30,000 and above.

The lowest-income group would be helped by a "work bonus" providing for a cash payment to taxpayers with dependent children who normally would pay little or no income tax because their earnings are too low. They would receive 10 percent of earned income up to a maximum of $400 on earnings up to $4,000 a year. This would be scaled down for persons with higher incomes and be phased out at the $8,000 level.

The bill would also provide a one-time cash payment of $50 to each person receiving social security, railroad retirement and supplemental security payments.

For individuals, the bill sent to the President's desk also includes these major provisions:

- All taxpayers would receive a rebate of part of the taxes they paid on 1974 incomes with no further action required on their part.

Persons whose 1974 federal income tax was less than $100 would get the full amount of taxes rebated. Up to a middle-income range, the rebate would be 10 percent of the tax paid with a minimum of $100 and a maximum of $200. For higher income levels, the amount of the rebate drops again but all taxpayers would receive at least $100. (Persons claimed as an exemption on another tax return, such as dependent children, will not receive a refund.) In general, the $200 maximum rebate would start to drop toward the $100 minimum at a $20,000 income.

- Every taxpayer, regardless of income, would receive a $30 per person credit on 1975 taxes. Thus, a couple with three dependent children would have $150 subtracted from the tax the family would owe on income earned this year.

- Taxpayers who do not itemize their deductions would benefit through two modifications of the standard deduction. Those in the lower-income brackets would gain by an increase in the minimum standard deduction—the amount that any taxpayer can deduct from taxable income when not itemizing. This would go from the present $1,300 to $1,600 for a single person and to $1,900 for a couple.

Those with higher incomes who don't itemize deductions would be able to take a standard deduction of 16 percent of income, instead of the present 15 percent, subject to a new maximum of $2,300 for a single person—up from $2,000—and $2,600 for a couple filing a joint return.

- More families with child-care expenses because of working parents would qualify for tax deductions if they itemize their returns. Present law allows deductions of up to $4,800 a year in child-care expenses for families earning $18,000 or less. The limit on deductions is phased down as incomes go beyond that and there is no deduction for families making more than $27,000.

The new legislation would permit deductions up to a $35,000 income with a phaseout to a $44,600 cutoff.

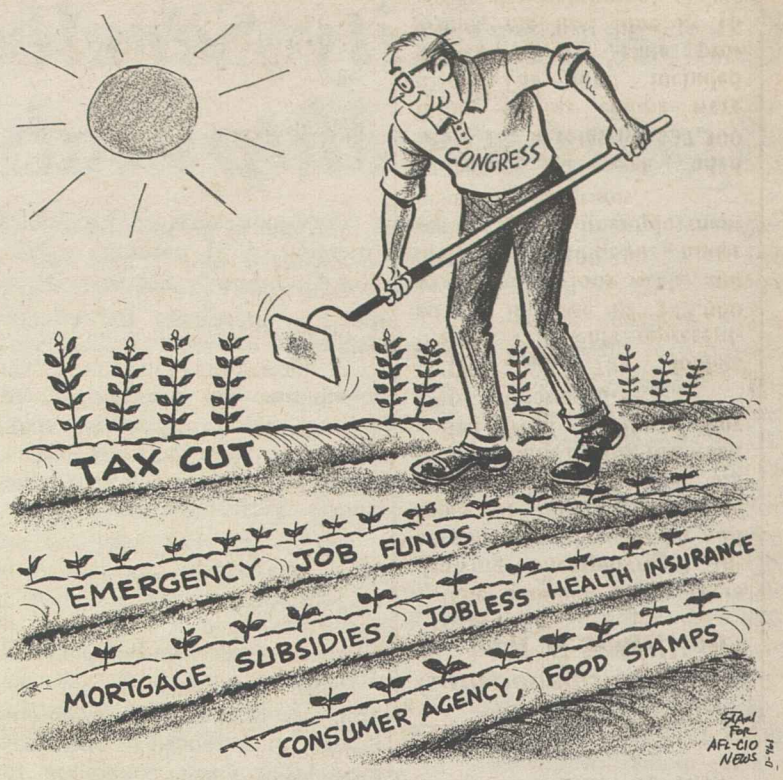
- Persons who buy new homes, apartments or mobile homes this year will get what amounts to a Treasury-financed rebate through a tax credit equal to 5 percent of the purchase price up to a maximum rebate of $2,000. The purchase would have to be made between Mar. 13 and Dec. 31, 1975, of a house or apartment that had never been lived in, was built or under construction by Mar. 13, and had not previously been offered for sale at a lower price.

An unrelated provision added to the legislation will allow continued unemployment benefits for up to 13 more weeks to workers in certain high-unemployment states who had exhausted the 52 weeks of payments to which they were entitled under a special provision of the law triggered by serious unemployment. The extension would run out on June 30. An estimated 250,000 persons would be eligible in California, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Washington.

In the business tax area, Congress approved a rise in the investment tax credit to 10 percent (presently 7 percent for most firms and 4 percent for utilities) and allowed an extra 1 percent for firms that put that added point into a stock plan for workers. It also cut the basic corporation tax on the first $50,000 of profits.

It took a significant tax reform step by voting to end the oil depletion allowance for the biggest companies and to gradually reduce the allowance for smaller firms. At present, the first 22 percent of income from oil and gas wells is exempt from taxation.

Spring Seedlings



Bills to Create Jobs Advance in Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

brary resources programs.

Bills dealing with health insurance coverage for workers who lose their jobs advanced in both House and Senate committees.

The Senate Labor Committee approved a bill sponsored by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and backed by the AFL-CIO that would continue the health insurance coverage that unemployed workers had in their previous jobs. The program would be financed by federal funds and state unemployment insurance offices would help administer it.

A House Ways & Means subcommittee took a different approach. It endorsed the bill of its chairman, Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.). It would establish a permanent program requiring in the future that health insurance plans provided for workers must continue coverage of former employes as long as they draw unemployment benefits. To pay for coverage of workers unemployed, the bill would impose a temporary 1 percent tax on health insurance premiums.

With rare unanimity, the House Banking Committee voted 29-0 approval of a bill that would provide federal loans of up to $250 a month for two years to homeowners who lose their jobs and are in danger of having their mortgages foreclosed. The loans would have to be repaid with interest after the recipients had paid off their mortgages.

The House Democratic leadership unveiled a $5 billion emergency public works bill designed to create 250,000 jobs. House Public Works Committee Chairman Robert E. Jones (D-Ala.) said the legislation would finance $3.5 billion in public works projects previously authorized by Congress but never funded, plus $1.5 billion in new authorizations.

Hearings were scheduled for mid-April by a subcommittee headed by Rep. Robert A. Roe (D-N.J.).

'Work' Group Loses Appeal On Disclosure

The National Right to Work Committee and its fund-raising legal foundation have lost another round in their attempt to keep secret the contributors of money used to finance harassment suits against unions.

Ten unions are contending in federal court that the open-shop foundation violated a section of the Landrum-Griffin Act that prohibits an "interested employer or employer association" from financing litigation by a union member against his union.

The "work" foundation has sued unions in the names of various union members or workers, and the unions charge that this is merely a front for employer-financed attempts to weaken unions.

Last June, District Judge Charles Richey ordered the "right-to work" organization to comply with the request of the unions for a partial list of contributors.

The open shop foundation, which earlier lost a series of attempts to have the case dismissed, has now been rebuffed by a unanimous three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The appellate court refused to interfere with Judge Richey's disclosure order.

Unions that are joining in the suit are the Machinists, State, County & Municipal Employees; Teachers; Farm Workers; Television & Radio Artists; Sheet Metal Workers; Laborers; Communications Workers; Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and the Auto Workers.

1974 Profits Up 17% Despite Economic Sag

(Continued from Page 1)

profits, the Commerce Dept. noted the full impact of the shift to the LIFO method may become clearer next month when more information is availble.

Corporate profits before taxes during the October-December period ran at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $134.1 billion, compared to $157 billion in the previous quarter. If inventory gains are removed, before-tax profits over the period rose at the annual rate of $105.6 billion, about the same as in the preceding two quarters.

3-29-75

The Commerce Dept. report noted about half of the before-tax profit declines occurred in manufacturing industries, notably among auto makers, petroleum producers, railroads, airlines and electric and gas utilities.

There were increases in bank profits and in the net inflow of investment income from abroad in the form of branch profits and dividends, the government noted.

Dividends ran at the seasonally adjusted annual rate of $33.3 billion, up $100 million from the third quarter. For the full year 1974, dividends totaled $32.7 billion, $3.1 billion more than in 1973.

Largely as a result of the changeover to the LIFO accounting technique, fourth-quarter corporate taxes fell $9.7 billion from the third quarter to the seasonally adjusted annual rate of $53 billion. For all of 1974, the profits tax liability was $56 billion, compared to $49.8 billion in 1973.

Undistributed profits—those left after paying taxes and dividends—ran at the seasonally adjusted annual rate of $47.8 billion in the fourth quarter, compared to $61.1 billion in the third quarter. For all of 1974, they totaled $52.8 billion, and compared with $43.3 billion the year before.

Compensation Rolls Exceed 6.5 Million

The number of workers drawing unemployment insurance benefits under all types of federal and state programs topped the 6.5 million mark during the week ended Mar. 8, the Labor Dept. announced.

The 6,528,700 jobless benefits recipients represented an increase of 148,000 over the previous week, and included 5,209,800 under regular state unemployment insurance programs.

During the week ended Mar. 15, a total of 537,300 initial jobless claims were filed. The total included 496,200 under state programs, the first time in 16 weeks the number of claims in this category has fallen below the half-million mark.

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President's Budget 'Line' Threatens Job Programs

Court Bars Delay on Vinyl Rule

By John R. Oravec

The Supreme Court has refused further delay of a federal standard that virtually prohibits worker exposure to vinyl chloride, a cancer-causing gas widely used in the production of plastics, while it decides whether to review a manufacturers' appeal to invalidate the standard.

The Labor Dept.'s vinyl chloride rule went into effect Apr. 1, requiring the plastics industry to lower the concentration of vinyl chloride in work areas to less than 1 part per 1 million parts air (1 ppm) for an eight-hour period.

Under the standard issued by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration last October, manufacturers would have had to reduce the exposure level from 50 ppm on Jan. 1.

The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., and several vinyl chloride manufacturers attempted to overturn the standard in a suit brought before the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. The court upheld the standard, but delayed the effective date for three months.

In appealing to the high court, the industry group and Firestone Plastics Co. sought not only to overturn the standard, but also to stay the new Apr. 1 effective date.

The AFL-CIO and the Industrial Union Dept. intervened on the side of the Labor Dept. in the appeals court and Supreme Court cases. Briefs filed by labor pointed out that the reduced exposure level is technically and economically feasible.

Unions maintained that the industry had more than enough time to gear up for the improved working standard and that there should be no further delay beyond the Apr. 1 effective date.

OSHA had determined that vinyl chloride was a carcinogen following Labor Dept. hearings which brought out extensive evidence linking cancer of the liver and other vital organs to exposure to the chemical. Thirteen deaths among workers in manufacturing and fabricating plants have been attributed to their exposure to vinyl chloride.

At the time of the hearings, the government permitted an exposure level in workplaces of 500 ppm. That level was reduced to 50 ppm as an emergency temporary standard last April.

A number of vinyl chloride manufacturers had voluntarily lowered the concentration of the gas to less than 10 ppm even before the temporary standard was imposed because of the mounting medical

(Continued on Page 7)

Aid Claims Continue at High Pace

Record numbers of workers continued on the unemployment insurance rolls as the Labor Dept. readied a new monthly report on the nation's employment picture.

The March report, scheduled for release the day after the AFL-CIO News went to press, was expected to be at least at the 8.2 percent jobless rate posted in January and February, and possibly higher.

During the week ended Mar. 15, a total of 6,540,100 persons received jobless benefits under state or federal unemployment insurance programs, the Labor Dept. reported. That was an increase of 3,400 over the previous week.

Of the total, 5,158,800 drew benefits under regular state unemployment insurance programs. The jobless rate for those covered by such programs was 7.8 percent.

Meanwhile, an additional half million more workers applied for jobless benefits for the first time under state insurance programs in the week ended Mar. 22. Thirty-nine thousand other initial claims were filed under federal programs.

While there was evidence of slight improvement in some sectors of the economy, the hoped-for turnaround in the nation's longest and deepest slump since the 1930s was nowhere in sight.

Housing remained in a depression. Machine-tool orders slumped to their lowest level in nearly four years. And worker layoffs continued apace.

On the plus side was the first up-

(Continued on Page 8)

LABOR'S ACTION PROGRAM to put America back to work was pressed by nearly 2,000 union members in front of the Los Angeles City Hall. Sigmund Arywitz, executive secretary-treasurer of the sponsoring Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, addresses the gathering. Alongside him is John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the State AFL-CIO. Behind them are Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley and State AFL-CIO President Albin J. Gruhn. **(Story, Page 3.)**

At Trade Hearings:

Labor Fights Move For New Tariff Cuts

Further relaxation of tariffs on imports will have a devastating impact on jobs in America which already has the highest unemployment rate of any industrialized nation, labor representatives warned at Trade Commission hearings being conducted around the nation.

Low-wage imports that wipe out American jobs were described as not in the best interest of consumers, particularly when unfair competition from abroad further weakens the nation's shaky economy.

The hearings, which opened in Washington in February, went on the road last month and will continue through most of April. The International Trade Commission, successor to the U.S. Tariff Commission, is holding the hearings to determine the impact of tariff reductions that the President can make under the 1974 Trade Act.

In Portland, Ore., President Dean Killion of the Oregon AFL-CIO told the commissioners that the flood of foreign imports is directly related to the loss of jobs in the nation and in that state.

Killion noted that imported clothing, television sets, stereo equipment, tools, typewriters and autos are in direct competition with products made by American workers.

And, he stressed, that does not mean the foreign-made goods are necessarily cheaper to the benefit of consumers. Instead, the benefits go to multinational corporations in the form of increased profits, he charged.

"As America becomes increasingly dependent on products from abroad, we become more subject to economic and political pressures from those countries," Killion warned. "This is an unhealthy development."

In San Francisco, Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning of the California AFL-CIO said that many

(Continued on Page 3)

Stage Set For Clash On Funds

By David L. Perlman

The budget line that President Ford drew before a national television audience foreshadows a series of confrontations with Congress over measures to create jobs for millions of unemployed Americans and establish national priorities.

Ford signed the tax cut and rebate bill into law, but only after complaining that it was too big and gave too large a share of tax savings to lower-income families.

Nevertheless, he said, the urgent need for an economic stimulus outweighed the slim chance that a presidential veto might induce Congress to rewrite the bill to his liking.

The President made clear that he conceives of the tax cut as a substitute for job-creating government expenditures. By contrast, the AFL-CIO views it as an important part of the massive effort needed to turn the economy around. Other needed ingredients include public works construction, increased public service employment, housing stimulus, summer jobs for youth and permanently strengthened unemployment compensation programs.

Congress has already rejected most of Ford's proposals to rescind appropriations previously voted, and a combination of court decisions and congressional actions has obligated the Administration to release a large part of the funds it

(Continued on Page 8)

Drop Posted In Wholesale Price Index

Further drops in agriculture-related prices helped lower the government's wholesale price index six-tenths of 1 percent in March, but prices still remained 12.5 percent higher than a year earlier, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Farm product prices were down 2 percent for the month while prices of processed foods and feeds declined 2.9 percent. The figures are adjusted for seasonal variations in prices.

Prices of industrial commodities rose two-tenths of 1 percent over the month, a smaller increase than the five-tenths of 1 percent rise in each of the two preceding months.

The drop in the overall index was the fourth consecutive monthly decline. The last time wholesale

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Scores Health Plan Rules As Undercutting Bargaining Role

The AFL-CIO has objected to proposed federal regulations that would require an employer to bypass a union and offer his workers a health care plan the union has rejected.

Federation President George Meany expressed "strong objections" to regulations drafted by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to implement a law passed by Congress in 1973 encouraging the establishment of prepaid group health programs. The law refers to these groups as health maintenance organizations, or HMOs.

One of its provisions requires an employer who pays for part or all of the cost of a conventional form of hospitalization or medical insurance to offer to put the same amount of money into a health maintenance organization plan, if there is an HMO serving the community.

Meany noted the AFL-CIO's longstanding support of the dual choice option and its inclusion in many collective bargaining agreements—always at the urging of the union, he noted. "In fact," he added, "I know of no instance where a dual choice clause has been included in a contract on the initiative of the employer."

Labor's concern, Meany stressed, is that the proposed regulations "would require the employer to offer an HMO option to his employes even if the union, acting on behalf of its members, has rejected such an offer."

He said this would be contrary to the principles of the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act, "the two major laws governing industrial relations." Meany termed the proposed regulations "diametrically in conflict with these laws."

The formal statement submitted by the AFL-CIO noted that labor has sponsored and supported "consumer-oriented HMOs," but added that there are also some bad HMOs,

(Continued on Page 8)

MINORITY RECRUITMENT program sponsored by the Fire Fighters resulted in more than 700 hirings nationwide and 1,800 applicants from minority groups added to civil service rolls. The record of the Houston program was the best in the nation, and President W. Howard McClennan extends his congratulations at a banquet. The program helps recruit applicants, then assists them in preparing for the fire fighter examinations.

Fire Fighter Program Spurs Minority Hiring

Houston—A Fire Fighters' program for recruitment and training among minority groups has led to the hiring of more than 725 blacks and Spanish-surnamed fire fighters throughout the country, it was announced here by Roscoe Hamby Jr., the program's director.

The IAFF program, funded by the Labor Dept., has also placed an additional 1,800 minority group members on civil service rosters.

A report on the progress of the IAFF Labor Recruitment Program was given at an awards dinner here at which the City of Houston was cited for adding 64 minority group members to its fire department in 1974.

The city also drew praise for its affirmative position in support of the minority hiring program, a policy Mayor Fred Hofheinz said would be continued throughout his administration.

The Labor Recruitment Program operates in local communities at the invitation of IAFF local affiliates, with the cooperation of city administrations, civil service commissions and local community groups.

The program not only recruits applicants, but helps them prepare for and pass the written, oral and physical fitness examinations which determine eligibility for hiring in most cities.

This year the program has operated in Milwaukee and Madison, Wis.; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.; Houston; Tucson, Ariz.; Louisville, Ky.; Los Angeles, Seattle, New Orleans, and Miami.

IAFF President W. Howard McClennan, who was principal speaker at the dinner, recalled that a few years ago, after fire fighters had been "harassed" in the inner cities of many metropolitan areas, many had come to the conclusion that too large a number of ghetto residents looked upon the fire service as a hostile outside force—despite its life-saving and property-saving functions.

McClennan said lengthy consideration of the problem led to two conclusions:

- "We couldn't lower the standards of the fire service. If we did, we'd endanger life and property, lower our own morale and lose the respect of the community.
- "There are lots of strong, capable, intelligent members of the minority population who have the potential for making great fire fighters. If we can find them, work out some training programs among them, then they can compete fair and square for jobs in the fire service."

The result, McClennan said, was development of the Fire Fighters Labor Recruitment Program.

Program Director Hamby observed that the group of new fire fighters in Houston "represents a magnificent proof of what can be achieved through cooperative community and individual effort."

Airline Clerks Score Gains At Northwest

St. Paul, Minn.—A new 18-month agreement providing substantial wage increases and other improvements for nearly 3,000 Northwest Airlines employes was overwhelmingly approved by the Railway & Airline Clerks.

BRAC Northwest Chairman Allen W. McCauley said the agreement—approved by 87 percent of the workers voting—would boost wages an average of 13.5 percent. The pact is retroactive to Jan. 1 and will expire on June 30, 1976.

Covered by the contract are clerical, office, fleet and passenger-service workers at some 35 Northwest facilities across the United States.

Besides wage increases, the workers will receive improved medical and dental coverage, increased pension benefits, a 10th paid holiday, and an improved vacation schedule.

Also, contract language covering seniority and job bidding procedures was changed to eliminate any possibility of sex discrimination.

CONVENTIONS

The Arizona State AFL-CIO's 1975 convention will be held May 7-9 in Tucson.

The Connecticut AFL-CIO convention is scheduled for Sept. 10-12, in Hartford.

The Kansas AFL-CIO convention will be held Oct. 1-3 in Topeka.

The Oklahoma AFL-CIO convention will be held Nov. 19-21 in Tulsa.

William Collins Dies, Pioneer In Organizing

Maplewood, N.J.—Veteran labor organizer William Collins, who assisted many AFL and CIO unions in their early development, died here Mar. 29. He was 93.

Collins, as a member of the Amalgamated Transit Union since 1907, served as a "volunteer" organizer before joining the staff of the AFL in 1914 on the urging of Samuel Gompers.

He also worked closely with a number of other early labor leaders, including John L. Lewis, William Green and Philip Murray. After his long service with the AFL and later the AFL-CIO, Collins retired in 1958 as regional director in the New York and New Jersey region.

In a message to his son, William, AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed his condolences. "Bill was my good friend for a great many years," Meany said. "He was a fine gentleman who made significant and lasting contributions to the labor movement and all his friends will sorely miss him."

In addition to his son, survivors include three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A Requiem Mass was said at St. Thomas the Apostle church in Bloomfield, N.J., Apr. 1. Burial was at Upper Montclair, N.J.

Seek National Merger:

N.Y. State Teachers Affirm Tie to Labor

New York—Teachers and other public employes cannot stand apart from the American labor movement because "our jobs depend upon the prosperity of other people and their jobs," President Albert Shanker of the American Federation of Teachers told the annual representative assembly of the New York State United Teachers.

Nearly 2,000 delegates represented the 215,000 members of the state teachers' organization, which is affiliated with both the AFT and the National Education Association.

"When other people are not working they are not paying taxes and their taxes are our salaries," Shanker added as he called on the assembly to fight for a program which "will help us restore the economy and which will do for children in this country something we should have been doing all along."

Shanker outlined a five-point program aimed at restoring full employment and revitalizing the nation's economy:

- Establishment of a federal bank to provide localities with an alternative to private banks charging "outrageously high" interest rates.
- Creation of a million new public service jobs to end the layoff-unemployment insurance-welfare "merry-go-round" afflicting the temporary stop-gap public employment measures now in effect.
- A doubling of revenue-sharing funds from $5 to $6 billion to $12 billion "with a guarantee that a certain proportion of that money go to education."
- Assumption by the federal government of the increased welfare costs caused by the economic crisis.
- Immediate release of impounded funds needed in education, public works and other national programs.

"Before we have detente with other countries," Shanker said, "we ought to have detente with our own school systems and with our own state and local governments." Most-favored nation treatment for the Soviet Union means that the United States is lending the Russians money at 6 percent, he observed, a practice that the government has not followed for domestic needs since the depression.

Shanker also urged support of the national "Educare" program put forward by the AFT calling for a massive public commitment to early childhood education, extended continuing education to provide "lifelong learning opportunities" for adults and comprehensive public funding for higher education.

The NYSUT delegates demonstrated overwhelming support during the convention of the state union's efforts on behalf of a national merger of teachers.

The New York organization, headed by President Thomas Hobart, is the only statewide teachers' organization that maintains affiliation with both the AFT and the National Education Association. The New Yorkers reaffirmed their intention to continue pressing for a single teachers' union with labor movement ties. NEA President James Harris, who also addressed the convention, agreed to begin talks in an effort to reduce conflicts between the state union and the NEA.

In other assembly action, the delegates heard from New York Gov. Hugh Carey, who announced the appointment of AFT Vice President Sandra Feldman as New York commissioner on the Education Commission of the states.

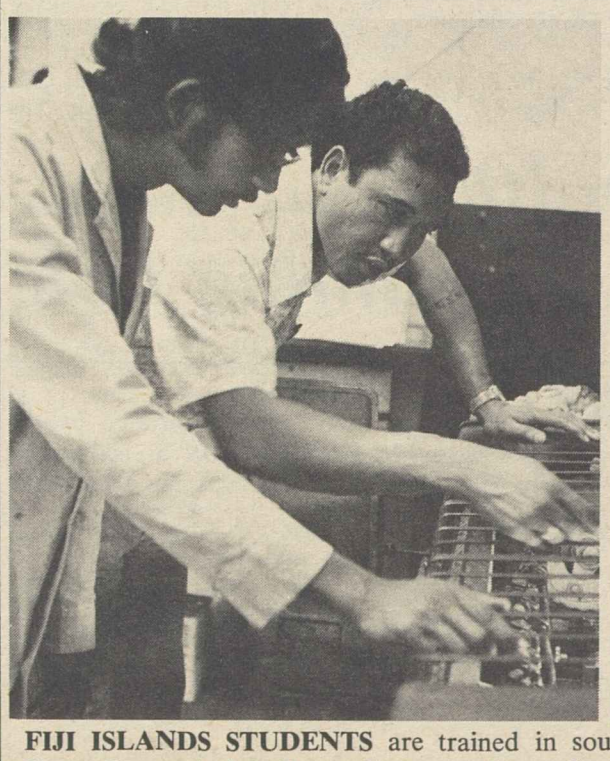
The delegates adopted resolutions calling for the right to strike for public employes, demanding increases in state and federal support for public education and supporting labor activities on behalf of women's rights.

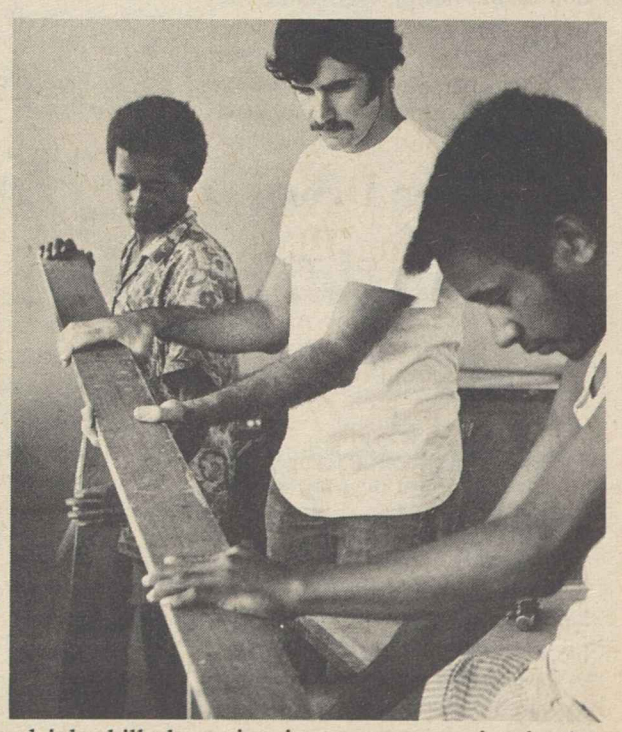
Chicago Unionists Cited for Heroism

Chicago—Two building trades craftsmen who rescued two elderly persons from a burning building were honored for their heroic efforts by a labor-management association here.

John Pasdo of Operating Engineers Local 150 and Neil Beasley of Laborers Local 2, employes of the Chicago Dept. of Water & Sewers, were working at a construction site when a building exploded into flame. They rushed into the burning building to help evacuate two persons. A third person died in the blaze.

Pasdo and Beasley were given savings bonds and plaques by the joint safety committee of the Chicago Building Trades Council and the Building Construction Employers' Association.





FIJI ISLANDS STUDENTS are trained in sound job skills by union journeymen serving in the Peace Corps. At left, Peace Corpsman Larry Goodwin, a member of Typographical Union Local 195 in Los Angeles, explains the operation of an offset press to an apprentice in Suva, Fiji. Albert G. Phillips, right, a member of Carpenters Local 226 in Portland, Ore., helps students on a wood working project at Nausori, Fiji.

Union Witnesses Testify:

New Round of Tariff Slashes Seen Destroying More Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

American industrialists are bending U.S. trade policies to serve their own interest and to the detriment of American workers.

He said the past anti-Communist crusades of American business constitute one of the most hypocritical chapters of U.S. history.

Focusing on the unemployment problems of California, where more than a million workers are jobless, Henning cited the direct loss of jobs resulting from expanded imports.

He noted that cars used by the Bay Area Rapid Transit system are being built by a company with plants in both California and Mexico. But as production is shifted across the border by the Rohr company, so are the jobs.

"Since last November over 800 Rohr people have lost their jobs in California, while in Mexico there has been an increase of nearly 500 jobs working on these BART cars," Henning pointed out.

He said the sub-assembly of the BART cars is done at three plants in Mexicali and two plants in Tijuana, where the top wage is 85 cents an hour, compared with the average wage of $5 an hour in the California plants.

A further report on the twin-plant concept employed by U.S.-based multinational corporations was presented by Sec.-Treas. Darwin Aycock of the Arizona AFL-CIO.

Testifying before the commission at Phoenix, Ariz., Aycock described how Motorola Corp. laid off 4,000 workers in the Phoenix area while hiring 3,735 in Sonora, Mexico, at wages six times lower than on the American side of the border.

"This all adds up to profits for management and the shipping out of America—American jobs," Aycock declared.

A "non-profit" business group in Tucson, the Development Authority for Tucson's Expansion, has been promoting the twinplant concept for manufacturers, Aycock noted. He presented a 1968 publication issued by the group that hailed the benefits of cheap wages across the border in Mexico titled "Inexhaustible Labor Supply—30 cents an Hour."

At hearings in Minneapolis, the commission was told that the Minnesota AFL-CIO does not attribute its rising unemployment rate solely to imports, but that many job cutbacks in the state have been directly related to the export of U.S. production.

Ronald G. Cohen, research and public relations director of the state federation, noted that Minnesota lost jobs in the auto, apparel, confectionery and shoe industries while imports of these products into the United States were rising sharply.

"Certainly tariff levels are not the cure-all for the problem which can be seen where high tariffs on textiles have not checked imports," Cohen said, "but further tariff cuts by the United States will only give further incentive to manufacturers to produce in other countries."

Henning warned the commission that further tariff reductions in California, could push the nation to the edge of economic and social disaster.

Rather, he stressed, the President should use his authority under the trade act to curb imports that are adversely affecting employment and contributing to the huge balance of payments deficit.

He called on President Ford to impose import restrictions against countries whose trade policies have placed unfair burdens on American commerce. He suggested that countervailing duty and anti-dumping provisions, although weakened by the trade law, should be vigorously enforced to meet unfair foreign competition.

Henning also urged that Congress use its new oversight authority to carefully examine all trade agreements and refuse to ratify any that would adversely affect domestic employment and U.S. production.

Additional hearings were scheduled in April in New York, Boston, Chicago, Washington, Cleveland, Denver, Omaha and Kansas City.

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD is presented to AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at a Jewish Labor Committee dinner in Los Angeles. From left, President Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, Executive Sec.-Treas. Sigmund Arywitz of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO, Kirkland and Clothing Workers Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman. The dinner was part of an international affairs conference on the Middle East.

Labor Presses Action Programs To Revive State, Local Economies

State and local AFL-CIO councils continued to press for programs to put America back to work and to ease the hardships of the nation's 7.5 million unemployed.

In Massachusetts, Montana and Oregon, statewide union gatherings tackled the problems of double-digit unemployment and heard governors and other public officials pledge cooperation with labor's program.

At Los Angeles, nearly 2,000 union members assembled in front of City Hall in a local followup to an earlier State AFL-CIO rally in Sacramento.

Montana has a 12.3 percent unemployment rate, and each local union in the state had been asked to send a representative to an Emergency Conference on the Montana Economy called by the State AFL-CIO.

The focus, Executive Sec. James W. Murry said, was on measures to relieve "the despair and frustration of the unemployed worker."

State and federal officials including Gov. Thomas L. Judge discussed unemployment insurance and the assortment of manpower and public service employment programs available.

The conference, also addressed by AFL-CIO regional and COPE directors, pressed for final action by the legislature on a bill that would raise the unemployment benefit ceiling from the present 50 percent of the average state wage to 60 percent. It has passed the House and received preliminary approval by the state Senate.

Reports on unemployment in various sections of the state pointed up the ripple effects of joblessness. Thus, heavy unemployment in the timber and logging industries has been a byproduct of the construction slump.

In Boston, nearly 700 trade unionists from across the state attended the Put America Back to Work gathering of the Massachusetts State AFL-CIO.

Gov. Michael Dukakis and other state officials reported on long- and short-range plans to bring down a statewide 10.5 percent jobless rate.

The governor promised that the state will undertake $545 million worth of construction jobs during the next three to six months to create 20,000 jobs.

State AFL-CIO President Joseph A. Sullivan outlined labor's national program for jobs and the gathering voted its unanimous endorsement.

At Los Angeles, Mayor Tom Bradley was on hand to welcome nearly 2.000 union members—including hundreds of construction workers who had come from a City Council hearing on a zoning issue.

Sigmund Arywitz, speaking for the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO, called on Congress to follow its tax cut with a curb on multinational corporations, development of energy resources aimed at self-sufficiency, an excess profits tax and a rollback of interest rates.

Bradley and other speakers pressed the Ford Administration for prompt release of all impounded funds that Congress had appropriated to build roads and public works.

Speakers included AFL-CIO state and regional officials and representatives of various unions, including the Auto Workers.

The "Put Oregon Back to Work" emergency conference called by the Oregon State AFL-CIO pressed for approval by the legislature of a large-scale highway building and maintenance program to create jobs.

Oregon has an 11.9 percent unemployment rate and State AFL-CIO President Dean Killion termed the economic crisis the worst since the Great Depression.

Gov. Robert Straub pledged support for labor's state program and endorsed the national goals.

The 250 participants at the Salem meeting adopted a comprehensive resolution dealing with taxes, multinational corporations, national health insurance, interest rates, housing and other national issues. It covered also state issues such as support for construction of a proposed aluminum plant, construction of oil refineries and nuclear power plants, expansion of port facilities, aid to small farmers and commercial fishermen and a rise in unemployment insurance protection.

Consumer Drive Hits Pricing Plan

The Consumer Federation of America, backed by the AFL-CIO, has launched a campaign to prevent supermarkets from removing prices from consumer products.

In a pamphlet titled "A New Supermarket Ripoff: Packages Without Prices," CFA charges elimination of price marking will mean lost jobs for supermarket employes. At the same time, the consumer group pointed out, comparison shopping will be rendered virtually impossible.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, in a letter to all affiliated unions, state and local central bodies, noted the issue directly affects workers and consumers and called for support of CFA in the fight to maintain price marking.

R-T-W Attack Shifts To Public Sector Unions

The National Right to Work Committee has opened a campaign against full collective bargaining rights for government workers with an attack on the integrity of most of the members of the House Education & Labor Committee.

Reed Larson, executive vice president of the open-shop organizations, held a news conference to argue that it would be a conflict of interest for members of Congress who had received campaign contributions from unions to consider legislation affecting unions.

He handed out a list drawn from public records showing that 33 of 39 members of the House committee had received contributions from one or more union political funds.

The contributions were legal, Larson acknowledged, but he insisted that there is "no way" congressmen who have had labor support could "objectively" deal with legislation affecting unions.

He didn't carry the point further, but since a majority of members of Congress had support from some union group the logic of the argument would apparently bar Congress from considering any labor legislation.

The "right-to-work" organization, whose own finances come largely from employers, singled out for attack a bill by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) that would extend the National Labor Relations Act—which governs labor-management relations in the private sector—to public employes.

America's basic labor law would be a bit hard to recognize from Larson's description.

Thompson's bill, he declared, "would subject the nation's 11.5 million state, county and local government workers to the provisions of the compulsory unionism-promoting National Labor Relations Act, which specifically authorizes agreements requiring membership in a labor organization as a condition of employment."

Larson also said that the vast majority of Americans oppose what the open-shop group calls "compulsory unionism in government."

He cited statistics from a poll which he acknowledged had been ordered and paid for by the Right to Work Committee.

AFL-CIO Asks Voting Rights Act Extension

The Voting Rights Act has proved an "important and effective piece of legislation" and "must not be permitted to lapse," AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said.

Biemiller urged extension of the law, first passed in 1965 and renewed in 1970, in a letter to Rep. Don Edward (D-Calif.), chairman of a House Judiciary subcommittee.

Edwards's Subcommittee on Civil & Constitutional Rights will be considering various proposals to broaden the scope of the law. Biemiller said the right to vote should be affirmed for "all elements of the population that need protection." But "above all," he stressed, "the important thing is to make sure that the Act continues in effect."

Unless Congress extends it, the law will expire in August. Biemiller urged the subcommittee to approve "strong and effective legislation" extending it.

Metropolitan Insurance Pact Covers 7,500

The Insurance Workers reached tentative agreement with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. on a new three-year contract covering some 7,500 district agents and sales representatives.

The agreement was reached Mar. 31, the expiration date of the old contract.

IWIU President William A. Gillen said details of the pact would not be released until members have voted on ratification. He noted, however, that the contract has a clause providing for reopening on wages in the second-year.

Ratification meetings are scheduled for Apr. 18. Union negotiators have recommended acceptance, Gillen said.

The bargaining marked the first time the union has negotiated simultaneously for both district agents and sales representatives at Metropolitan. Most of those covered by the new agreement, 6,500 of them, are employed as agents.

The union is preparing for negotiations with two other major insurance firms this year. A contract covering 6,500 salesmen at John Hancock expires in June. Another covering 20,000 salesmen at Prudential expires in September.

America's Goals

AMERICA WILL BE strong only if its people believe there is a need to be strong. We will defend ourselves and our allies only so long as we believe we have something worth defending—and only so long as we believe there are real threats, real enemies of what is worth defending.

Despite the pro-Arab propaganda of the oil companies, most Americans believe that in the State of Israel there is something worth defending—there is something that must survive. The AFL-CIO has over and over again spelled out the deep roots of American labor's commitment to Israel.

But America cannot be strong just for Israel. We cannot operate on a theory of Israeli exceptionalism.

We cannot say America should not be the policeman of the world—except for Israel.

We cannot say America must cut back on defense spending—except when it comes to defending Israel.

We cannot say America must cut off aid to small countries struggling against Communist aggression—except for Israel.

Only a strong America can defend Israel against strong adversaries—and make no mistake about it: Israel's chief adversary today is the Soviet Union, which our policies have put on the brink of achieving a long sought goal: military superiority over the United States.

DOES ANYONE really expect the American people to shrug off the loss of Cambodia, South Vietnam, Portugal—to name a few of the horrible prospects now before us—but then stand up tall and strong in the defense of Israel?

In this sense, every defeat suffered by the United States is a defeat for Israel. Every retreat by the United States in the face of Communist advances undermines the security of Israel. This is a matter, not of preference, but of simple fact.

The security and the future of Israel depends not merely on America's steadfastness in the Middle East but on the maintenance of an international order—a balance of power, if you will—in which there is no reasonable doubt as to America's purposes, commitments, and resolve.

The task of constructing and sustaining such an international order begins at home. We must know what we're about in the world. We must have goals and purposes that are not only clear but worthy of support—and worthy, if need be, of sacrifice.

Profiteering in detente dollars is not, for us in the labor movement, a goal worthy of this nation's best traditions. The defense of freedom, the extension of democracy, the safeguarding of individual liberties, the uplifting of the world's poor and disadvantaged—these seem to us the appropriate goals for a nation like the United States of America.

As it happens, these are also the goals of the American labor movement—at home and abroad.

—From an address by AFL-CIO Vice President Martin J. Ward, chairman of the federation's Committee on International Affairs.

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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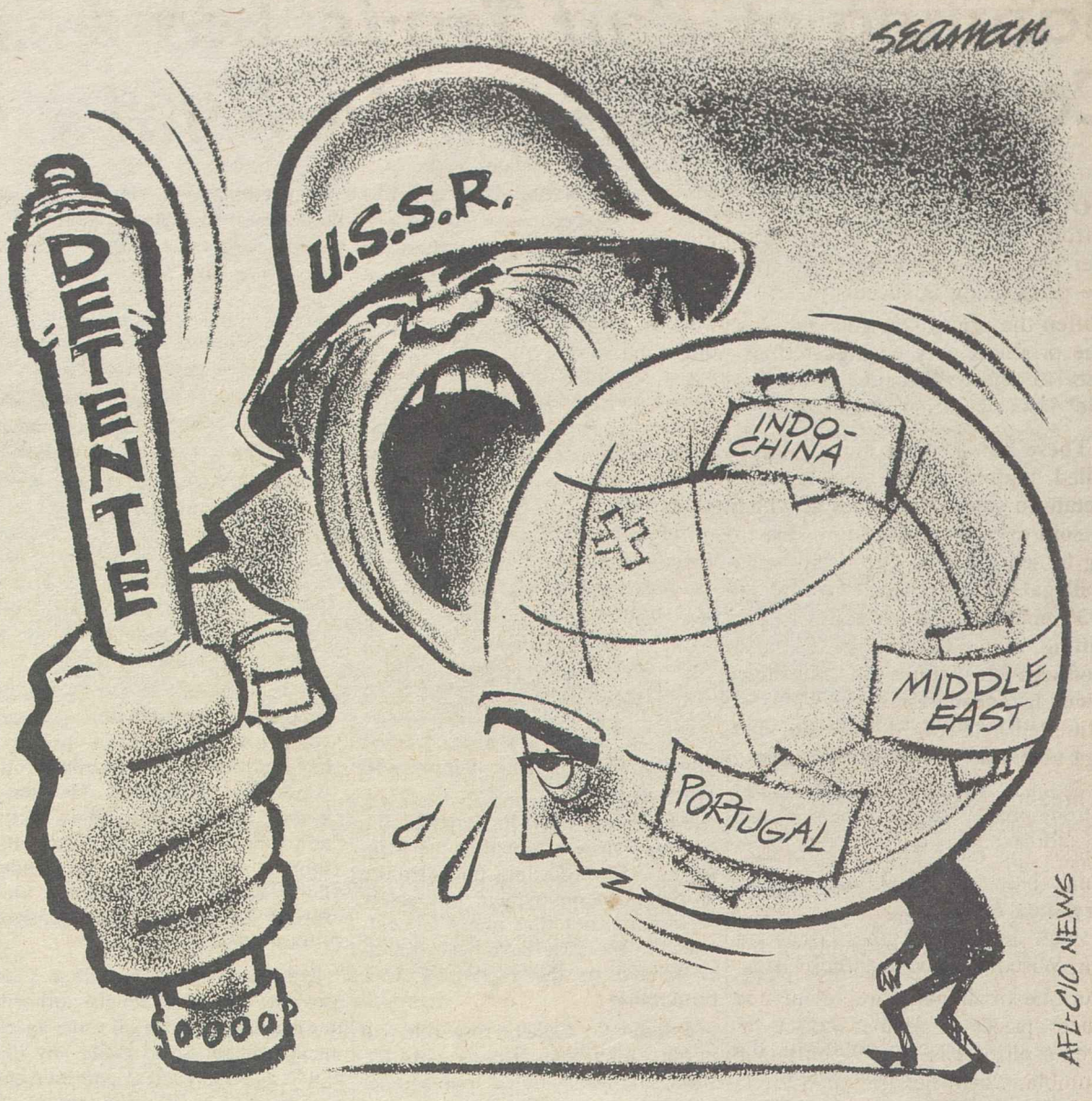

A Word Edgewise:

Egypt's 'Munich' Scenario Sets Up Israel for Whipsaw

By John P. Roche

EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT Anwar El-Sadat has bagged Henry Kissinger again. Sadat got the secretary to act as his intermediary in selling Israel the George Washington Bridge. The Israelis, not wanting to seem like spoilers, agreed to take an option on one tower, but Sadat said "all or nothing."

Kissinger labored mightily with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, even pulling out a stern message from President Ford, but Rabin could only participate in the charade up to a certain point. Giving up an oil field and two key Sinai passes in return for nothing was just too much—even if it did hinder Secretary Kissinger's quest for an oak-leaf cluster on his Nobel Peace Prize. So now Kissinger is back in Washington and sources close to his thinking are denouncing Israeli intransigence.

It was a pretty little set-up Sadat mounted. Although I am aware that in this age of detente no one is supposed to have the bad taste to talk about Munich, the Egyptian president is a long-time admirer of the late Adolf Hitler. (In his record is a highly laudatory statement about the Nazi dictator.) And if ever there was a Munich scenario, this was it. For the benefit of readers born since 1930, Hitler's technique at Munich was to promise that Germany would not invade Czechoslovakia if Prague would turn over its key frontier defenses in the Sudetenland. When the Czechs objected that this was a one-sided bargain, the British and French got furious at them for their unwillingness to accept Herr Hitler's word of honor.

Finally, under the pressure of "world opinion"—did Czechoslovakia want to be responsible for starting a war?—Prague gave way, the Wehrmacht took over the immensely powerful border line and subsequently gobbled up the rest of the country. After British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and French Premier Edward Daladier signed the Munich agreement, dismembering Czechoslovakia, Hitler retired with his friends and allegedly did a little dance.

Well, Sadat isn't dancing, but only because the Israelis—who have their own special reasons to remember Munich—refused to go along with Kissinger and be good little Czechs. There is every reason to believe that Sadat, who is anything but a fool, anticipated this reaction and promptly moved to his fall-back position. Our old friend, the Cairo paper "Raz al-Yusef," had indeed printed an interview with the president before the breakdown of Kissinger's mission in which Sadat said he was not interested in reaching a military disengagement with Jerusalem, that after all "Israel (was) in a corner. Right is on our side . . . We have the upper hand." Unfortunately—as was the case with Hitler in 1938—nobody seems to believe that Sadat means what he says. Or else "senior officials traveling with Kissinger" do not read the Cairo press.

The fall-back position was formulated neatly by Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy in his final press conference: "We hope the Americans have learned a lesson and will not allow themselves to be the prisoners of Israeli actions in the future." The initial reaction in Washington on Kissinger's return must have encouraged these experts in political warfare: the "unofficial" word was that only Israeli stubbornness (their refusal to accept Sadat's word of honor?) blocked the dawn of a new era of milk and honey.

WHAT CAN WE next anticipate? First, a massive Administration-sponsored campaign to badmouth Israel. In stark terms, this will amount to putting a thumb on the jugular: threatening to cut off the supplies Israel badly needs. Then, when the Geneva Conference reconvenes, we will be subjected to a rerun of the old "recognize the Viet Cong" scenario.

In this instance, of course, the Viet Cong will be the Palestine Liberation Organization. One way or another, as was stated at the Rabat Conference, the Arabs will smuggle the PLO into the Geneva discussions (the Soviet Union, co-chairman of the conference, has already set this out as essential.)

Israel will then be whipsawed. If she boycotts the conference on the quite legitimate ground that the PLO is an Arab-Soviet front dedicated to her destruction, Israel will be accused of imperialist war-mongering. If Israel goes, it will be construed as de facto recognition of the legitimacy of the PLO. A neat trap . . . Sadat's next present to his "friend" Henry.

How to Buy:

Banning of 'Fair Trade' Laws Could Ease Consumer Woes

By Sidney Margolius

YOU MAY BE ABLE to buy many goods, from toiletries to electrical appliances, at lower prices if a growing effort to repeal present state price-fixing is successful.

Often the prices you must pay for many brand-name products may be higher than some retailer wants to charge because of the so-called "fair trade" laws operating in most states.

These laws, which more properly should be called "unfair trade," permit manufacturers to dictate to stores the prices at which goods may be sold even when the stores are able and willing to sell for less. Ordinarily such price-fixing is illegal. But a special federal law passed in 1937 made it legal for states to enact laws permitting manufacturers to fix prices on their products. Most states did, and the cost in higher prices to consumers even some years ago was estimated by Prof. Stewart Lee of Geneva College as more than a billion dollars a year.

Three-fourths of the states now have fair trade laws of varying degrees of severity. This number includes the most populous states, such as California, New York, Illinois, Ohio, Minnesota, Maryland, Michigan, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Oregon, Connecticut, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Kentucky.

As one of many examples of how competition reduces prices in areas without fair trade laws, Bayer aspirin sells for 99 cents in the District of Columbia, which has no fair trade law, and $1.48 in Maryland which does, Sen. Edward Brooke of Massachusetts points out. Brooke is chief sponsor of a bill to repeal the federal law enabling state fair trade laws.

In another example, a well-known make of refrigerator was fair-traded at $399 in a fair-trade state some years ago but had a "suggested list price" of only $370 in non-fair trade states.

Last spring, when one manufacturer removed its light bulbs from fair-trade fixed prices, an Eastern supermarket chain that had been selling four-packs for $1.30 to $1.40 reduced them to 99 cents.

Strong support has developed for the proposed repealer with, for the first time, very little support for fair trade even among congressmen who used to back it. Federal Trade Commission Chairman Lewis Engman has urged repeal of the fair trade laws, calling them "little more than anti-competitive price fixing."

As well as raising prices, Engman has said, "the fair trade laws protect inefficient retailers and tend to discourage new technology."

Among products often price-fixed under fair trade laws are drugs and toiletries, household appliances, housewares, auto parts and accessories, clothing, watches and sports equipment.

After almost 40 years of effort by labor unions and consumer groups, finally getting rid of the fair trade laws would be especially helpful in fighting inflation and stimulating employment. The success of the recent car-rebates in reducing some of the backlog of unsold cars shows how lower prices can benefit both consumers and wage-earners.

BRAND-NAME MANUFACTURERS mainly have argued that price-cutting of goods would eventually lead to lower quality. The fallacy in this argument is that at times leading manufacturers such as Sunbeam and General Electric have marketed similar appliances under two different brand names; with one brand price-fixed at a higher price and another non-fair traded and allowed to sell at lower prices.

Thus, unwary shoppers would pay several dollars more for an iron under one name than for a similar iron under another name.

Not only do fair trade laws prevent retail price cutting, they also tend to reduce price competition among manufacturers, Engman points out.

Pending elimination of fair trade, if the present effort finally should be successful, don't assume that a "fair trade" or "list price" actually is the real value of the item. A "list price" often is merely an artificial price established by the manufacturer to permit an inflated markup by the highest-cost retailers.

Shop on the basis of specifications and quality, and don't depend on the illusion that a high price necessarily means you get what you pay for.

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Problems Exaggerated:

Balanced Social Security Fund Linked to Economic Rebound

RECENT ATTACKS on the soundness of the social security system have exaggerated the problems of the nation's basic retirement program, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said.

Although social security benefit payouts are running ahead of the system's income during this period of inflation, recession and unemployment, Seidman said that situation will improve with an economic turnaround.

He suggested that the short-term financial problem can best be met by a gradual increase of the taxable wage base to $28,000, which would restore the "ratio to total wages that existed when the program first started in the middle 1930s."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Seidman took sharp issue with the Social Security Advisory Council's recommendation that all income from social security payroll taxes be applied to cash payments to retirees, disabled workers and survivors, and that Medicare be financed entirely by general federal revenue.

"Medicare is a program where people get health services as a matter of right," he declared. "We want to keep it that way," he added, stressing that if it is financed entirely by the federal government, Congress will probably insist that Medicare eligibility be keyed to a means test to establish need. He said the AFL-CIO strongly favors continuation of the contributory nature of Medicare, and eligibility as a matter of right.

Seidman said that predictions, based on a low birth rate over the years immediately ahead, that the number of social security retirees will outstrip the number of active workers contributing to the system are not likely to stand up.

"If we are able to maintain a healthy economy, we will have a demand for labor" and an expanding workforce, he said. He also pointed out that with improved health care for the elderly and elimination of some of the diseases that "strike them down," a greater number will want to keep working beyond the normal retirement age.

The most valid long-range forecast on the retiree-workforce ratio, he said, is a "situation much closer to what we have today."

Seidman was questioned by Theodor Schuchat of the North American Newspaper Alliance and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The AFL-CIO produced program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Full Measure of Quality!

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

CHAIRMAN ARTHUR BURNS of the Federal Reserve Board not long ago appeared before the Joint House-Senate Economic Committee, an event that had all the advance billing of a shoot-out at high noon.

For days prior to Burns's appearance, members of the committee proclaimed their intent to let the chairman know, in no uncertain terms, that the Fed must loosen its tight reign on the money supply and take steps to help the staggering economy.

As the appearance turned out, lawmakers questioned him intently but always in deference to his mastery of economics. Burns, who is said to be extremely proud of himself as an educator, puffed on his ever-present pipe and lectured the committee with great patience.

The shoot-out was creampuffs at 20 paces.

Yet something did emerge from the hearing. Senators Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), committee chairman, and William Proxmire (D-Wis.) announced the introduction of a "sense of Congress" resolution declaring that the Federal Reserve should pursue policies in the first half of 1975 to encourage lower long-term interest rates and expansion of credit "appropriate to facilitating prompt economic recovery."

The resolution, which recently was approved by both the House and Senate, instructs the Fed and Burns to consult with Congress at semi-annual meetings about its "targets" and plans with respect to growth or diminution of the monetary and credit supplies in the next year.

In effect, Congress is telling Burns that it doesn't like his tight money policies. The AFL-CIO has been attacking those policies in the strongest terms ever since the late 1960s when Burns injected his "disastrous thinking" into the first Nixon Administration.

Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), chairman of the House Banking Committee, had pushed a bill that would have ordered the board to expand the money supply at an annual rate of at least 6 percent and allocate credit to "national priority uses," something labor has consistently advocated.

But Reuss acceded to the resolution approach even though it lacks the legal force of legislation. There was considerable speculation in Congress that a resolution could pass but a bill couldn't.

Burns opposed the resolution. But one of his associates has since been quoted that he now sees it as an opportunity for "educating those people and shooting down some of their theories." Some believe that Burns will consider the resolution as nothing more than a suggestion.

However, Humphrey, Proxmire and Reuss believe they have moved Congress into exercising control over the Fed which, after all, is its own creature. Any ignoring of the resolution, Reuss says, and Congress will pass "an iron-clad law" regulating board policies.

AS ANGERED AS labor is at Burns's failure to direct the Fed's policies toward ending the country's worst recession since the end of World War II, their charges against him go much farther back than his tenure as board chairman, which began in February 1970.

As a former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under Nixon, and as his special "counselor," union leaders are convinced, Burns was the architect of the infamous "game plan," which managed to spawn simultaneous recession and inflation as early as 1969.

In their book, "The Palace Guard," dealing with the men who ran the Nixon Administration before Watergate brought it down, authors Dan Rather and Gary Paul Gates describe Burns's operations, although he was not a main subject of examination.

The authors say that it was Burns, even after he became board chairman, who "educated" Treasury Sec. John Connally to the extent he could convince Nixon to set up the wage-price freeze.

Burns also ranged afield in his Nixon years. It was he who proposed the short-lived suspension of the Davis-Bacon Act, which sets prevailing wages on government-contract projects, and advocated splintering of the minimum wage law to allow a lower minimum for youths. He went so far as to advocate compulsory arbitration in labor disputes.

EXAGGERATED ATTACKS on the soundness of the social security system were refuted by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Theodor Schuchat, left, of the North American Newspaper Alliance and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

A circus atmosphere greets visitors to the 10th anniversary celebration of the Job Corps.

Job Corps Marks 10th Year

THE 10th ANNIVERSARY of the Job Corp was observed with a salute to the outstanding graduates of the program and to all who helped open doors to meaningful jobs for the thousands of former enrollees.

Focus of the celebration was on a demonstration of skills in construction crafts that Job Corps members had developed under the tutelage of journeymen union instructors.

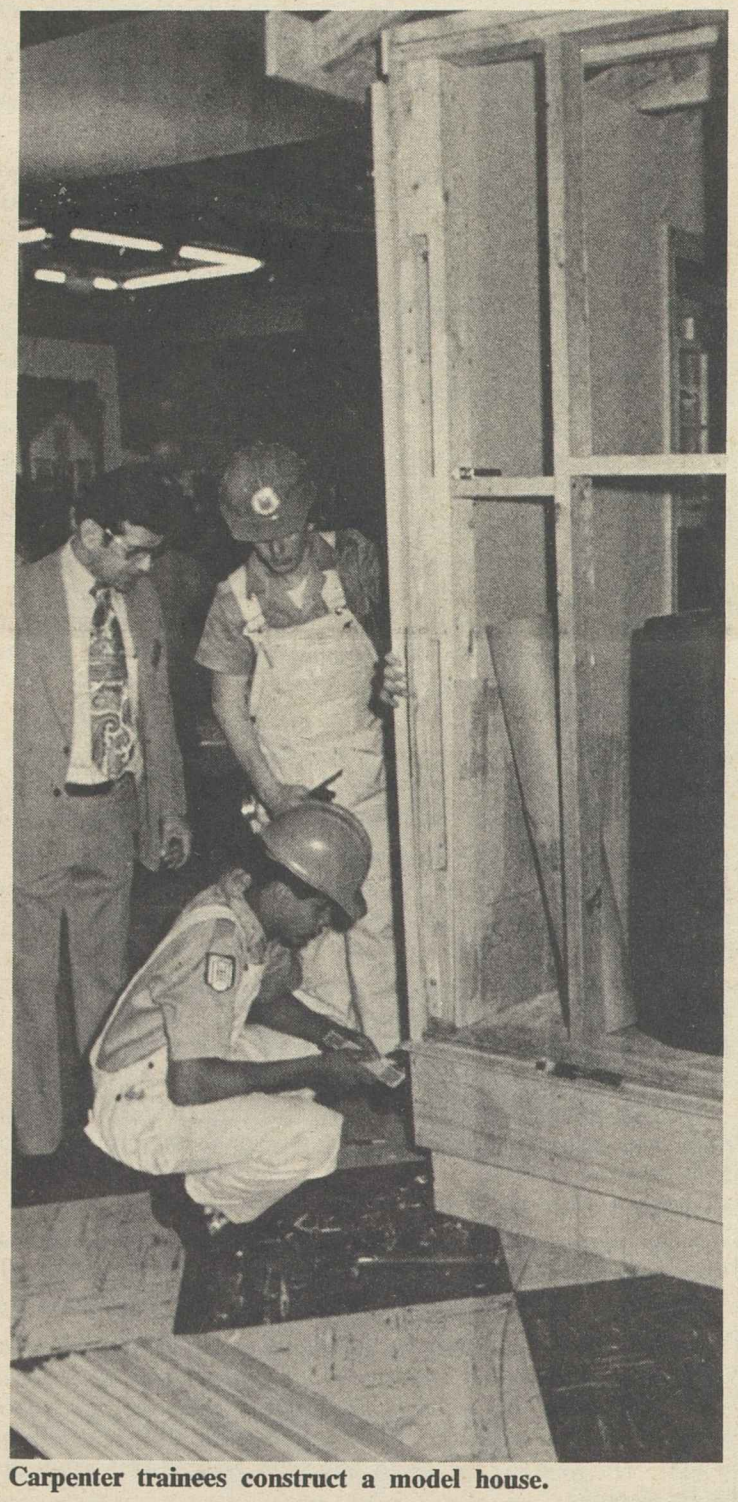
Operating in a multi-ring circus atmosphere —accented with ringmasters, barkers, balloons and popcorn—the young trainees and recent graduates practiced their trades on mock building projects. Participants in the show were trainees working toward their apprenticeships or journeymen's cards as Bricklayers, Carpenters, Operating Engineers, Painters and Plasterers.

Affiliates of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. have been involved in the Job Corps since 1966. The Railway & Airline Clerks and Marine Cooks & Stewards are also in the program. In addition, the federation's Human Resources Development Institute provides recruiting and supportive services, and the AFL-CIO Appalachian Council operates a vocational training program.

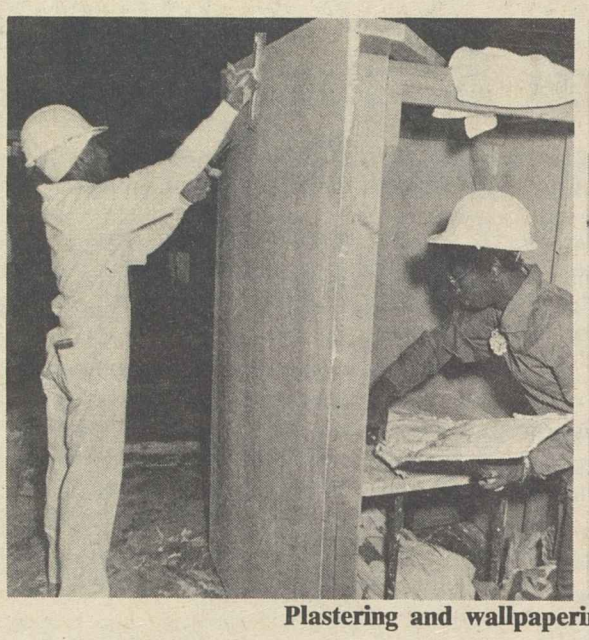
The Labor Dept., which administers a major part of the program, estimates that the Job Corps has served more than 500,000 disadvantaged youths with job oriented education, training and other services.

Before the current surge in the unemployment rate, more than 80 percent of the Job Corps members who completed training were placed in jobs or went on to further their education, the Labor Dept. noted.

Ten graduates of the program were inducted into the Job Corp Hall of Fame at the Washington celebration. The list includes three union members: Walter Mitchell of West Haven, Conn., a journeyman Operating Engineer; Jessie Al Lane of Austin, Tex., an apprentice Plasterer, and Ken Stein of San Jose, Calif., of the Retail Clerks.



Carpenter trainees construct a model house.



Plastering and wallpapering techniques displayed.

President Thomas F. Murphy of the Bricklayers helps with the building of a wall.

Hall of Fame inductees Jessie Al Lane, left, and Walter Mitchell.

'Six-Year Step Backwards':

Family Income Gap Widens As Legacy of Nixon Policies

Shifts in distribution of income occur very slowly, but in eight years of sustained economic growth from 1961 to 1969 real progress was made as those on the bottom rungs of the income ladder moved up perceptibly.

But this trend toward greater income equality came to an abrupt halt in 1969, and since then the gap between rich and poor has widened substantially, Arnold Cantor, assistant director of the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Research, notes. His article appears in the current issue of the American Federationist, the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine.

Economic policies of the past six years, set in motion during the first Nixon Administration, have been chiefly responsible for this state of affairs, Cantor charges

Prior to this "six-year step backwards," Cantor notes, more than 15 million people moved out of poverty between 1961 and 1969, and blacks and other minorities made substantial gains in both relative and absolute terms.

"But the unfortunate chronology of economic events since then has taken its toll," the author observes.

"Skyrocketing prices, mounting unemployment, two recessions and continuing cutbacks in public investments brought an abrupt halt to an era of constant improvement in social welfare."

In 1973, the median family income was $12,051. That is, half of the nation's family units that year received less than that amount and half received more. But, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, an average urban family of four that same year required $12,626—almost $600 more than the median family income—for a "modest but adequate" standard of living.

Information on median incomes for 1974—which will not be available for some time—will show a sharp drop in family purchasing power as a result of the current recession with its attendant high unemployment and high inflation rate, Cantor predicts.

The abrupt halt in the trend toward greater income equality is evident from statistics cited in the article.

Since 1968, Cantor notes, the income shares of the 40 percent of the families at the top increased, but they fell for the majority of Americans—the 60 percent of the nation's families with 1973 incomes of $14,000 or less.

"In terms of dollars," Cantor explains, "that means since 1968, a total of $20 billion was transferred from the bottom three-fifths of U.S. families to the upper two-fifths."

Families in the low- to moderate-income bracket suffered the greatest losses, Cantor points out. Families with 1973 incomes of $6,000 to $10,000 a year saw their share of the pie slip from 12.4 percent of total income in 1968 to 11.9 percent in 1973.

The most substantial gains since 1968 went to the wealthiest 20 percent. The group with incomes of more than $19,000 increased their share of total income from 40.5 percent in 1968 to 41.1 percent in 1973.

"What's more, large chunks of the income of the wealthy aren't recorded in the census statistics since, for instance, income from the sale of stocks, bonds and other property or from gifts and inheritances, is not counted," Cantor notes.

He cites several studies of the widening incomes gap, including a Commerce Dept. survey showing that in 1971 the 1 percent of the American families with the largest personal income received 47 percent of the total income from dividends and owned 51 percent of the market value of stock.

A survey of consumers by the Institute for Social Research of the University of Michigan showed a similar pattern of concentration of wealth at the top.

The Michigan study found that in 1971 over half of the nation's families had savings of $1,000 or less—and that figure included checking and savings accounts, stocks and bonds.

"In discussing income distribution, few people question the need to alleviate the circumstances of the very poor, and it is reasonably well recognized that it is dangerous for a nation to have a concentration of vast amounts of wealth in the hands of an elite few," Cantor observes.

"To help those in the middle and at the same time bring more people into the middle is a far more complicated task."

It is clear the squeeze on the middle-income worker has been going on for some time, Cantor says, "and it has been particularly severe over the past years."

The paycheck of the average worker at the end of 1974, for example, was $160 a week and, if he had three dependents, his take-home pay was $139 a week. With that paycheck, Cantor notes, the family could buy no more than it could 10 years ago, according to the Labor Dept.

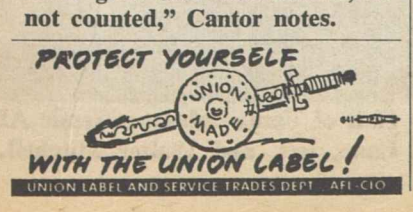
Among the economic failures over the past six years was the Nixon Administration's policy of business tax giveaways, the article charges.

Enacted in 1971, the tax giveaways fueled inflation, eroded the tax structure and helped to create the imbalances that shortened the recovery of the 1969-70 recession, Cantor points out. This, in turn, paved the way for the much deeper recession that began in 1973.

More inequities were added during the Nixon Administration's so-called economic stabilization program.

"For 32 months, this program effectively controlled workers' wages while profits, interest, dividends and other forms of income which flow primarily to the wealthy were essentially uncontrolled," Cantor notes.

"Equity and fair income shares are always critically important, even in the best of times," the author concludes. "But when the economy is performing poorly, equity and fair shares become the overriding standards by which policies and programs, both public and private, need to be judged."



'Postage Due' Order Hits Employer's Dirty Trick

The F. W. Woolworth Co. owes Local 9 of the Office & Professional Employees $27.60, plus a couple of bucks for interest.

The dime store chain went too far in trying to thwart a union organizing drive in Milwaukee, the National Labor Relations Board found.

Union supporters at Woolworth's central accounting office put OPEIU literature on the desks of fellow employes before the start of work. There was no company rule against it. But NLRB hearings established that a company supervisor went around to the desks and confiscated the union literature. Then, as an extra harassment to the union, he mailed the unsigned authorized cards back in the prepaid return envelopes the union had provided.

An administrative law judge for the NLRB found the company guilty of an unfair labor practice and ordered the firm to post the usual notice to employes promising not to interfere further with the organizing effort.

But a panel of NLRB members voted 2-1 to impose an additional requirement—that the firm reimburse the OPEIU local for the postage fees it incurred, plus 6 percent interest from late 1973 when the violation took place.

Rail Unions Seek Probe Of Lax Safety Policies

Al H. Chesser, chairman of the Congress of Railway Unions, called upon Congress to investigate "the miserable performance" of the Federal Railroad Administration in the field of railroad safety.

Chesser, who is president of the United Transportation Union, wrote Rep. Jack Brooks (D-Tex.), chairman of the House Government Operations Committee that the worsening rail accident rate is due to FRA's failure to implement the 1970 Rail Safety Act.

Chesser cited statistics showing accidents have increased since rail safety was transferred from the Interstate Commerce Commission to the FRA, an agency of the Transportation Dept., in 1967.

Between 1967 and 1973, he said, train accidents increased from 6,914 to 9,375. In 1974, there was "a decided increase"—to 10,419 train accidents and, of that number, 445 resulted in casualties, a 23 percent increase over 1973.

Chesser charged that the FRA has failed to adopt new safety standards to cover various aspects of railroad operations or to ask for an adequate number of safety inspectors.

In addition, while ignoring its responsibility to ensure greater safety, the agency has sought "greatly increased funds to promote fanciful non-railroad projects such as linear induction motors and tracked air-cushioned vehicles," Chesser said.

"The further deterioration of railroad safety cannot be permitted to continue," Chesser declared. "The lives of the employes and the public, as well as the nation's interest in the safe handling and arrival of materials shipped over the railroads, demands that proper railroad safety regulations be issued (under the 1970 Rail Safety Act) and that adequate enforcement be carried out to the end that the railroad accident record be reduced and rail safety assured."

Better Union-Employer Relations Goal of New Mediation Program

Improved labor-management relations outside of contract negotiations when there is no crisis bargaining situation to overcome is being promoted by federal mediators.

Recognizing the need of union and management officials to find a better means of dealing with each other during the term of a contract, the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service has launched a program to cultivate communications between the parties.

Basically, the plan operates through joint and separate meetings with one or more mediators on hand to analyze the relationship of the parties. Positive aspects are stressed and a working agreement is made to handle and overcome negative aspects. Deadlines are set to meet the agreed-upon goals.

The concept, titled Labor-Management Relations by Objectives, is the outgrowth of a series of pilot programs conducted by the FMCS Office of Technical Services.

Director W. J. Usery, Jr., of the service said that this approach was developed "from our experience that labor and management can best identify their own mutual problems" and are in the best position to determine how to solve them.

"Working together, they have the ability to devise and implement problem-solving procedures from which both sides can benefit," Usery said. "Our mediators provide assistance throughout this process."

Among a number of FMCS efforts now under way is one that involves five AFL-CIO unions and a Georgia-Pacific wood products and papermaking complex in Maine. The parties had agreed to FMCS technical assistance following a strike last year.

The operation was developed by a team of mediators headed by John Popular II, associate director of the FMCS technical services staff. Representatives of the five unions—Paperworkers, Machinists, Carpenters, Firemen & Oilers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers—and company officials first met with the mediators at Calais, Me., in January.

Then the parties broke up into mixed labor and management groups to explore areas they most wanted to resolve. The goals outlined were improved communications, more trust and respect, and better future relationships.

The groups were shown a new FMCS film about labor-relations attitudes, which they later related to their own problems. After several days of intensive meetings in separate and joint sessions, achievable improvement goals were set and responsibilities assigned in efforts to meet the goals.

With the Georgia-Pacific project in its third month, both the labor and management groups have reported positive results.

Irving Marshall, president of Paperworkers Local 27, said the opportunity to view issues from both the management and labor side, was helpful in resolving problems. With the aid of mediators, Marshall said, "We designed for ourselves a 'road map' to follow in the coming months and years."

A company official noted that grievances, which had numbered in the hundreds, slowed to a trickle after the program was initiated.

Bill Yardley, president of Firemen & Oilers Local 330, confirmed the report, commenting that by talking over potential grievances the problems are eliminated before they are started.

Vern Wentworth of Carpenters Local 2400 noted "great changes of attitudes" on both sides since the program was launched.

One union official said he based the success of the program on being able to talk with management as a person, not just an employe.

The FMCS reported that the experience with Georgia-Pacific and the five unions in Maine has generated interest in other sectors of the wood products industry and in other industries as well.

Similar projects are now under way at Leominster, Mass., involving the Chemical Workers and the Borden Chemical Co.; at Peru, Ind., with the Boilermakers and Freeman Industries, and at Minneapolis between the IBEW and Paper-Calmenson. Other projects are scheduled to start in Iowa, Ohio and Alabama, the mediation service reported.

Jerome T. Barrett, director of the FMCS Office of Technical Services, said inquiries about the program have been received from numerous areas across the country.

Court Rejects Further Delay Of Vinyl Rule

(Continued from Page 1)

evidence that the chemical was carcinogenic.

Although the allowable exposure is set at 1 ppm for an eight-hour period, the concentration may go up to 5 ppm for 15-minute peak periods. Where those levels cannot be achieved, the plants are required to supply workers with respirators.

The use of respirators is currently optional for workers exposed to concentrations of the gas in excess of 25 ppm, but would be mandatory after Jan. 1, 1976.

The vinyl chloride rule affects an estimated 6,500 workers in vinyl chloride production and about 350,000 others in plastics fabricating.

Clash Looms on Funds:

Ford's Budget 'Line' Threat to Job Effort

(Continued from Page 1)

refused to spend over the past two years.

Budget estimates are notoriously fluctuating figures, since the state of the economy can add or subtract tens of billions of dollars from tax revenues estimated more than a year in advance. Ford indicated no uncertainty, however, as he asserted that the tax cut and actions already taken by Congress will push the deficit for the fiscal year starting next July 1 to $60 billion and that measures being considered by Congress would raise the deficit to $100 billion.

Pointing to the $60 billion figure on a chart, the President declared, "I am drawing the line right here. . . . I will resist every attempt by Congress to add another dollar to this deficit by new spending programs."

Further, Ford insisted, Congress must go along with his proposal to put a 5 percent ceiling on pay increases for federal employes and a comparable curb on the cost-of-living adjustments that will be due for persons receiving social security, railroad retirement, civil service and military retirement benefits.

To keep from crossing the President's "line," Congress would have to abandon a House-passed bill carrving $5.9 billion in emergency funds to expand an assortment of job programs.

The budget limit sought by the President would require scuttling a House-passed bill designed to encourage housing construction through a mortgage interest rate subsidy for middle-income home and apartment buyers. It would thwart any additional income guarantees for farmers. And it would preclude passage of any bill using federal funds to restore health insurance protection for workers who lost their coverage when they lost their jobs.

But despite the apparent rigidity of the President's speech, the pace of economic recovery is likely to influence both Congress and the White House.

Worsening unemployment this summer would build up pressure for jobs, not reduced deficits.

If the Administration, on the other hand, can point convincingly to an economic recovery, the spending pressure would be less. And very likely the budget impact would be less also, since the added tax revenue from an upturn in employment would serve to reduce the deficit.

A wild card in the congressional outlook is the influence of the new Budget Committees of the House and Senate. Starting next year, they have a clearly defined role in establishing preliminary budget targets and proposing to Congress a breakdown of the spending totals that in effect would be establishing national priorities.

Both the House and Senate panels plan to submit an overall budget target to Congress for approval this month in a test of the new procedure.

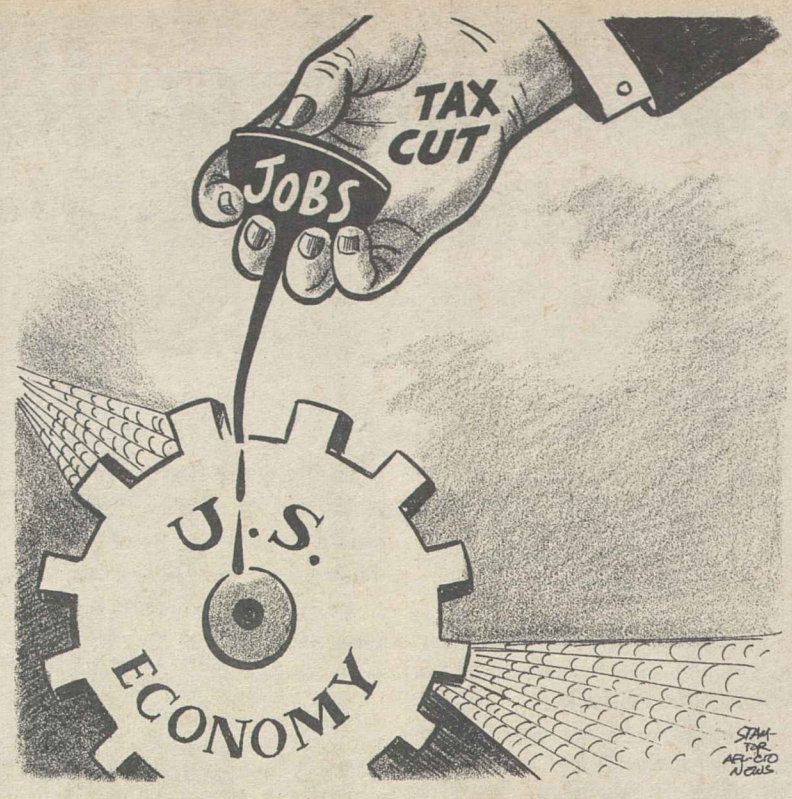
This budget target would not be legally binding for the coming fiscal year, but President Ford wants to make it so by advancing the budget control law to make it apply to the 1976 fiscal year, which starts this July 1.

If Congress complied with the President's request, which he announced at an Apr. 3 news conference, funds appropriated for government programs would be cut back proportionately in order to keep total spending within a budget ceiling approved by Congress.

Whether or not Congress accedes to Ford's proposal, the Administration clearly is relying on the Budget Committees as a restraining influence on spending.

There would be less of a gap between government revenue and federal spending if Congress followed the course urged earlier this year by the AFL-CIO General Board.

After completing action on the emergency tax cut, the board said, congressional committees should "promptly begin work on closing the loopholes of special tax privilege for the wealthy and corporations. Only through tax justice will the government's needs for tax revenue be met by a fair and equitable tax structure."



Wholesale Drop Leaves Index Up 12.5% in Year

(Continued from Page 1)

prices fell four months in a row was in late 1966. The 12.5 percent year-to-year rise in the index compares to a jump of 23.5 percent last November.

Together, farm products and processed foods and feeds fell 2.5 percent. This followed declines of 3.4 percent in February, 2.5 percent in January, and 2.5 percent in December 1974.

The drop in the farm products index was led by lower prices for grains, oilseeds, and fresh and dried vegetables. The index for processed foods and feeds moved down principally due to reduced prices for sugar and confectionery and manufactured animal feeds.

The overall wholesale price index for March was 170.4 percent of its 1967 base of 100, meaning that a representative group of commodities that cost $100 eight years ago cost $170.40 in March.

While changes in wholesale prices usually are reflected at the retail level, recent experience has shown food price reductions have not been fully passed on to the consumer.

Industrial commodities over the past year increased 18.6 percent, BLS noted. Prices for farm products were down 13.1 percent over the same period, while processed foods and feeds were up 8.8 percent.

The most significant price rises among industrial commodities were posted by chemicals, transportation equipment, machinery and equipment, fuels and related products and power, BLS said.

The higher prices for power reflected increases for electricity, gasoline, light distillate and residual fuels. Prices for bituminous coal were lower.

Jobless Benefit Rolls Maintain Record Pace

(Continued from Page 1)

turn in six months in the government's composite index of leading economic indicators. Also, there were more cuts in banks' prime rates and the first rise in new orders for manufactured products in six months.

The nation's automakers, still trying to reduce inventories piled up because of consumer resistance to high prices, reported that March production declined about 17 percent below the year-earlier depressed level.

The construction industry lowered building outlays five-tenths of 1 percent in February, the Commerce Dept. said. Construction spending fell to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $128.1 billion during the month to the lowest level since November 1972.

The Conference Board, a business-oriented research organization in New York, noted a further drop in its help-wanted index of newspaper advertising in February.

The increase in the Commerce Dept.'s index of leading economic indicators amounted to 1 percent overall as four of the nine indicators that were available turned upward. These included stock prices, new orders for durable goods, industrial materials prices, and change in consumer installment debt.

The Commerce Dept.'s report on new factory orders, which showed a 1.3 percent decline in February, was accompanied by a report indicating a slowing-down in manufacturers' additions to inventories. Inventories recorded their smallest increase in three and one-half years in February, the government said.

Union Workers Widen Pay, Benefit Advantage

Any way you measure it, workers represented by unions have been getting bigger paychecks and more fringe benefits than non-union workers.

A report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics covering a six-year period, 1966 to 1972, shows that the gap has widened significantly. Union members had the advantage at the start of the survey period and had an even bigger advantage at its close. Results of the study were detailed by Paul L. Scheible in the March issue of the BLS publication, Monthly Labor Review.

non-union establishments failed even to come up to the union standard of six years earlier. And meanwhile the advance in union-won compensation made the gap even wider than it had been.

The survey covered both the pay and total compensation of non-office workers. Included in total compensation are required employer payments such as social security plus employer expenditures not required by law—retirement payments, health and life insurance benefits, etc.

Total compensation at union establishments advanced $2.22 an hour during this period, from $3.61 to $5.83 an hour. That's a 61 percent rise.

At non-union firms, the advance was only $1.21 an hour or 52 percent, from $2.32 in 1966 to $3.53 in 1972. Thus the gap between union and non-union compensation increased from $1.29 an hour in 1966 to $2.30 an hour.

In wages alone, the six-year rise in union establishments was $1.62, from $2.95 to $4.57 an hour. At non-union establishments over the same period, the increase was 99 cents—from $2.01 to $3 an hour.

Compensation beyond pay—fringes, retirement and social security—rose from 66 cents to $1.26 at union firms and from 31 cents to 53 cents at non-union firms.

The union card advantage held true in all of the subgroupings. In most cases, the compensation at

The contrast between the pay and benefits of union and non-union workers was even greater in nonmanufacturing industries than in manufacturing.

In manufacturing, union establishments in 1972 paid an average of $5.50 an hour in total compensation and $4.25 in straight wages. At non-union firms, total compensation averaged $4 that year, and wages were $3.29.

In nonmanufacturing, total compensation was $6.24 an hour for the union sector and $3.36 for non-union workers. On wages alone, hte BLS reported a $4.96 average for union workers and $2.89 in the non-union sector.

Meany Scores Health Plan Rules As Undercutting Bargaining Role

(Continued from Page 1)

"out to make quick, high profits for unscrupulous entrepreneurs."

"There is not the slightest reason why the union should be forced to permit the employer to offer an HMO option to his employes after the union has made a determination that the HMO soliciting its members would not serve their health needs," the statement said.

Further, under the HEW proposal, the employer would have to offer such an option even if both he and the union agreed it would not be a useful plan.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO urged, the regulations should specifically provide that the bargaining agent for the employes be able to decline the HMO option on behalf of the entire bargaining unit.

In other comments on the proposed regulations, the AFL-CIO position was that:

- References to an employer should be clearly indicated as referring to a designated representative of the employer such as a jointly-administered health and welfare trust.
- It is impractical to require an employer whose workers are scattered over a wide area to deal with a large number of HMOs even though only one or two of the employes might live in an area served by a particular HMO. Therefore, the AFL-CIO suggested that the option be required only in areas where at least 25 employes would be served by the same HMO.
- The proposed regulations put the responsibility for reviewing literature dealing with the various plans available solely on the employer, with the HMO having responsibility for its distribution. In organized establishments, "the AFL-CIO strongly recommends that necessary arrangements for notifying employes of the HMO option should be worked out jointly by labor, management and the HMO."

Other points made by the AFL-CIO dealt with additional administrative costs incurred in offering an optional program, and determination of equity between employer payments for HMO and other forms of health insurance. The AFL-CIO suggested that the issue of equitable payments "be explored in depth before the final regulations are issued with representatives of labor, management, HMOs' jointly administered health and welfare trusts, self-insured employer health benefit plans" and any other interested parties.

4-5-75

Big Hospital Unit Votes for SEIU

The Service Employees won a representation election at Washington Hospital Center in the District of Columbia for a bargaining unit of nearly 1,400 workers.

This is the largest group of hospital workers to be organized through an election since the federal law was enacted last year providing for union representation of employes of non-profit hospitals, the SEIU said.

Meany Urges 'Credible' Foreign Policy

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Warns U.S. Position in 'Shambles'

AFL-CIO President George Meany called for a reshaping of America's foreign policy to halt a retreat to isolationism and impotence in world affairs.

He called for a renewed national commitment to human freedom, based on new policies rather than new rhetoric.

Meany's foreign policy address, at a luncheon sponsored by the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept., criticized both an Administration committed to a one-sided detente with the Communist powers and a Congress pursuing an "impossible dream" of isolationism.

The combination has made a "shambles" of America's foreign policy, Meany said.

His speech, broadcast live by public radio, affirmed the labor movement's belief that "the loss of freedom by workers anywhere in the world is a definite threat to the freedom of workers everywhere."

That's why, "as trade unionists, we cannot buy a policy of isolation for America." And in any event, Meany suggested, there can be no isolation in a world in which no country is more than minutes away from "weapons of mass destruction."

Meany told a hushed audience that he applauds and would like to believe President Ford's recent assertion that the United States will "stand by" its allies, and his warning to this country's adversaries that the American people are prepared "to stand up for freedom any place in the world."

It's not enough to abandon the "vocabulary of detente," Meany suggested. "We must abandon the policies it spawned."

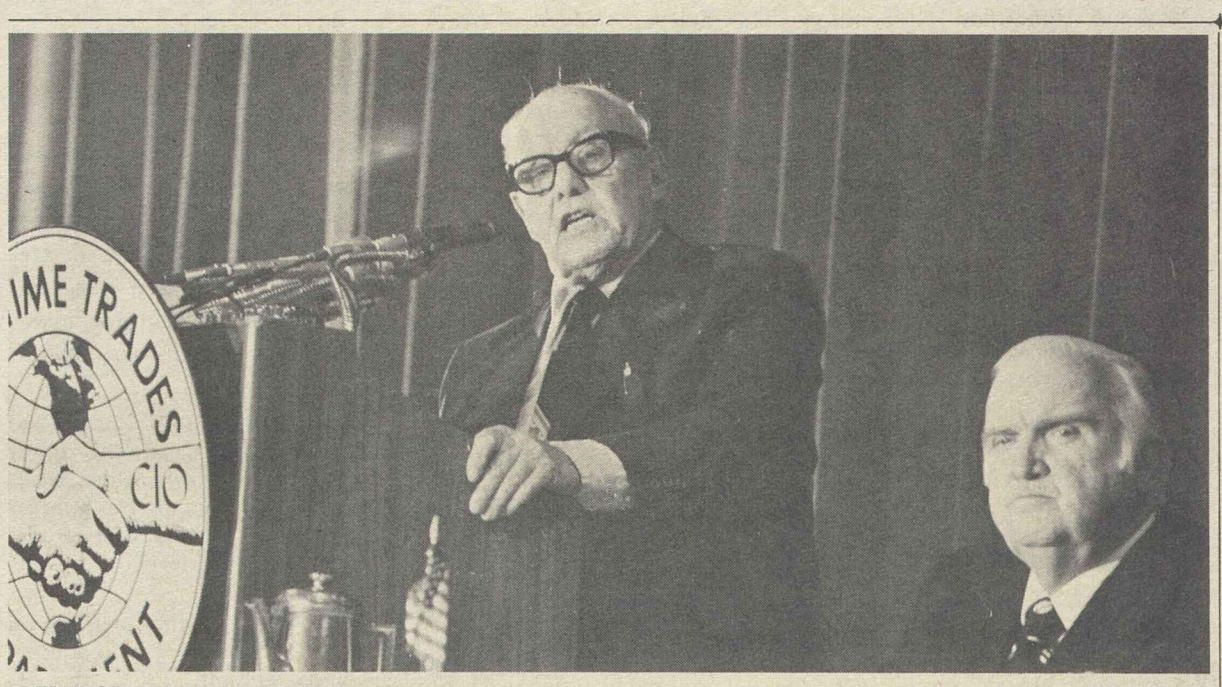
He called on Congress and the Administration, Democrats and Republicans alike, to "reshape our foreign and defense policies so that President Ford's warning to our adversaries is credible—not only to them but to ourselves."

America's unwillingness to offend the Soviet Union and its tolerance of Soviet disregard of the USSR's obligations to the detente policy is pointed up in the Middle East conflict, Meany noted.

All-out Soviet support for the Arab Yom Kippur attack on Israel went unprotested by the United States. And when Israel—a free nation established in large part by a free trade union movement—insisted on some reciprocity for its concessions to Egypt, President Ford and Sec. of State Kissinger

(Continued on Page 8)

Congress, Ford Spurred On Jobs Crisis Program



SUPPORT OF FREEDOM must again become the keystone of America's foreign policy, AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a major address to a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Maritime Trades Dept. MTD President Paul Hall is at right.

Tax Cut Alone Held Not Enough

Congress must do "much more" to put America back to work, AFL-CIO President George Meany said as he called on the AFL-CIO's affiliated unions and central bodies to "keep pushing" for enactment of the unfinished part of labor's action program.

Despite the Administration's "optimistic rhetoric," Meany stressed, the nation's "disastrous economic slide" hasn't reached bottom and the turnabout is not in sight.

Meany enclosed with his letter a progress report by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller on the program adopted by the federation's General Board on Jan. 23, when it met in emergency session to respond to an economic crisis that has since become even more grave. **(Text on Page 6.)**

Labor's six-part program called for government action on tax cuts, a realistic energy program, reduction of interest rates, job-creating legislation, protection from unfair foreign competition and immediate assistance to the unemployed.

"There has been progress but it is not enough," Meany said. The tax cut alone is not sufficient and "every affiliate, every central body, every local union, every union member" must redouble efforts to reach and persuade members of Congress.

(Continued on Page 7)

At Moderate Living Standard:

BLS Family Budget Costs Soar 13.5 Percent in Year

The cost of a moderate standard of living for the average American family rose to a record $14,333 last fall, or 13.5 percent above the fall 1973 level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

This was a jump of $1,707 in one year, the largest increase since BLS began drawing up its annual set of hypothetical family budgets in 1967.

The budgets, prepared for a typical urban family of four, attempt to illustrate three different levels of living based on estimates of costs for different types and amounts of goods and services.

At the more austere, or lower, level, the typical family budget amounted to $9,198 a year, while the higher-level budget came to $20,777.

When updated to reflect current price levels, the budgets would be still higher. The AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, calculated that the lower budget today would come to $9,469; the intermediate, $14,800, and the higher, $21,442.

The revised estimates factor in a 2.7 percent rise in the consumer price index from last October through February of this year, plus additional social security, personal income and other taxes since last fall.

While figures for 1974 aren't yet available, the median family income in 1973 was $12,051, according to the Census Bureau. The official poverty guideline income for 1973—again the latest figure available—was $4,540. Brought up to date by adding cost-of-living increases through February of this year, the poverty guideline currently would be $5,362.

The BLS figures, which reflect record increases for all three budgets, show the total cost of the lower budget rose 12.4 percent from autumn 1973 to autumn 1974 while the higher budget went up 14.2 percent.

By comparison, the increases from autumn 1972 to autumn 1973 were 10.8 percent for the lower budget and 10.3 and 9.9 percent for the moderate and higher budgets, respectively. In previous years, the budgets mirrored rises of not more than 4.3 percent.

The budgets are drawn up for a hypothetical city family headed by a 38-year-old husband employed full time. His wife does not work outside the home, and

(Continued on Page 2)

Official Jobless Rate Rises to 8.7%, 1.1 Million More Give Up Search

The nation's official jobless rate pushed toward the 9 percent mark last month, and the employment picture was even worse than it appeared, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

"The actual rate of unemployment is much higher than the 8.7 percent figure announced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics," Meany asserted.

"Adding the official figures of 8 million unemployed and the 1.1 million 'discouraged workers' means there are at least 9.1 million unemployed in this country."

Meany figured the actual rate of unemployment in March was at least 9.8 percent, since the rate changes by one-tenth of 1 percent with every increase or decrease of about 100,000 workers.

"The situation is even worse if you include the 3.9 million workers forced to work part-time because full-time jobs are not available," Meany added. "These figures are appalling."

The dire statistics prompted Meany to comment that the tax-reduction bill signed by President Ford Mar. 29 "obviously . . . is not enough."

Meany said "the job-creating bills now pending in Congress must be passed immediately despite any implied threat of a presidential veto."

Unemployment in America now is at its highest level since 1941 when joblessness reached 9.9 percent of the workforce. The March jobless rate was up one-half of a percentage point, from 8.2 percent in February.

(Continued on Page 7)

Unions Fight 5% Lid on Federal Pay

The AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. has asked congressional leaders to help head off efforts to shortchange government workers in order to hold down the size of the anticipated budget deficit.

Department President W. Howard McClennan expressed concern at acceptance by the House Budget Committee of the 5 percent ceiling President Ford proposed on pay adjustments for government workers.

The Budget Committee also assumed in its estimates of outlays and revenue an arbitrary ceiling on social security benefit increases and

(Continued on Page 8)

NEW YORK TEACHERS' annual representative assembly drew 2,000 delegates representing the 215,000 members of the state teachers' organization. It is affiliated with both the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association. The delegates showed overwhelming support of NYSUT's efforts to bring about a national merger of the AFT and NEA.

Strike Votes Conducted by 4 Rail Unions

Four rail unions—members of the AFL-CIO Railway Employees' Dept.—are conducting strike votes following a breakdown in talks with the nation's major rail carriers over new contracts.

In letters to union general chairmen, leaders of the Carmen, Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers said they would continue to "press with maximum strength for an early agreement that meets the needs of the membership."

"However, we are not optimistic that such an agreement can be reached through mediation," they said.

The unions said the carriers have refused to "make any substantial or significant changes in our subcontracting agreement and other rules favorable to the employes," or to propose a satisfactory wage package.

The letter was signed by Presidents Harold J. Buoy of the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Anthony L. Krause of the Carmen, John J. McNamara of the Firemen & Oilers and Vice President Frank Gladney of the IBEW. Also signing was President James E. Yost of the Railway Employees' Dept.

Meanwhile, the Railway & Airline Clerks were in the process of tallying strike ballots sent to members last month.

"We will be legally free to strike as of 12:01 a.m., Friday, Apr. 18, assuming a favorable vote," BRAC President C. L. Dennis said. Negotiations continued while votes were being counted.

Under the Railway Labor Act, the appointment of a presidential emergency board to consider the dispute could delay any strike by 60 days.

The Yardmasters, who have agreed with the carriers on most economic issues, reported disagreement on several minor matters. President A. T. Otto, Jr., said the union has applied for assistance from the National Mediation Board in the talks.

The Machinists were expected shortly to conclude their ratification vote on a pact containing wage and fringe-benefit improvements similar to agreements approved earlier by seven other unions.

Family Budget Totals For 40 Urban Areas

Annual costs of three family-budget levels in 40 cities and metropolitan areas in the autumn of 1974, as compiled by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics:

	Lower Budget	Intermediate Budget	Higher Budget
National Average	$ 9,198	$14,333	$20,777
Anchorage	13,667	19,092	26,595
Honolulu	11,383	17,019	25,572
San Francisco-Oakland	9,973	15,127	21,980
Boston	9,933	16,725	24,708
New York	9,852	16,648	25,470
Hartford	9,811	15,501	21,604
Washington, D.C.	9,723	15,035	21,725
Seattle	9,630	14,487	20,477
Chicago	9,571	14,797	21,178
Los Angeles-Long Beach	9,524	14,068	20,801
Champaign-Urbana, Ill.	9,496	14,587	21,073
Baltimore	9,496	14,398	20,886
Portland, Me.	9,436	14,697	20,367
Philadelphia	9,433	14,757	21,299
Minneapolis-St. Paul	9,366	14,917	21,700
Buffalo	9,332	15,364	22,096
Milwaukee	9,300	15,024	21,794
San Diego	9,284	13,977	20,409
Lancaster, Pa.	9,173	14,130	19,927
Detroit	9,138	14,390	21,142
Cleveland	9,124	14,617	20,732
Kansas City	9,051	13,939	20,351
Indianapolis	9,026	14,120	20,020
Denver	8,965	13,606	19,673
Durham, N.C.	8,929	13,927	19,878
Pittsburgh	8,913	13,876	19,999
Green Bay	8,870	14,180	21,016
Cedar Rapids	8,867	14,092	20,324
St. Louis	8,862	13,859	19,848
Orlando, Fla.	8,799	12,804	18,381
Wichita, Kan.	8,782	13,302	19,074
Dayton, Ohio	8,764	13,391	19,489
Bakersfield, Calif.	8,701	13,000	18,414
Cincinnati	8,683	13,753	19,203
Atlanta	8,606	13,098	18,825
Houston	8,483	12,872	18,469
Dallas	8,405	12,917	18,784
Nashville	8,402	12,996	18,668
Baton Rouge, La.	8,307	12,928	19,034
Austin	8,108	12,388	17,914

350 Shoe Layoffs Linked to Imports

The Labor Dept. has certified 350 members of the Shoe Workers eligible for trade adjustment assistance after the government determined that their loss of jobs resulted from increased imports of women's footwear.

The union petitioned the International Trade Commission on behalf of the jobless members who had been laid off by the Shaer Shoe Corp. of Manchester, N.H.

The commission was evenly divided on whether the workers had been injured by the imports, but the White House intervened on the side of the workers.

Under the 1974 Trade Act, the USW members may receive 70 percent of their weekly average wage for at least 52 weeks, and for an additional 26 weeks to complete training courses. They also qualify for testing, counseling, and job placement and relocation assistance.

New Government Figures:

Family Budget Costs Rise 13.5% in Year

(Continued from Page 1)

they have a 13-year-old son and an eight-year-old daughter.

The couple is assumed to have been married about 15 years, settled in the community, and the husband is an experienced worker.

"The budgets are not intended to represent a minimum or subsistence level of living," BLS notes, adding:

"The budgets do not represent how families of this type actually spend their money. Rather, they reflect the assumptions made about the manner of living at each of the three levels."

Besides calculating average budget costs at the three levels on a national basis, BLS surveys costs for 40 metropolitan areas of the United States.

Total family consumption costs—that is, the cost of food, shelter, housing, clothing and other goods and services—rose by about 11 percent in all three budgets. Biggest increases were for food, housing and transportation which account for more than 70 percent of consumption costs.

"The increase in food prices had a greater impact on the lower budget than the two other levels because food accounts for a larger proportion of the total cost of consumption at that level of living," BLS said.

Food costs at the lower level rose 13.2 percent from autumn 1973 to autumn 1974; the increases for the intermediate and higher budgets were 11.5 and 10.8 percent, respectively.

The increase in housing costs had a greater impact on the higher and moderate budgets, however, since housing accounts for a larger share of the total cost of consumption at those levels.

Total housing costs for lower-budget families, who are assumed to live in rental housing only, increased by 8.1 percent from autumn to autumn. In the moderate and higher budgets where housing includes both rental housing and homeownership, costs rose 11.3 and 11.7 percent, respectively.

"The housefurnishings and operations component of housing costs rose 19 percent at all budget levels—the largest increases among all the components of consumption," BLS observed.

Transportation costs rose the most in the higher and intermediate budgets which contain the largest proportion of automobile ownership. The increase for both categories averaged 15.6 percent.

The largest single increase in all three budgets was for taxes, including larger contributions to the social security system. Average taxes and deductions in the lower-cost budget amounted to $1,463. At the intermediate level, the average was $2,790 while the higher budget reflected a $4,686 average.

Personal income taxes alone increased 25.7 percent over the year for the lower budget, 25.1 percent at the intermediate level, and 26.6 percent for the higher budget. While the federal tax rate structure did not change during the survey period and changes in state and local tax programs were minimal, "the federal income tax rate structure as well as that of many states calls for higher tax rates as income rises," BLS pointed out.

"The increase of over 25 percent in budget costs for personal income taxes reflects the application of these higher rates to the larger incomes required in 1974 to purchase the same specified levels of consumption as last year (1973)," BLS said.

In its release accompanying the updated family budgets, BLS noted costs were 8 percent higher in metropolitan than in nonmetropolitan urban areas at the lower level. The metropolitan-nonmetropolitan difference was 13 percent for the intermediate budget and 18 percent for the higher.

Keep USIA Independent, Meany Asks

The effectiveness of the U.S. Information Agency would be undermined if it were dismembered and put under the State Dept., AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

Meany's comment on the recommendations of a special panel headed by Dr. Frank Stanton stressed the importance of maintaining the independence of USIA "in a period when the credibility of the United States is being challenged abroad."

He welcomed the Stanton panel's endorsement of the need for an overseas information program and for high standards of independence and objectivity in its reporting.

But this can best be accomplished through maintaining USIA's independence, Meany said, "so that its credibility and objectivity cannot be doubted or assailed."

Protests Cut Shelepin Visit To Britain

London — Aleksandr Shelepin, head of the Soviet government-controlled trade unions, cut short his stay in Britain after three days of demonstrations protesting his visit with leaders of the Trades Union Congress.

The former head of the KGB, the Soviet secret police, and his 12-member delegation encountered demonstrators virtually at every stop and were often greeted by flying trash as well as shouted slogans.

More than 1,000 demonstrators marched outside the TUC headquarters during a seven-hour meeting between Lionel Murray, general secretary of the TUC, and Shelepin.

Protesting trade unionists were joined by refugees of Eastern European countries — Ukranians, Czechoslovaks, Poles, Hungarians, Jews and others—who had grievances to air against the USSR and the KGB. As head of the KGB under Nikita Khrushchev, Shelepin had been linked to a number of political assassinations in and outside the Soviet Union.

Equity, the British actors' union, adopted a resolution formally condemning Shelepin's visit, and Frank Chapple, head of the electrical and plumbing trades, voiced strong opposition to the USSR-TUC conference.

The Russian "trade union" delegation was invited to Britain by the TUC as a reciprocal move following the visit of British trade union leaders to the Soviet Union 18 months ago.

As Spur to Jobs:

Maritime Unions Press Cargo Bill

The AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. reaffirmed its strong support of a cargo reservation program to provide badly needed jobs for the U.S. merchant marine.

"Such a program would result in enormous benefits to the nation's workers and balance of payments," the department declared in a statement adopted at a luncheon in Washington.

"Putting American ships and crews and American shipyards back to work will contribute to the economic recovery this nation needs," the department declared.

The statement said the U.S. merchant fleet has little chance of survival unless it is assured of carrying a significant portion of the country's foreign commerce.

Legislation to require that 30 percent of all U.S. oil imports be carried in American-flag ships would have done much to solve the problems of the merchant marine, the statement observed. But the bill, after clearing Congress, was killed by President Ford's pocket veto.

"It is time for the United States government to recognize the realities of a rapidly changing world," the MTD statement declared. "In today's international maritime community, such concepts as 'free trade' hold no meaning."

Among maritime union leaders pledging renewed efforts to secure congressional enactment of the oil cargo preference bill this year were MTD President Paul Hall and President Jesse M. Calhoon of the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association.

"The economic situation in the maritime industry is worse than it has been since the 1930s," Calhoon said.

Page Groton, assistant to the president of the Boilermakers, observed that four years of legislative activities by the maritime industry "went down the drain" when President Ford vetoed the Energy Transportation Act last December. "We have to start all over again," he said.

Other speakers included President Thomas W. Gleason of the Longshoremen and William O. Moody, Jr., administrator of the MDT.

While the entire industry is experiencing serious economic problems, the tanker segment has been hit the hardest, the statement noted.

It pointed out that 1.3 million tons of U.S.-flag tankers currently are without work, putting more than 1,000 seamen out of jobs.

The laid-up tanker tonnage represents one-third of the entire non-oil company or independently owned U.S.-flag tanker fleet If immediate action is not taken, this total may reach 40 percent of the independent fleet in a matter of weeks, the MTD said.

The lack of employment for existing U.S.-flag vessels has resulted in massive cutbacks in shipbuilding orders and plans, the statement observed. The Seatrain shipyard in Brooklyn has shut down completely, laying off 3,000 workers.

Government actions to put the nation's economy on the road to recovery thus far have done little to revitalize the U.S. merchant marine, the MTD noted.

"While a tax rebate may help the automobile and other manufacturing industries and an individual credit may stimulate the housing industry, measures of this kind do nothing for America's maritime industry which is unlike other industries, international as well as national," the department said.

"The problems confronting the U.S. maritime industry are the same as those facing maritime industries around the world.

"Yet the difference is that while America does nothing, foreign governments are acting not only to maintain but to build up their seafaring and shipbuilding industries."

The statement cited steps by the Arab oil-producing nations to take advantage of the current tanker market depression to buy tonnage for their own use. Venezuela, France and Japan also have recently moved to increase the participation of their fleets in their own foreign trade.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of Lockheed Aircraft sub-assembly plant is observed by more than 150 Machinists who produce sections for the L-1011 jumbo jet at what once was a riot-torn area of Watts-Willowbrook in Los Angeles. Photos show the various stages of assembly of the aircraft sections. IAM District 727 Rep. Phil Barnett, shown upper right discussing a contract clause with two members, noted that the Lockheed operation is a real union-management success story proving that a plant located in an economically depressed area can pay off for everyone.

Textile Workers Reject 10¢ New England Offer

Boston—The Textile Workers Union of America, negotiating new contracts with New England cotton-synthetic mills, flatly rejected an offer by three pattern-setting companies as "not only ridiculous, but heartless in view of the facts of life."

The management proposal, affecting 20,000 workers in some 70 New England and Mid-Atlantic plants, was for an hourly increase of 10 cents, effective in October. The contracts are due to expire on Apr. 15.

A 13-man TWUA contract policy committee meeting here said it would recommend a "no contract-no work" policy to its members unless the industry substantially upgraded its offer.

"Galloping inflation has more than wiped out the raises workers received under the three-year pact which will soon expire," TWUA President Sol Stetin charged. He noted that wage increases under the current contract totaled only 18 percent while prices rose 28.5 percent over the three-year period.

"Yet this industry has the gall to offer its hard-pressed employes, whose productivity has been increasing between 4 and 5 percent a year since 1960, a 1975 raise that amounts to a piddling 1.5 percent, since it does not propose to place it into effect until the latter half of the contract year," Stetin said.

The union bargaining committee cited agreements in other branches of the textile industry providing wage increases of 47 cents an hour in the New York-New Jersey textile dyeing and printing industry, 37 cents an hour in New England dyeing and finishing plants, and 35 cents an hour in the synthetic fiber industry, in addition to substantial fringe-benefit improvements.

The committee pointed out the New England employers failed even to include pension and health-insurance improvements in their proposal.

'Ban-the-Can' Proponents Urged To Weigh Staggering Cost in Jobs

Shortsighted proposals to ban disposable beverage containers would do more to wipe out skilled jobs than to clean up the nation's countryside, the AFL-CIO warned at a conference on waste reduction sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA is drafting rules that would forbid the sale of throw-away cans and bottles at all federal facilities, including military commissaries, federal cafeterias and other government installations.

Federation representatives told the EPA that the agency and environmental groups must carefully weigh the economic and social consequences stemming from ill-conceived clean-up programs.

Organized labor fully realizes the importance of cleaning up the environment, AFL-CIO Economist George H. R. Taylor pointed out, noting that the federation has long supported sound programs to achieve that goal. But on the issue of banning the can and the bottle "we part company with the environmentalists and without qualification," Taylor stressed.

He said that beverage containers account for only about 20 percent of the litter found on the nation's highways, with other package containers making up the rest.

He also noted that the beverage industry uses between 1 and 2 percent of total industrial energy, which boils down to four-tenths to eight-tenths of 1 percent of the total national energy usage.

"Cutting down this use by a fraction would have little impact on our national energy status," Taylor pointed out, "but it would have an inordinately large impact on jobs."

He added that the proposed ban on disposable containers could cause the junking of recycling efforts that are being developed or are already in use.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten cited the nation's current high rate of joblessness and said, "we can ill afford at this stage of the game to have more people unemployed."

McGlotten told the conference that "we want to clean up the litter, but we don't want our people unemployed."

Taylor noted that EPA estimates that a ban on disposable containers would affect more than 60,000 highly paid skilled jobs.

"The EPA estimate that there could be a replacement of the equivalent number of other jobs in washing and distributing and handling containers is a statistical cop-out."

The tragedies resulting from the job displacement of skilled workers would be extensive, Taylor warned, because most wage earners in the container industry are family breadwinners in their middle years.

Working people constantly face the hazard of job loss, he said, a hazard reflected in last month's unemployment rate of 8.7 percent, which translates into 8 million workers standing in long lines at unemployment compensation offices.

"Congress certainly has the right to abolish by legislation or regulate the manufacture, distribution and sale in commerce of socially harmful goods," Taylor noted. "But before such action is taken in the beverage container industry—action that wipes out thousands of livelihoods—it must be demonstrated beyond an argument that the potential benefit to society will far outweigh the costs."

Taylor said the AFL-CIO supports a positive program to commit the nation to a policy of resource recovery. He cited a statement adopted by the federation's Executive Council, which insisted that "a clean environment and full employment are not incompatible; in fact, they can and should go hand-in-hand."

The council called on the federal government to expand efforts to develop new techniques for disposing of solid wastes and recovering valuable materials. To do this, it said, Congress must greatly increase the EPA budget that had been slashed by the Administration.

Angela Bambace Of ILGWU Dies

Baltimore—Angela Bambace, a retired vice president of the Ladies' Garment Workers and an early leader in the women's rights movement, died at her home here Apr. 3. She was 77.

Miss Bambace, who used her maiden name, had been a member of the ILGWU since 1919. She was manager of the union's Upper South department, comprising more than 50 locals, when she retired in 1972. She was elected to the ILGWU executive board in 1956.

Miss Bambace also was on the executive boards of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut, Italian-American Labor Council and the American Civil Liberties Union. In addition, she served on national and state commissions on the status of women. She is survived by two sons, five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

'A Cold Look at Reality'

IN LOOKING AT our nation's problems in the field of foreign affairs, I woud most respectfully suggest to President Ford that, in addition to reassessing our situation in the Middle East and perhaps in Southeast Asia, that he take a good look at this thing called detente.

There is a basic problem in connection with these Soviet promoted ideas like peaceful co-existence and detente. The Communists just don't mean it. They don't really believe in these propaganda slogans. From their point of view, they have no meaning or substance.

Every basic Communist tactic of seizing power is now on display throughout the world: Naked aggression in Indochina; political blackmail in the Middle East—combined threats of force; an outrageous putsch in Portugal; a heating up of the cold war in Korea, and a diplomatic and propaganda war in international institutions.

The time has come to ask what strings together the multiple disasters that have befallen our foreign policies in recent weeks.

To deny that these disasters are interconnected is to take the first step backward—away from serious debate. And nobody, but nobody, with common sense will believe that the Middle East, Vietnam, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, the UN, the ILO—nobody will believe that these are separate, disembodied developments that have no relation to our policies or to the overall policies of the Communist world.

We don't need any more myths. We need a cold look at reality.

AMERICA WILL BE STRONG only if its people believe there is a need to be strong. We will defend ourselves and our allies only so long as we believe we have something worth defending—and only so long as we believe there are real threats, real enemies of what is worth defending.

The President cannot—anymore than his predecessor—resolve the contradiction of proclaiming detente on the one hand and of demanding of the American people a continual level of vigilance and sacrifice for the cause of freedom.

Finally, I heard the President declare: "We will stand by our allies and I specifically warn any adversaries they should not, under any circumstances, feel that the tragedy of Vietnam is an indication that the American people have lost their will or their desire to stand up for freedom any place in the world."

I applaud that statement. But I would respectfully say to the President and to the Secretary of State: words are not enough. We need more than a new rhetoric. We need new policies.

It is not enough to abandon the misguided vocabulary of detente. We must abandon the policies it spawned.

We must reshape our foreign and defense policies so that President Ford's warning to our adversaries is credible—not only to them but to ourselves.

This is the challenge facing our political leadership today—be they Democrats or Republicans. And let there be no doubt about one thing:

The American people will pass judgment—for years to come—on how their leaders responded to the crisis of this hour.

—From an address on foreign policy by AFL-CIO President George Meany to a meeting of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept.

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A Word Edgewise:

Conflicting Views of U.S. Role In World Pose Critical Choice

By John P. Roche

RECENTLY THE Public Broadcasting Service produced a program on Vietnam, Cambodia and the United States. The panel included Ambassador Graham Martin and Rep. Paul McCloskey (R-Calif.), and within half an hour it became clear to me that Martin and McCloskey were far more than opponents on our Southeast Asian policy—they were protagonists for two generations. They are both dedicated, talented patriotic Americans but they simply steer by different stars. To put it another way they have different pictures of the world in their minds.

One of the reasons I felt this so strongly is that I am in the intermediate generation, one which began, ironically, with the McCloskey approach and wound up with that of Martin. In the course of his remarks, the congressman made it apparent that he is not only an isolationist (or "continentalist" to avoid the pejorative connotation of isolationist) but proud of it. Indeed, he quoted the late Sen. Robert Taft as a prophetic voice.

Obviously an anti-Communist with no sympathy for Hanoi, Moscow or Peking, McCloskey simply didn't see any sensible rationale for our Vietnam and Cambodian involvement. It is absurd, he suggested, for us to try to graft our value system on those of Asia. Unlike a number of other continentalists, McCloskey was completely consistent: he said we must also rethink our commitment in the Middle East and regretted the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the trade bill.

Dean Rusk observed a while ago, in his wry fashion, that he hoped the present generation would not avoid the mistakes of their fathers by imitating those of their grandfathers. As I watched and listened, I had the strange feeling that everything McCloskey said was already on file, that if I closed my eyes the year could be 1938 and the speaker Norman Thomas or Sen. Burton K. Wheeler.

As an activist in the Socialist opposition to American entry into World War II, I recall myself making impassioned pleas for non-involvement in a world immune to American democratic values. I also remember a meeting at Town Hall, a favorite site for debates in New York, where Norman Thomas (one of the century's most masterful debaters) orally shredded some pro-war spokesman. Poland was Thomas's centerpiece: with savage irony he inquired why we were supposed to fight and die for a bunch of fascist colonels. It made sense to me; I ignored the Graham Martins of that era who argued that the issue was not Poland but the survival of western honor confronted by totalitarianism.

This is not a mea culpa: I now believe I was wrong, but I held convictions honestly arrived at. What World War II did was provide a new set of pictures in my mind, notably concerning the ultimate evil of totalitarianism, images which led me to become—and remain—a liberal cold warrior. Unlike McCloskey I am incapable of believing that the Vietnamese people (for whom I have great respect and affection) would prefer Hanoi's iron dictatorship to Thieu's clumsy authoritarianism. In saying this, to repeat, I am not questioning McCloskey's integrity. (He has no trace, for example, of the racism President Johnson attributed to former Sen. J. W. Fulbright: "They're not our kind of folks.") I can no more prove my thesis than McCloskey can prove his.

IF McCLOSKEY WAS the incarnation of the continentalist, Graham Martin's tragic sense of the impact of a debacle in Southeast Asia incarnated the faith of the internationalist. Far too prudent to want the U.S. to play world policeman (Martin was, indeed, one of the most powerful voices opposing the Americanization of the war in Vietnam), he nonetheless believes the issue today is no more Vietnam or Cambodia than in 1939 it was Poland.

The question for Americans, as he sees it, is do we want to continue our postwar role as the barrier against totalitarian expansion? The underlying assumption (which I share) is that when a nation falls to the totalitarian (monolithic or polycentric), it is a bad thing. To Congressman McCloskey this smacks of ethical arrogance, though he would certainly never be as patronizing as Shirley MacLaine, who recently said that, although she personally couldn't tolerate life under Chinese communism, it was great for the Chinese.

McCloskey and Martin: two generations, two world views, two visions of American destiny. Willy-nilly, the people, sooner or later, must choose between them.

Affluent Suburbs Shape Priorities:

Philosophy of 'New' Liberals Riddled With Contradictions

By Bayard Rustin

IT HAS BECOME commonplace for young politicians to dismiss "Great Society liberalism" as a hopelessly outdated and impractical philosophy. Conservatives, of course, always hated the Great Society because they hated the activist, compassionate government policies it stood for.

We now find that there is a growing number of young liberals who are as contemptuous of the Great Society as are the most strongly ideological conservatives. They see themselves as pragmatic liberals and, in describing themselves as pragmatists, seem to be distinguishing themselves from what we are to believe is the unworkable formulas of the Johnson Administration.

If we examine the specific programs favored by these liberals, it becomes clear that their own philosophy is riddled with contradictions. They generally favor as activist a government as did the Johnson Administration; many believe in a system of national health care, expanded government housing programs, more aid to education and the like. Thus very often their differences with Great Society liberalism are differences of style, and not of substance.

Another difference between traditional liberals and many of the newer liberals is the movements which produced them and the constituencies they represent. Many of the newly elected members of Congress represent suburban communities, areas that were traditionally strongholds of the Republican Party but which, in reaction to the scandals of the Nixon Administration and the economic failures of Gerald Ford, switched to the Democratic Party last November.

The Democrats elected by this more affluent constituency differ from traditional Democrats in that their priorities are in large measure defined by their wealthier constituents. For them, political change means first and foremost the reform of political structures, the protection of the environment, consumer issues and the like.

The people who elected them do not in principle like the idea of large government and so they, at least in their rhetoric, proclaim the value of bringing government closer to the people and warn of the dangers of too much government intervention.

The significance of this is that the new liberals, although they would vigorously deny it, will not always support positions which are in the best interest of the black community. Many of the newer liberals, for example, are enthusiastic about the revenue sharing concept, which was the principal domestic "innovation" of the Nixon Administration. Although proposed as a means of returning government to "the people," revenue sharing is in reality simply a means of transferring the responsibility for the spending of government funds from the federal government, which has historically been the most responsive arm of government to the needs of minorities, to the cities and states, whose attitude towards racial progress has been far less progressive.

ANOTHER CASE of new liberal support for measures which are opposite the interests of blacks is the recent vote of Colorado Sen. Gary Hart (D) in opposition to modification of Senate Rule 22 to weaken the use of filibusters in the Senate. Those familiar with the history of the civil rights movement can recall numerous instances of the use of the filibuster by southerners and conservatives to block civil rights laws. Rule 22 was a formidable (and outrageously undemocratic) hurdle to black progress.

Since his arrival in Washington, Sen. Hart has established himself as a spokesman for the new liberalism in the Democratic Party. During his campaign, he was fond of observing that neither conservative nor liberal doctrine is relevant to issues such as "inflation, energy, the environment, campaign reform or congressional reform."

This may or may not be true, though one doubts that the energy crisis or environmental problems can be resolved through traditional conservative means.

The point, however, is that issues like congressional reform and the environment are defined by Sen. Hart and those who share his ideology as the crucial issues of our time. What, one may ask, about unemployment, the disastrous condition of the cities, the nationwide housing shortage and the awful toll which the lack of decent schooling is exacting from young blacks? Somehow Sen. Hart has gotten his priorities mixed up.

I have yet to see a rationalization for Hart's opposing reform of the filibuster rule. No doubt he has his reasons. The fact remains that he has aligned himself with forces which have again and again opposed the extension of the basic rights of minorities and working people, and has supported one of the worst legacies of the days of Dixiecrat domination in Congress.

Major Loopholes Remain:

Full-Scale Reforms Essential As Follow-Up on Tax Package

TAX CUT-REBATE legislation shaped by Congress is "overall an excellent package" to help spur the sagging economy, but leaves undone most of the comprehensive reform needed for tax law fairness and equity, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison said.

With about 90 percent of the money going to taxpayers earning less than $20,000 a year, nearly all of the $22.8 billion will go directly into the mainstream of U.S. production as low- and middle-income people buy durable goods they need but have delayed buying, Denison noted.

He said that if Congress hadn't rejected President Ford's idea of giving people in the highest income brackets up to $1,000 and next to nothing to the poor the biggest share of the rebates would have ended up in savings accounts or paying off past debts, and would have done little to put the nation's 9.1 million jobless back to work.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Denison said Congress should quickly turn to the matter of tax reform.

He said that not only has the tax burden shifted more and more on individual taxpayers and away from corporations over the years, but inflation has cut buying power while pushing individuals into higher brackets where federal taxes take a much greater part of their income.

Denison renewed labor's long-standing call to plug major loopholes in the tax laws, such as estate and gift taxes, capital gains and tax-free municipal bonds. He said that although Congress did take an important step toward ending oil depletion allowances, there are "many remaining abuses in the oil area—the intangible drilling allowance and others."

He said that a comprehensive program to revamp the tax code must be faced up to by Congress, not moved to back-burner status in the wake of the emergency tax-cut bill.

He said that the money applied to home-buying-credits in the emergency bill would have produced five times as many homes if it had been used for interest rate subsidies, the difference between 6 and 7 percent and the market rate. The biggest worry of Americans who need homes isn't the down payment, he asserted; the real problem is whether or not they can handle the monthly payments on the mortgage.

Denison was questioned by Donald Phillips of United Press International and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

ONE OF THE LEAST understood problems or issues on the national scene is that of malpractice insurance for doctors. A Senate Subcommittee on Health is holding hearings on malpractice insurance and it is hoped that it will bring to light more of the facts and dispel current myths about the problem.

Doctors, hospitals and patients face a crisis over the availability and cost of medical care unless the insurance issue is resolved.

The right of a patient to seek redress in the courts when mishandled by a doctor or a hospital is defended by the American Trial Lawyers Association as the "patient's right to litigate."

Yet the patient normally receives precious little of the money involved, and malpractice insurance premium costs are skyrocketing—rising from $61 million to an estimated $1 billion between 1960 and 1975.

"Many experts contend that as little as 16 cents of each premium dollar paid is actually recovered by the injured patient." Sen. Edward M. Kennedy said recently in a speech before the National Conference on Medical Malpractice in Arlington, Va. "The rest is consumed by court costs, legal fees and the multiplicity of other charges before reaching settlements.

"It is the patient who also pays in lost time under the present tort system of resolving malpractice disputes.

"It is the patient who also pays the indirect costs of the present system of medical malpractice. Recent opinion surveys report that between 50 and 70 percent of physicians polled said they engaged in various forms of defensive medicine."

Defensive medicine means that billions of dollars are spent each year on unnecessary X-rays, unnecessary laboratory tests, unnecessary hospitalizations and unnecessary doctor's visits.

KENNEDY IDENTIFIED some of the causes of the malpractice crisis:

Complexity of medicine—Specialization has contributed to the deterioration of the doctor-patient relationship. No longer is there a family doctor; rather there is Jack Jones, M.D., a professional corporation.

The insurance industry—According to its own data, more than one-third of each premium dollar goes for acquisition, production, administration and general company overhead. Even though the companies claim that losses incurred have exceeded premium income for every year since 1968, a substantial proportion of those losses represent the insurers' valuation of "future potential claims." They are not actual losses.

"I would like to know," Kennedy says, "just why malpractice insurance rates have doubled and tripled in the past two or three years, and I believe doctors and patients would like to know the answer as well. It is all too reminiscent of what happened to gas and oil prices during the Arab embargo."

State insurance commissioners—Kennedy says they have been negligent, impotent and ineffective. The problem of medical malpractice has traditionally been handled at the state level. "The time is overdue," he said, "for the federal government to take a more active role."

Attorneys and trial lawyers—A major share—over 50 percent of the malpractice premium goes to defense and plaintiff attorneys' fees, over half a billion dollars.

Kennedy proposes two measures to bring the federal government into the malpractice area. One would establish an insurance fund within the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to compensate patients for injuries received from medical care. It would be supported by premiums paid by doctors and other health providers. A second would establish a network in which all claims resulting from medical injury would be subject to non-binding arbitration.

Above all he believes the entire malpractice program should be linked with national health insurance, since most of the medically-related costs of injury would already be covered.

TAX-CUT AND REBATE legislation, though an "excellent package," leaves undone most of the major overhaul needed to bring the tax laws into line with fairness and justice, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Donald Phillips, left, of United Press International and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The AFL-CIO produced program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Labor's Action Plan: a 10-Week Report

Following is the text of a report from AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller to Federation President George Meany.

ON JANUARY 23—10 weeks ago—the AFL-CIO General Board adopted an Action Program to Get America Back to Work.

This comprehensive, emergency program focused public attention on the President's potentially disastrous proposals and the failure of the Democratic-controlled Congress up to that time to develop its own equitable, effective, compassionate program.

Since the Action Program was adopted, there has been some action—action by the Administration in accepting some compromises and moderating some of its hard-line proposals and action by the Congress both on specific legislation and in developing its own program.

But much more remains to be done to restore economic health to America, put her unemployed citizens back to work and halt the dangerous economic downslide that continues unabated with no end yet in sight.

This, then, is a report on the actions taken thus far by the Administration, the Congress, the courts and the labor movement to implement the specifics of the AFL-CIO Action Program to Get America Back to Work.

The Action Program called for:

I. "An immediate tax cut of at least $20 billion, primarily for low- and middle-income taxpayers, to stimulate the economy through added purchasing power."

The House acted quickly on a tax cut of approximately $21 billion, significantly improving on the President's lopsided tax rebate scheme to benefit upper-income families by concentrating the benefits of tax cuts for low- and middle-income taxpayers.

However, on Feb. 20, the AFL-CIO Executive Council noted the daily worsening economy and called on the Senate to increase the tax cut to approximately $30 billion. The Senate swiftly passed a $30 billion tax cut proposal and, like the House, designed the tax cut to expand the purchasing power of those who need it the most and who would spend the money immediately to stimulate the economy.

A House-Senate conference committee promptly reported out a compromise bill containing a tax cut of nearly $25 billion. The bill, which was passed by the Congress and signed by the President despite threats he might veto it, is a substantial improvement on the President's initial rebate proposal. While varying in details from the AFL-CIO proposal, it meets our goal of concentrating benefits for low- and middle-income families, including those working poor who do not earn enough to pay income taxes.

As part of the tax-cut measure, the Congress substantially repealed the oil depletion allowance without delaying the tax cut, thus achieving a long-standing AFL-CIO objective. Because of the quick action by the Congress, the stimulus to the economy will begin in May.

It is imperative, however, that the Congress now begin to promptly work on closing the loopholes of special tax privilege for the wealthy and the corporations, as the General Board stated on January 23. Closing these loopholes would raise about $30 billion in badly-needed federal general revenues, thus reducing the anticipated federal budget deficit while restoring equity to the tax structure.

II. "Immediate government measures to reduce America's dependence on imported oil and establishment of a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing."

Action on this plank of the General Board's program has not been as swift as is necessary to meet the emergency. To date, the Congress has completed action on only two of the 10 specific steps the AFL-CIO General Board urged.

- It repealed the President's authority to impose a $3 per barrel duty on imported oil. While the President did veto this bill after he had imposed a $1 per barrel duty, he agreed to delay imposing the remaining $2 pending congressional action on an energy program. Thus, the President abandoned his hard-line position and sought a compromise with the Congress, and the Congress postponed an attempt to override the veto for the present time.

- As part of the tax-cut bill, the Congress eliminated the depletion allowance on foreign oil operations and moved to partially close the loophole by which international oil companies received a dollar-for-dollar credit against U.S. taxes for royalty and tax payments to foreign governments.

Additionally, the Congress has begun work on several of the other energy proposals made by the General Board. For example, House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) has introduced a comprehensive energy proposal which is more equitable than the Administration proposal of rationing strictly by high price. Included in his bill is a quota on imports and creation of a government agency to handle oil imports—both key steps in our Action Program.

The Senate is debating a bill, S. 622, which would give the President standby authority to control production, allocation and consumption of fuel with veto power by the Congress. Obviously, standby authority is less preferable than a comprehensive, equitable, specific program enacted by the Congress.

The Environmental Protection Agency has extended the deadline on auto emission standards for one year, but any further extension, as called for in our Action Program, must be acted upon by the Congress.

Unless it has a last minute change of policy, the Administration still plans to ask the Congress to deregulate the price of "old" domestic oil (oil that is presently being produced from U.S. wells). If President Ford takes this unwarranted and inflationary step, the Congress will have only five days to block it. Therefore, it is imperative that senators and representatives know the labor movement strongly opposes the deregulation of domestic crude oil and natural gas.

III. "Immediate reduction of interest rates and allocation of credit for high-priority social and economic activities."

The Congress has passed a "sense of the Congress" resolution urging the Federal Reserve Board to increase monetary and credit supplies and to seek lower long-term interest rates. This is far from adequate.

Although the Federal Reserve Board has belatedly reduced the discount rate to 6¼ percent, it has done nothing to allocate credit to housing and other socially-useful areas.

Just prior to the General Board meeting, the Administration finally released $215 million in impounded funds for low-interest loans to developers of housing for the elderly and handicapped. Again, much more must be done.

The Congress took a first step by opposing the impoundment of $264 million in Section 235 housing assistance funds, but it may take a court suit to force the Administration to release these badly-needed funds for the depressed housing industry.

Additionally, the Congress is taking action on the following legislation of vital importance to the labor movement:

- The House passed the Emergency Middle Income Housing Act, HR 4485, which would provide a partial subsidy of mortgage interest rates for middle-income families who buy newly-constructed homes.

- The House Banking Committee has unanimously approved HR 5498, the Emergency Homeowners' Relief Act, which would provide federal loans of up to $250 a month for two years to homeowners who lose their jobs and are in danger of having their mortgages foreclosed.

IV. "Immediate, massive federal efforts to create jobs for the unemployed."

A combination of actions by the Administration, the Congress and the courts has released a substantial portion of the $19 billion in appropriated funds impounded by the President, as called for by our Action Program. These released funds include:

- $4 billion of the $9 billion of impounded funds for construction grants for sewers and waste treatment plants, released by the President on Jan. 27.

- The remaining $5 billion of these funds, ordered released by the Supreme Court on Feb. 19.

- $2 billion of nearly $4.4 billion of impounded funds for federal aid to highways, released by the President on Feb. 11. The following day, a U.S. District Court judge ruled the President did not have the power to impound highway funds, but this decision is being appealed.

The Congress also refused to agree to the impoundment of $284.7 million for hospital construction and modernization, as well as impoundments of more than $1.5 billion in various programs.

But the President has announced he intends to impound about $6 billion more in highway funds for Fiscal 1976. Hopefully, the courts will continue the trend of their present rulings and order these funds released.

The Congress is working on several job-creating programs supported by the AFL-CIO, including:

—A $5 billion Accelerated Public Works program, HR 5247, to provide grants to communities with high unemployment to enable them to step up short-term construction and repairs of public facilities. This bill would create a minimum of 250,000 on-site jobs and probably an equal number of support jobs.

—A $5.9 billion Emergency Employment Bill, HR 4481, to create jobs in the public and private sector which passed the House on Mar. 12 and is currently being considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

House and Senate Committees are working on similar bills that would create an additional 700,000 to one million public service jobs.

These bills are all in line with our Action Program. However, they face strong opposition from the Administration which argues they would increase the federal deficit.

Therefore it is important that senators and representatives understand that the principal cause of the budget deficit is unemployment. When the unemployed find jobs they will once again be taxpayers and the deficit will drop.

V. "Immediate action to protect existing jobs from unfair foreign competition."

The President has not attempted to use even the limited tools available to him under the Trade Act of 1974 to establish quotas on imports of industrial goods, impose import restrictions against countries whose trade practices discriminate against U.S. goods, or place export controls on raw materials and other products in short domestic supply.

The Congress, on the other hand, as part of the tax-cut package, has taken partial steps toward eliminating the deferral of tax payments on foreign-earned profits and repeal of the foreign tax credit, both called for in our Action Program. Legislation is pending that would repeal Section 806:30 and 807 of the Tariff Code which encourage foreign production for shipment back to U.S. markets.

VI. "Immediate government assistance to the unemployed to minimize their hardships."

As part of the tax-cut package, the Congress approved an additional 13 weeks of unemployment benefits to workers in certain states with high unemployment. If the Congress had not acted, an estimated 250,000 unemployed would have exhausted the 52 weeks of payments to which they are entitled under the special provision of the law triggered by serious unemployment.

But this stop-gap will expire on June 30. Hearings will begin soon on revamping the unemployment insurance system, including a guarantee that the temporary extended benefits are available for the full year.

Both the House and the Senate are moving rapidly on providing health insurance coverage to workers who lose their coverage under employer-employe plans when they become unemployed (HR 4003 and S. 625). Again, this is only a stop-gap, but the House Ways & Means Subcommittee on Health is planning hearings on national health insurance, as called for by the General Board.

While there has been no action on the welfare proposals made by the General Board, the Congress quickly blocked an Administration effort to make the poor and the unemployed pay more for food stamps.

As part of our Action Program, the General Board called on unions to undertake special programs to assist their unemployed members.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services is working with national public, private and voluntary agencies to better coordinate services to the unemployed on a local level. Many central bodies have established procedures to refer unemployed workers to assistance programs and cut through the administrative red tape that often delays receipt of food stamps or unemployment compensation.

The Human Resources Development Institute is working with central bodies in various ways from job counseling and referral to obtaining training funds to train unemployed workers to handle unemployment and food stamp claims. Hundreds of union halls are being used as emergency centers to process unemployment claims and for referrals to emergency assistance of all kinds.

Emergency conferences have been held by state AFL-CIO central bodies in 25 states—with at least 15 others scheduled shortly—to alert state officials and the general public to the crisis facing the unemployed. Other programs have been held in scores of localities, sometimes with the assistance of organizations like the A. Philip Randolph Institute. These conferences have been very effective in informing senators and representatives of the dimensions of the recession and the suffering of the people in their own states, and the grass roots support of the labor movement for our Action Program.

The General Board also opposed the President's proposed 5 percent ceiling on mandated cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security and other government retirement programs and a similar 5 percent ceiling on pay increases for federal employes.

The House Budget Committee has regrettably and shortsightedly made a tentative decision to go along with the President's proposal of a 5 percent ceiling on federal pay increases. Further, the Committee voted only a 7 percent increase in Social Security and other retirement programs. These decisions are clearly contrary to the public interest.

If the labor movement is to be successful in overturning this misguided action by the committee, senators and representatives must know that their constituents will not stand for unfair and inequitable burdens being placed on the elderly and government employes.

* * *

In summary, there has been action by the Congress and the Administration, but much more needs to be done and must be done if the economy is going to be turned around.

Passage of the tax cut and the blocking of efforts to increase the price of food stamps were major victories. But alone they will not restore economic health to America and jobs to the unemployed.

Therefore, it is my recommendation that all AFL-CIO affiliates and state and local central bodies redouble their efforts in support of our Action Program. This means visits to senators and representatives when they are home, letters and telephone calls in support of specific bills, working with state and local government officials to press for the release of impounded funds, and broad efforts to inform our members and the general public of our Action Progam and the ways it would help put America back to work.

Tax Cut Alone Not Enough:

Congress and Ford Pressed On Jobs Crisis Program

(Continued from Page 1)

To keep up with fast-moving developments in Congress, Meany suggested that union leaders carefully read the AFL-CIO News "so that you can keep your members fully informed."

Biemiller's legislative report noted that the action program's first point, an immediate tax cut to stimulate the economy, has now become law and is a substantial improvement over President Ford's proposals.

While it differs in some details from the AFL-CIO plan, "it meets our goal of concentrating benefits for low- and middle-income families, including those working poor who do not earn enough to pay income taxes."

Biemiller welcomed repeal of the oil depletion allowance without delaying the tax cut, and termed it "imperative" for Congress to move promptly to close "loopholes of special tax privilege for the wealthy and the corporations."

He stressed that closing loopholes would raise about $30 billion in federal revenues, "thus reducing the anticipated federal budget deficit while restoring equity to the tax structure."

Action has been less swift on the General Board's call for an equitable system of allocation and rationing of oil to lessen America's dependence on imported oil.

Biemiller noted that an energy bill being considered by the House Ways & Means Committee is "more equitable" than the Administration proposal of using high prices as a form of rationing. The bill would include a quota on imports and creation of a government agency to handle oil imports—both part of the AFL-CIO's action program.

A compromise between Congress and the President followed passage of a bill repealing Ford's authority to go ahead with his plans for a $3 a barrel tariff on imported oil—which would have pushed living costs still higher. Ford vetoed the bill but then announced he would not act at this time to go beyond the first-step $1-a-barrel oil tariff he had already imposed. In return, Congress did not try to override the veto.

Biemiller stressed labor's continued strong opposition to deregulation of the price of domestic crude oil and natural gas.

On the AFL-CIO's call for "immediate reduction of interest rates" Congress passed a "far from adequate" resolution urging the Federal Reserve Board to increase the money supply and to seek lower long-term interest rates.

The House has passed a bill providing a partial subsidy of mortgage interest rates for middle-income families who buy new homes, and a House committee has approved a loan program to prevent foreclosures of homes of persons who lose their jobs.

On labor's call for "massive federal efforts to create jobs for the unemployed, action by the Administration, Congress and the courts has released a substantial portion of the $19 billion that had been impounded by presidential order from funds previously voted by Congress.

Further, Congress has refused to go along with Ford's proposal to rescind or impound funds voted for hospital modernization and other programs that would help the economy.

The House has already passed a $5.9 billion emergency employment bill that would increase funds for job-creating programs. Still in congressional committees are bills for accelerated public works and expansion of public service employment.

"These bills are all in line with our action program," Biemiller said. "However, they face strong opposition from the Administration which argues they would increase the federal deficit." Congress must understand, he stressed, that "when the unemployed find jobs they will once again be taxpayers and the deficit will drop."

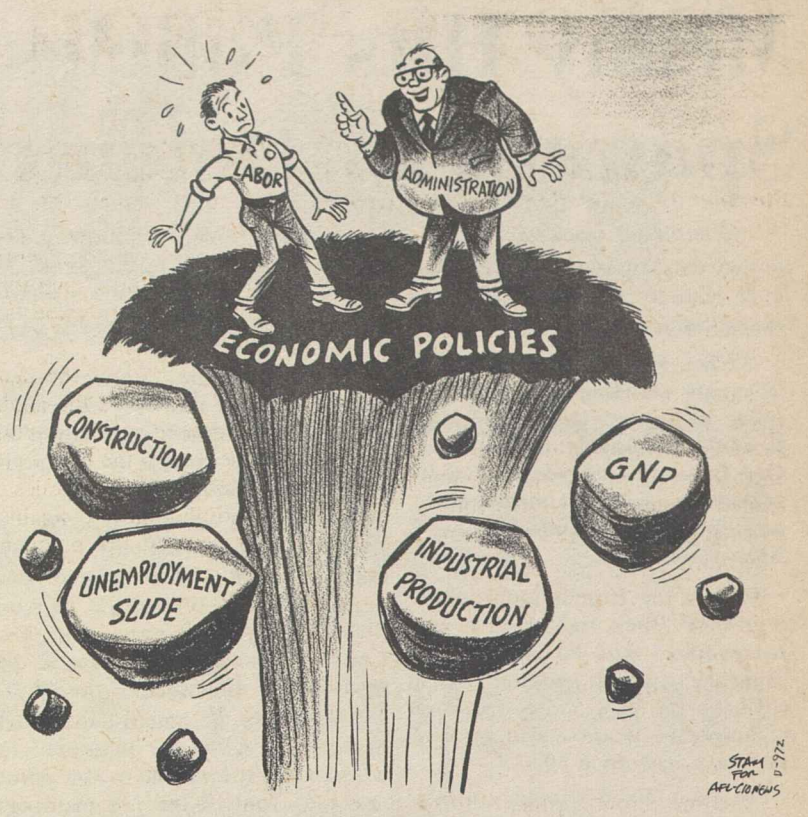
On the AFL-CIO call for protection of jobs against foreign competition, Biemiller noted that the President has made no use of even the limited tools available under the 1974 Trade Act to shield U.S. jobs. Congress has taken some partial steps towards closing loopholes in taxation of profits earned abroad. And legislation has been introduced to repeal two sections of the Tariff Code that encourage foreign production for shipment back to U.S. markets.

On immediate aid to the unemployed, Biemiller's legislative report cited the temporary extension of a program providing an additional 13 weeks of jobless benefits in states with the highest unemployment. And it noted the need to continue the program beyond its scheduled June 30 expiration date.

House and Senate committees are acting on legislation to provide health insurance for workers who lose their coverage when they become unemployed. And Congress decisively blocked an Administration effort to make the poor and unemployed pay more for food stamps.

In terms of labor's own contribution, the AFL-CIO Community Services Dept. and the Human Resources Development Institute have been working to cut red tape, speed emergency assistance and provide job counseling. Statewide conferences have focused attention on the problems of unemployment—and on labor's solutions.

'Relax, We'll Be Okay!'



St. Louis Carpenters Finance Home Loans

St. Louis—Trustees of the AFL-CIO Carpenters District Council Pension Fund here have made an additional $1.5 million available for new home loans in the council's 22-county area. The amount brings to $9.3 million the total that the trustees have provided for new home loans in eastern Missouri.

Ollie W. Langhorst, executive secretary-treasurer of the council, explained that the program is designed to boost new home sales, thereby creating jobs for the union's members.

"What started as a program to accelerate the growth of the pension fund has become a recession-fighting measure for AFL-CIO carpenters in this area," Langhorst said.

In the five years the program has been in existence, it has accounted for 248 homes built in the council's area, Langhorst said. This has meant from 500 to 1,000 manhours of work per house for carpenters alone, he observed.

Langhorst said the council launched the program in 1971 when it turned over a $2.5 million check to General American Life Insurance Co. of St. Louis. At that time tight money was curtailing housing construction in the area.

The pension fund trustees have found that investing in St. Louis area homes pays better than putting money in stocks and other securities, Langhorst said.

"All the money in our home mortgage fund is invested in new family housing," he said. "So far we have not had a single foreclosure."

The income from the housing fund earned much more than was returned by the pension trust's previous stock market investments, he noted, even though instructions were given to furnish the mortgage money at a rate .5 to 1 percent below market if necessary to insure good quality risks."

An insurance firm official said the Carpenters' fund last year earned 7.87 percent, compared with 7.66 percent in 1973.

The council's experience "has convinced us that it is not only smart investment policy, but good sense, to put as much money as possible and prudent to work in the St. Louis housing market," Langhorst said. "This produces paychecks for our members who have been hit hard by the slump in housing construction."

Official Jobless Rate Rises to 8.7%, 1.1 Million More Give Up Search

(Continued from Page 1)

The number of unemployed persons increased by 500,000 from February to March on a seasonally adjusted basis. At 8 million, the total number of officially counted jobless workers last month was 3.1 million above the August 1974 level when joblessness began its rapid climb.

"More than two-thirds of the increased unemployment in March can be traced to job loss, as the number of persons who lost their last job rose to 4.4 million," BLS said.

Since last August, the number of job losers has gone up by 2.3 million—about 700,000 women and 1.6 million men. This rise accounted for more than three-fourths of the overall increase in unemployment during the period, BLS said.

The March rise in joblessness was shared by virtually all worker groups. Rates were near or above all-time highs for adult women, 8.5 percent; teenagers, 20.6 percent; whites, 8 percent; blacks, 14.2 percent, household heads, 5.8 percent, and full-time workers, 8.3 percent.

The increases in the rates for adult men and married men over the month were particularly sharp, BLS reported. The rate for adult men rose from 6.2 to 6.8 percent while that for married men went from 4.7 to 5.2 percent.

The jobless rate for black teenagers shot up from 36.7 percent in February to an astounding 41.6 percent. The March rate for white teenagers was 18.1 percent, up from 17.5 percent the previous month.

Joblessness among construction workers also rose sharply, from 15.9 percent in February to 18.1 last month. Blue-collar workers experienced an increase in their rate from 10.9 to 12.5 percent over the month, more than double the 6 percent level a year earlier.

The rate for manufacturing workers climbed for the 10th consecutive month, rising from 11 to 11.4 percent from February to March. Like the blue-collar rate, the factory jobless level was more than double the year-earlier rate of 5 percent.

Long-term unemployment, a key "hardship" measure of joblessness, worsened further in March. The number of persons unemployed for 15 weeks or more increased by 169,000 over the month to just under two million, or 1,171,000 more than a year earlier. BLS noted that 25.3 percent of the total number of jobless workers in March had been without employment for 15 weeks or longer.

Meany pointed out that the 500,000 additional workers who joined the government's jobless rolls in March are the equivalent of more than the total working population of New Hampshire.

"It is as if the entire state of New Hampshire had been shut down," he said.

Total employment fell by nearly 200,000 in March to 83,849,000. Although the decline was not as large as in earlier months, it marked the sixth straight month of employment reductions, which have totaled 2.6 million since last September.

The number of "discouraged" workers—persons not seeking jobs because they believe they cannot find them—at a record 1.1 million in the first quarter of 1975 reached the highest level since these statistics were first reported in 1967.

The "discouraged worker" figures are produced only quarterly. Until this year, the number of such workers has fluctuated cyclically within a range of 550,000 to 850,000, BLS noted. Since the third quarter of 1974, the number of discouraged workers has risen by nearly half a million.

"A large proportion of the discouraged are younger or older workers, women and blacks—groups who experience the greatest difficulty in finding jobs," BLS said. Blacks, for example, accounted for about 30 percent of the discouraged total in the first quarter, a much larger ratio than their proportion of the labor force (11 percent).

BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin, in testimony before the congressional Joint Economic Committee the day the employment figures were released, called the unemployment situation "extremely serious."

Fight for Jobs Key to Rally, Abel Declares

The Industrial Union Department's Rally for Jobs Now, set for Washington on Apr. 26, is designed to "back up the AFL-CIO's fight for jobs and for programs to end this needless recession," IUD President I. W. Abel declared.

It is necessary, Abel said, to "remind the Administration, the Congress and the public that we must move forward on a broad economic front to provide Americans with jobs. We don't mean sometime, or next year we mean now."

The three-hour rally planned for the Kennedy Memorial Stadium will be opened by Abel. Officers of three IUD affiliates will be among the speakers: Glenn E. Watts, president of the Communications Workers; Paul Jennings, president of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Clothing Workers.

Several members of Congress will also speak, IUD Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman said.

G. J. Feaster Named Aide to Grospiron

Denver—George J. Feaster was named administrative assistant to President A. F. Grospiron of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers.

Feaster succeeds Robert Goss, who had been elected a vice president of the union. Feaster joined the OCAW staff in 1960 as an international representative and had been an assistant to OCAW Vice President Elwood D. Swisher since 1964.

Urges 'Credible' U.S. Position:

Meany Hits Policies Spawned by Detente

(Continued from Page 1)

warned that Israeli "intransigence" could lead to a "reassessment" of United States support.

"When you say to a friend of 27 years standing that you are going to reassess that friendship, it could reasonably be assumed that in some way you find that friendship no longer meaningful, perhaps even embarrassing," Meany observed.

He said the Israelis aren't about to give up "their right to live as a free people." And he pledged that "Histadrut and the people of Israel will have the help and cooperation of America's workers the same as they have had since 1924."

President Ford should consider reassessing "this thing called detente," Meany suggested.

The concept of detente, he declared, has not deterred the Communists from "naked aggression in Indochina, political blackmail in the Middle East combined with threats of force, an outrageous putsch in Portugal, a heating up of the cold war in Korea and a diplomatic and propaganda war in international institutions."

It defies common sense, Meany said, to suppose that the "disasters" in these areas "have no relation to our policies or to the overall policies of the Communist world."

To the Communist powers, Meany asserted, the term "peaceful co-existence" is a mere propaganda slogan. While the United States accepts the status quo, the Communists use every tactic to seize power and weaken the West.

Meanwhile, he noted, the United States has seen its influence in world affairs diminish to the point that only four of the 120 members of the United Nations opposed recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization—"an organization openly espousing violence and murder."

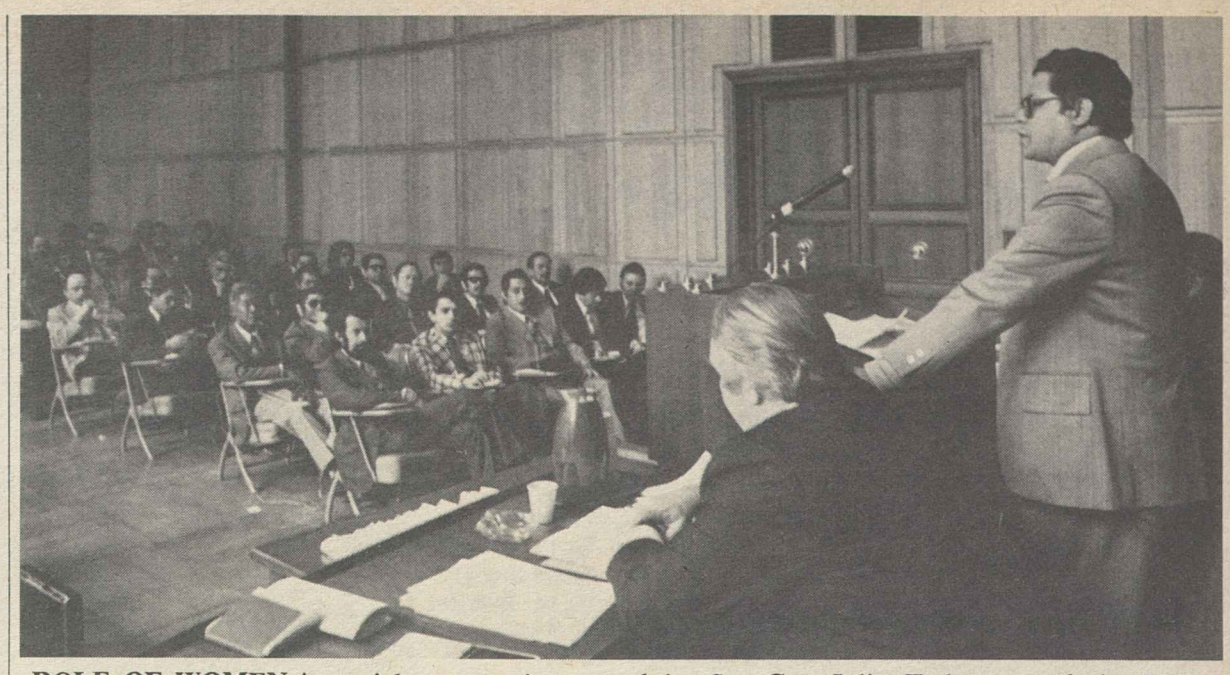
Just as UNESCO has become "a propaganda pawn for the Soviet Union," Meany warned that the International Labor Organization is moving in the same direction.

Meany said the responsibility for failure to meet America's continuing responsibilities in Vietnam must be shared by both Congress and the Administration.

"The President and his Secretary of State cannot forever sing the soothing lullabies of detente and expect the American people and their representatives in Congress to support a strong national defense coupled with a vigorous defense of freedom in the world."

Meany declared that "America will be strong only if its people believe there is a need to be strong."

He warned that President Ford "cannot—any more than his predecessor—resolve the contradiction of proclaiming detente on the one hand and demanding of the American people a continuing level of vigilance and sacrifice for the cause of freedom."



ROLE OF WOMEN in social progress is stressed by Sec.-Gen Julio Etcheverry of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers (ORIT) at graduation exercises of the American Institute for Free Labor Development. Thirty-eight trade unionists from 15 Latin American countries were in the 58th AIFLD training program conducted at Front Royal, Va.

Ship Unions Back Vietnamese Sealift

America's maritime unions pledged their full support and willingness to participate in U.S. efforts to rescue victims of the war in Vietnam.

"The seagoing affiliates of the AFL-CIO are ready to assist in this humane effort," the federation's Maritime Trades Dept. declared in a resolution.

"As they have done on numerous occasions in the past," the resolution continued, "the American shipping unions and maritime workers pledge their full efforts to the successful completion of the Vietnamese sealift and evacuation. The desperate plight of these innocent victims of war cries out for help."

Texas Airline Walkout Wins Major Gains

Houston — The Air Line Employees Association concluded its four-month strike against Texas International Airlines with ratification of a new 32-month contract. The agreement provides an estimated 40 percent increase in wages over its term.

ALEA President Victor J. Herbert said the contract would raise top salaries to $17,160 for chief station agents, $16,980 for chief reservation agents, and $13,260 for chief accounting clerks. The contract, covering 1,100 workers, is retroactive to last Aug. 1.

The union and the airline settled their contract differences on Mar. 13, Herbert said, but final settlement was delayed while back-to-work agreements were worked out for ALEA members and for 900 members of four other unions that supported the strike.

Herbert noted that the Air Lines Pilots, the Flight Attendants, the Machinists and the Transport Workers—all of whom had members employed by the Houston-based carrier—gave 100 percent support to the walkout.

ALEA, an affiliate of the Pilots, struck the Texas airline last Dec. 1 after the firm refused to reach agreement through arbitration. It was the union's first strike against the carrier in 22 years of representing its workers.

In addition to salary increases, the new agreement provides for a better pension plan, insurance improvements, added job security, a 10th paid holiday and an improved vacation schedule.

ALEA noted that Texas International was eligible to collect $10.8 million in benefits under the airline industry's so-called Mutual Aid Pact, the anti-labor agreement that has helped prolong strikes against many of the nation's air carriers.

Texas International serves 70 cities in a nine-state area of the Southwest and in Mexico.

New Construction Panel To Assist Bargaining

A labor-management Collective Bargaining Committee in Construction is being set up under an executive order by President Ford to encourage peaceful negotiations through effective bargaining in the industry.

The committee will consist of 10 representatives from labor and 10 from management who will be appointed by Ford. Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop will serve as chairman and W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, will participate as a committee member.

The committee will have no enforcement authority to reduce or disallow negotiated wage increases as the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee had when economic controls were in effect, but it will be able to make settlement recommendations in contract disputes.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. sees the new committee as "a forum where progress could be made, but only the future will tell."

He said the committee would interest itself in collective bargaining and attempt to improve it where possible, would seek ways to develop better and quicker methods of settling disputes and would deal with manpower problems and work volume within the relationship that exists between the federal government and the construction industry.

"Most important," Georgine said, "everyone should know that we have no stabilization responsibilities or authority. If the committee has meaningful discussions, it could mean progress for the construction industry. We start out with the advantage that every single member of the committee is knowledgeable in construction and deeply involved in it, so we have a group of people talking about things they're expert in."

The prime functions of the committee will be to facilitate the collective bargaining process at the local and regional level, help create a data bank on wages and benefits, encourage peaceful negotiations of "responsible" agreements, encourage local and regional coordinated bargaining where appropriate, and seek to resolve disputes that can't be settled through other means.

Ford's executive order gives the committee authority to hold meetings with parties involved in disputes and to make recommendations aimed at reaching agreement. It also is mandated to promote effective machinery to resolve disputes, "which recognizes the interests of each branch of the industry and preserves existing procedures that have been effective."

The committee's other functions include:

- Review and analyze manpower needs and availability under collective bargaining agreements.
- Study measures to reduce job instability and provide for more weeks of work per year.
- Consider means to increase productivity under collective bargaining agreements.
- Improve wage and benefits data to facilitate local and regional bargaining and widen the role of national organizations in disputes settlements.
- Consider problems arising from the activities of federal agencies.
- Encourage development of joint local or regional committees comparable to the federal panel.

Variable Interest Held No Aid to Homebuyers

Variable interest rates on home mortgages won't help either the housing industry or home buyers, AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

He urged House and Senate subcommittees to "totally reject" a proposal by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board to authorize federally chartered savings and loan associations to issue mortgages carrying fluctuating interest rates. The interest charge would move up or down on a scale keyed to the return on corporate bond issues.

Meany said this would aggravate inflation by raising mortgage payments at a time when homeowners are hardest hit by inflation and workers suffer a loss of buying power of their paychecks.

Further, he said, the amount of added revenue wouldn't be of any significant help to savings institutions competing for money. If anything, they would be under pressure to invest funds in other types of loans, thus further slowing the flow of mortgage money.

Meany wrote members of the House and Senate panels dealing with the legislation that "the AFL-CIO sees nothing to be gained and much to be lost from this proposal."

The real problem, he suggested, is that during periods of restrictive monetary policy—the tool that recent administrations have used to combat inflation—bank funds tend to be channeled into investments other than housing.

The solution, Meany suggested, is for the government to make use of powers that it has had but never used to allocate credit.

4-12-75

Harold Feinmark Dies, Ex-Connecticut Leader

New Haven, Conn. — Harold Feinmark, a former president of the New Haven Central Labor Council and secretary-treasurer of the Connecticut Federation of Labor in the mid-1940s, died here Mar. 31. He was 80.

Feinmark had been a member of the Typographical Union since 1917 and was a past president of the New England Conference of the ITU.

Unions Fight 5% Lid on Federal Pay

(Continued from Page 1)

on civil service and railroad retirement payments.

There is no reason for government employes to bear the brunt of the economy move, McClennan stressed in letters to the Democratic and Republican leaders of the House and Senate. "No group in the private sector of the economy is being asked to make any similar sacrifice."

McClennan, who heads the Fire Fighters, also strongly urged approval of a package of emergency aid to cities proposed by Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.). It would be "foolhardy and dangerous" to refuse the assistance, McClennan said.

Inflation won't be halted by "panicky steps" to hold down government spending, he said. The "road to economic health" lies in reducing unemployment and stimulating the economy.

McClennan cited estimates that each 1 percent of unemployment costs the nation about $15 billion a year.

Full employment is the answer, he said, not "ill-considered measures that will make the recession worse, will do nothing to halt inflation, and will cause widespread human distress."

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Mortgage Aid Bill Clears House by Strong Majority

U.S. Output Off 10.4% In Quarter

The nation's economy turned in its worst performance of any quarter since the depression of the 1930s in the January-March period, as real gross national product dropped off by an adjusted annual rate of 10.4 percent, the Commerce Dept. reported.

The sharp decline in the value of the country's total output of goods and services "underscores how difficult it is to move the economy back up to where it was" in 1973 before the recession started, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger observed.

The decline was the fifth consecutive quarterly drop in real GNP, casting further doubt that economic recovery is anywhere yet in sight.

Announcement of the continued slide in GNP came on the heels of other government reports showing the housing industry still slumping, industrial production down for the sixth month in a row, unemployment insurance claims mounting, and auto sales off sharply.

The rate of inflation dropped, however. The overall price rise during the three months was at an annual rate of 8 percent, down from the 14.4 percent of the previous quarter and the lowest since mid-1973.

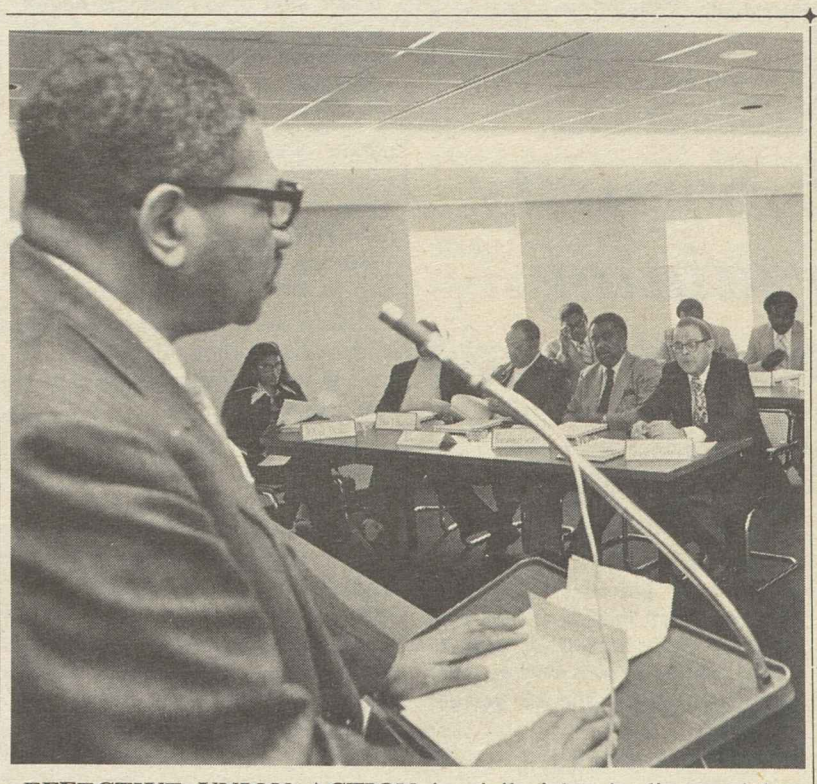
The first-quarter drop in real GNP followed downturns of 9 percent in the previous quarter, 1.9 percent in the third quarter of 1974, 1.6 percent in last year's spring quarter and 7 percent in the opening months of 1974.

Earlier, the Federal Reserve Board reported industrial production fell by 1 percent in March, due largely to lower production of business equipment, construction products and industrial materials.

In a separate report, the Fed noted that factories operated at only 68.3 percent of capacity in the first three months of the year, down from 75.7 percent in the 1974 fourth quarter and below the previous record low of 72.5 percent in the second quarter of 1958.

Other gloomy economic news came from the Labor Dept.'s weekly figures on unemployment insurance claims. Twenty-four states reported higher volumes, with 6,369,000 workers drawing benefits in the week ended Mar. 29. An additional 554,300 new claims were filed in the week ended Apr. 5.

Housing starts and new permits for future housing construction, meanwhile, dropped to their second-lowest rates on record in March, the Commerce Dept. said. The number of new homes begun that month ran at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 980,000.



EFFECTIVE UNION ACTION in civil rights is discussed by AFL-CIO Vice President Frederick O'Neal at a two-day seminar at the federation's Labor Studies Center. O'Neal, president of the Actors & Artistes, heads the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Plan Seeks to Avert Home Foreclosures

By David L. Perlman

Congress moved to avert a flood of home foreclosures in the wake of rising unemployment that is forcing thousands of homeowners to default on their mortgage payments.

Despite Administration hostility, the House voted 321-21 for a program of government loans of up to $250 a month to unemployed persons who would otherwise lose their homes.

A similar bill has already been approved by the Senate's Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committee along with a package of other housing assistance measures.

The home foreclosure bill had strong labor support and the AFL-CIO Executive Council stressed at its February meeting the "urgent need" for the legislation.

As passed by the House, homeowners threatened with foreclosure could obtain a government loan not exceeding $250 a month for a maximum of two years to meet mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance.

The property involved must be the principal residence of the homeowner, unemployment or underemployment must have been involuntary, the loans would have to be repaid and there would have to be a reasonable expectation that mortgage payments could be resumed after a period of government help.

The legislation authorizes up to $500 million in government loans over the next three years, an amount considered adequate to help up to 300,000 homeowners.

The last time Congress tackled the problem of home foreclosures resulting from an unemployment crisis was during the depression of the 1930s. The result was the Home Owners Loan Corp., established in 1933, to refinance mort-

(Continued on Page 8)

Job Losses Heavy for Adult Men

Rising joblessness hit men harder than women and teenagers in the first three months of the year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported, and its impact over the past year has been particularly heavy on male family breadwinners.

In an analysis of overall trends in the nation's labor force during the first quarter of 1975, BLS reported that "employment of adult women (at 29.8 million) was the same as a year ago, but adult male and teenage employment were 1.3 million and 500,000, respectively, lower than a year earlier."

Unemployment over the three-month period jumped by 1.6 million, to a total of 7.7 million, pushing the jobless rate to an average 8.3 percent. The rate compares with 6.6 percent in the final quarter of 1973.

At the end of the quarter, the national unemployment rate was 8.7 percent with 8 million workers without jobs, a pace that is expected to quicken by midsummer, most observers believe.

(Continued on Page 8)

Deadly Risk to Workers:

Unions Press Curb On Toxic Chemicals

By John R. Oravec

Hazardous chemicals are a deadly risk to millions of workers and their families, the AFL-CIO warned in calling for swift congressional action on legislation to control toxic substances.

A strong bill is needed to fill the gap existing in current environmental and occupational health legislation to protect both the public and the nation's workers, a Senate Commerce subcommittee was told by five representatives of organized labor.

The bill before the Senate would give the Environmental Protection Agency authority to screen all toxic substances before they are introduced in the workplace.

"We are particularly concerned over the alarming incidence of occupational illnesses in the workplaces of America," AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller testified.

"These diseases not only incapacitate; they kill. And the effects can be carried into the next generation."

The chemical revolution—which has spawned the development of thousands of new substances every year—carries a deadly risk to the entire environment, affecting consumers and workers alike, Biemiller declared.

Organized labor has supported the passage of toxic substance controls in the last three Congresses, but in each instance the effort fell short. Last year, measures were approved by both houses of Congress before the legislation died in conference.

Biemiller pointed out that while controls are placed on numerous consumer products before they are sold over the counter, no such protection for workers is provided in the Occupational Safety & Health Act and thousands of chemicals are used in industry that have not been screened. Only when a substance

(Continued on Page 3)

More Public TV Aid, U.S. Programs Urged

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to provide more federal funds for non-commercial public broadcasting and to require that programs financed by tax dollars be produced in the United States, not purchased from other countries.

The federation's testimony was presented by Jack Golodner, executive secretary of the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees, at House hearings. A Commerce subcommittee headed by Rep. Torbert H. Macdonald (D-Mass.) is considering a bill that would provide an automatic flow of federal funds to public broadcasting over a five-year period, keyed to federal grants of up to $1 for each $2.50 raised from non-government sources.

Golodner endorsed the concept of the bill but urged approval of a higher dollar ceiling than the Administration has proposed. A higher federal payment has been sought by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which disperses the funds.

Golodner praised the CPB for its production grants to develop qual-

(Continued on Page 7)

Minimum Wage Brief Refutes State Challenge

The AFL-CIO has asked the Supreme Court to reject a states' rights interpretation of the Constitution that would deny protection of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act to 3.4 million public employes.

Congress brought them under the wage-hour law a year ago, but the National League of Cities and the State of California has blocked enforcement of the law through a constitutional challenge now before the Supreme Court.

At issue is the right of Congress to require local governments to comply with the minimum pay and overtime standards imposed on private employers. The suit by the cities particularly challenges the regulation of overtime pay for fire fighters and police officers.

Although the Supreme Court in 1968 had upheld the constitutionality of an earlier extension of the Fair Labor Standards Act to certain groups of public workers, the composition of the court has changed since then, and the city governments contend that the two cases are not identical.

The AFL-CIO, in a brief supporting the Labor Dept. position for enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act, said Congress properly brought public employes under

(Continued on Page 8)

RALLY FOR PASSAGE of National Health Security legislation in the 94th Congress is launched at a strategy meeting of the Committee for National Health Insurance. AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller presides at a luncheon session. From left are Presidents William Sidell of the Carpenters, Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers and Leonard Woodcock of the Auto Workers, and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), chief Senate sponsor of the bill.

At 2-Day Conference:

Strong Push Given Health Security Bill

By James M. Shevis

A Washington conference on National Health Security mapped strategy to press for enactment of the program by the 94th Congress with an all-out drive in the months ahead.

"This is a much more responsive Congress than we had last year," Leonard Woodcock, Auto Workers president and chairman of the Committee for National Health Insurance, told some 300 delegates representing state, local and national organizations supporting Health Security.

"We are going to make a major fight to get national health insurance legislation out of this session of Congress," Woodcock declared.

"Two hundred years ago, our nation was founded on certain principles and defined rights," he noted. " 'To Provide for the Common Welfare.' 'Unalienable Rights' —among them, the rights to life and to the pursuit of happiness.

"Have we provided for the common welfare when adequate health care is not available to the American people?"

Speaker after speaker at the two-day conference left little doubt of the answer.

Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.), a principal advocate of national health insurance, told the rally the country's medical bill now is $110 billion a year, "and there are big gaps" in the care citizens receive.

"The poor don't get the care they need and the middle class are forced to pay everything they have," he said. The bill he has introduced in the House would close these gaps, Corman said, making health care a basic American right.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), who has sponsored a similar measure in the Senate, said the Corman-Kennedy version of national health insurance is the "only bill that would provide a health insurance program as a birthright."

Introduced by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller as one who "has been in the forefront of the fight" for national health care for years, Kennedy noted the bill he filed in the Senate this year "goes farther than any other proposal to control health-care costs and assure every American family the health care it needs as a matter of right. . . .

"The proposal has been further improved for the 94th Congress by the Committee for National Health Insurance and the leadership of America's trade-union movement," he said.

Besides Woodcock, Corman and Kennedy, the delegates heard speakers in discussion groups explain how Health Security would deal with specific problems.

Bert Seidman, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, spoke on how Health Security would reform the delivery system. One big virtue, he said, is that "neither the patient nor the doctor need be concerned about payment for services rendered."

Under Health Security, bills would be fully paid through a trust fund with the federal government providing half the necessary financing from general revenues. The other half would come from a 1 percent tax on individual earners and a 2.5 percent tax on the self-employed, up to $20,000 a year, and a 3.5 percent tax on employers' payrolls.

Nelson Cruikshank, president of the National Council of Senior Citizens, discussed how Health Security would benefit the aged and the chronically ill.

Melvin A. Glasser, director of social security for the Auto Workers, pointed out that under Health Security, workers would pay less for quality health care than they now pay in private health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket expenses.

The discussion workshops were led by President I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers; President Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers; President James T. Housewright of the Retail Clerks; President Paul Jennings of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; President William Sidell of the Carpenters; President Arnold Miller of the Mine Workers; Nancy Perlman, director of program development for the State, County & Municipal Employees; Robert Strauber, education director for the Rubber Workers; Terry E. Herndon, executive secretary of the National Education Association; and Dr. Grover C. Bagby, associate general-secretary, board of church and society, United Methodist Church.

Purchasing Power, Job Security Key Issues in 1975 Bargaining

Even though the 1975 collective bargaining schedule is comparatively light, union negotiators still face a difficult year.

Two members of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, Rick Galleher and Patrick F. Mason, tell why in the March issue of the American Federationist, the AFL-CIO magazine.

"Collective bargaining in 1975 will be charged with the difficult task of negotiating agreements that will maintain and regain enough real purchasing power for workers to help form a basis for economic recovery while protecting workers' jobs in a severe recession," the authors observe.

Galleher, an economist, and Mason, a research assistant, note that last year's bargaining was carried out under conditions "almost unprecedented in their difficulty."

Inflation in 1974 rose over the year at the fastest rate since the end of World War II. Workers continued to see their buying power steadily decline. And the economy slid into the nation's worst recession since the 1930s.

In spite of these conditions, the article notes, collective bargaining last year made some substantial advances beyond wages and traditional fringes in such areas as cost-of-living clauses, supplementary unemployment benefits and job security.

This year's bargaining on major agreements—those covering 1,000 or more workers—embraces 2.5 million workers in the private, nonfarm sector, down sharply from the 5.2 million in 1974 and the 5 million in 1973.

The 1975 bargaining will be heaviest in the construction industry, with about 750,000 workers covered by contracts expiring or providing for reopeners. Negotiations this year also will affect more than 600,000 postal workers not counted in the private industry bargaining total.

Other key industries in which contracts are up for negotiation this year include petroleum, food, lumber, transportation—primarily airlines and maritime—retail trade, apparel and gas and electric utilities.

Most of the contracts expiring in 1975 were last negotiated during the economic controls period of the Nixon Administration when workers saw their wages restrained while prices continued to climb.

Galleher and Mason make these additional points about workers' wages this year:

- Deferred wage increases due in 1975 will bring 6.7 million workers wage boosts averaging 5.1 percent, or just over 30 cents an hour. In manufacturing, deferred increases will average 4.4 percent, or 22.2 cents; non-manufacturing gains will average 5.9 percent, or 39.5 cents.

In 1974, the average deferred increases were 4.6 percent for manufacturing and 5.5 percent in non-manufacturing for an overall rate of 5 percent.

- Deferred wage increases in contracts containing escalator clauses will average 4.4 percent for the 4.6 million covered. Contracts with deferred wage increases, but not containing escalator clauses, will average 6.5 percent and cover 2.2 million.

When deferred wage increases are combined with fringe benefits, the total deferred increases will average 5.7 percent during 1975 in agreements covering 5,000 workers or more. That compares to 6.2 percent in 1974 and 5.4 percent in 1973.

- For contracts expiring in 1975, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that in their previous negotiations under controls, the bargainers won an average annual increase of 6.8 percent, or 8.1 percent when subsequent cost-of-living increases are included.

The authors note that last year's spiraling inflation saw consumer prices rise at an average rate of 11 percent for the full year, almost double the annual average rate of 6.2 percent in 1973 which in turn was another sharp jump from the 3.3 percent in 1972.

"The rates of inflation in 1974 and 1973 were the largest 12-month rises since World War II price controls were lifted," the article points out.

Among the leading trends in 1974 bargaining, escalator provisions highlighted many negotiations. Galleher and Mason note that more than 3 million workers were covered by such wage protective clauses in settlements last year. This brought the total number of workers under major bargaining agreements with such protection to 5.3 million.

Meany Urges Aid For Viet Refugees

New York — Vietnamese who have fled by the hundreds of thousands from the "peace of tyranny" deserve the same humanitarian assistance accorded other waves of refugees, AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a message to the International Rescue Committee. The occasion was a Freedom Award dinner honoring Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.

Meany noted "the indescribable tragedy unfolding in Vietnam" for vast numbers of "innocent men, women and children."

And he expressed indignation that the "humanitarian effort by the United States to rescue innocent and defenseless people, including orphans, from the near certainty of slaughter has come under shocking attack from those whose commitment to the triumph of communism, or indifference to it, is untempered by the slightest tremor of compassion."

Conference Focuses On Civil Rights

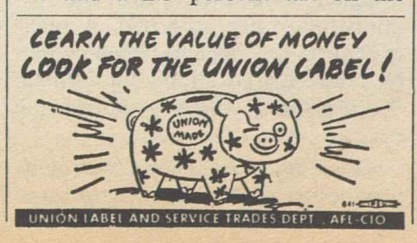
Full implementation of the civil rights policies of the AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions was explored at a two-day seminar at the federation's Labor Studies Center.

The 42 participants from 29 affiliates also discussed the administration of federal and state civil rights laws dealing with non-discriminatory clauses in collective bargaining agreements.

The two-day conference of lectures, discussions and workshops was sponsored by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights and the Labor Studies Center.

Union civil rights representatives were briefed on ways to guide their locals in meeting the requirements of Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act governing seniority rules and layoff procedures. The focus of the discussions was on the voluntary conformity to the civil rights code covering discrimination against minorities and women.

Other areas of study included efforts to have employers eliminate various forms of discrimination on hiring, work and layoff practices, guidelines for meeting federal contract compliance and legal implications of recent court rulings in civil rights cases.



Construction Trades Parley Keyed to Jobs

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. will look into problems of unemployed craftsmen and the depressed economy at its National Jobs Conference Apr. 21 which is expected to draw about 3,000 delegates.

Department President Robert A. Georgine said the one-day conference will investigate conditions in public works, highway and mass transportation, housing, joblessness, impoundment of federal funds, energy and the environment.

Position papers and resolutions adopted by the delegates will be delivered to all members of Congress the following day. BCTD representatives also will present statements before 10 Senate and House committees which have called special hearings dealing with the problems facing the construction industry and its more than 1 million unemployed workers.

Participating in the conference will be delegates selected by 399 local and 33 state Building & Construction Trades Councils.

In outlining the format of the conference, Georgine noted that it comes at a time when the construction industry is afflicted with the worst depression since the 1930s, resulting in ever mounting unemployment among the members of the 17 BCTD affiliated unions.

Delegates will focus their attention on three key areas: Detailed reports on the problems facing workers, proposals by BCTD union presidents dealing with the nation's economic crisis, and a department program for action to stabilize the economy and put the nation back to work.

At New Mexico Conference:

Latin Union Council Maps Programs for Expansion

By Rex Hardesty

Albuquerque, N.M.—A national structure with eight districts and a program to prepare for the 1976 election were adopted at the first national membership meeting of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

The meeting drew 145 delegates from 25 LCLAA chapters in 12 states, but another 141 Latino trade unionists attended as "observers," presaging further growth for the two-year-old organization.

The new district structure replaces the five districts set up at the group's founding meetings in 1973. The group also adopted a constitution stressing its role as a voter education organization and elected seven national officers.

Jacob Clayman, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., told the meeting that 73 percent of whites and 65 percent of blacks were registered in 1972, while only 49.4 percent of the Spanish population was registered.

Both Clayman and Don Slaiman, deputy director of the federation's Dept. of Organization & Field Services, related the current 8.7 percent unemployment to previous election losses and Nixon-Ford Administration policies. But Clayman held out the hope that "only in times of adversity is meaningful social reform accomplished," as in the wake of the 1930s.

The LCLAA districts make California, Texas, Florida and Illinois districts of their own, with Michigan and Ohio forming District 3, Arizona, Utah and Nevada combined in District 5, New Mexico and Colorado in District 6 and New York, Connecticut and New Jersey as District 7.

The financial report to the meeting stated that $44,000 had already been received or pledged from the AFL-CIO and international unions in 1975. The group hopes that further contributions from international unions and membership dues would enable the LCLAA to add a research specialist to its national headquarters staff and conduct two 1975 educational conferences to get ready for the 1976 elections.

The meeting adopted a dues structure of $15 per year per member, with $5 to be returned to local chapters, and empowered the executive board to suspend dues in the case of senior citizens or workers hit by layoffs.

Several resolutions adopted by the group also thanked the AFL-CIO and affiliated unions for the manpower assistance that enabled the LCLAA to begin voter registration activities in the 1974 elections. Other resolutions pledged continued close relations with the A. Philip Randolph Institute, the National Council of Senior Citizens, Frontlash, the Coalition of Labor Union Women and Auto Workers' voter education projects.

Officers elected at the two-day meeting included two new vice presidents—Henry Lacayo of the Auto Workers and Louise G. Olguin of the Retail Clerks.

LCLAA President Ray Mendoza of the Laborers was re-elected, as were Vice Presidents J. F. Otero of the Railway & Airline Clerks, Maria Portalatin of the Teachers and Franklin Garcia of the Meat Cutters and Sec.-Treas. Maclovio Barraza of the Steelworkers. Paul Montemayor of the Steelworkers is executive director, and the committee also elected 44 other board members.

A slide presentation by the National Council of La Raza emphasized the potential voting power of Latinos, and the meeting received more tangible evidence in the dual appearance of the nation's two Spanish-surnamed governors—Raul Castro of Arizona and Jerry Apodaca of New Mexico.

The meeting also heard from Peter MacDonald, chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council, whose 1974 political work in getting out the vote paralleled that of LCLAA. MacDonald recounted many of the same language problems in voter registration related by LCLAA speakers, with the added dimension that the structure of the Navajo chapters dictated "that a person whose chapter was located in Utah had to vote in Arizona."

Raul Yzaguirre and Roberto Olivas of La Raza estimated that the Latino population of the United States totaled 10.8 million in 1970.

LCLAA and La Raza plan continued cooperation in compiling a voter profile of the Latino community, with special emphasis on congressional districts and precincts in which Latinos are a minority but total more than the traditional margin of victory.

The revised constitution adopted at the meeting states that LCLAA "will not endorse candidates for political office." That language, replacing a ban on LCLAA support of rivals to labor-endorsed candidates, was passed after legal advice that endorsements could get the group into conflict with federal election law or force it to forego contributions from unions.

ELECTION COMMISSION member Thomas Harris, former associate general counsel of the AFL-CIO, takes the oath of office at a ceremony in the White House rose garden. The commission will oversee the new federal campaign reform law.

Curbs Sought On Chemicals In Workplace

(Continued from Page 1)

has been determined as hazardous to workers can the government act under the federal safety law. Even then, the process is slow.

Biemiller noted that the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health has a listing of 13,000 chemicals on which some kind of health information exists, but the agency has recommended standards for only 46. There are no standards for 1,300 cancer-causing chemicals that are on the NIOSH toxic substances list, he charged.

He urged the subcommittee to strengthen the Senate bill by including several amendments that would avoid jurisdictional conflicts between the EPA and other government agencies.

Jacob Clayman, secretary-treasurer of the Industrial Union Dept., told the subcommittee that interagency collaboration and separation of authority would be vital to the effective administration of the proposed law.

Clayman noted that a little overlapping between agencies has proved beneficial to both workers and consumers. He cited recent developments in issues involving agencies dealing with noise standards, vinyl chloride and toxic substances in drinking water.

Clayman suggested that EPA's research function be limited to short-term regulatory programs, leaving the long-term research program with NIOSH and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, working in consultation with the EPA administrator.

Legislative Director John J. Sheehan of the Steelworkers said that with labor's proposed amendments, the legislation would supplement occupational health laws by initiating controls on toxic substances before they can cause serious harm to workers.

Also testifying in the support of the bill were George Perkel, research director of the Textile Workers Union of America, and Louis H. Gordon, legislative director of the Paperworkers.

West Coast Machinists Ratify Aerospace Pact

Los Angeles—About 7,000 striking Machinists employed by McDonnell Douglas at the firm's West Coast and Cape Canaveral, Fla., facilities returned to work on Apr. 15 after ratifying a new three-year contract.

Acceptance of the pact ended a nine-week walkout that began when the two parties failed to reach agreement on a contract to replace one that expired last Sept. 15. The union had twice before rejected company settlement offers.

The new agreement, approved by 66 percent of those voting, covers IAM District 720 members employed at the aerospace firm's California plants at Torrance, Santa Monica, Palmdale, Long Beach and Huntington Beach and at Cape Canaveral.

The settlement does not affect about 12,000 IAM members on strike at the company's St. Louis headquarters. Negotiations there are continuing under the aegis of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Under the agreement, District 720 members will have their pay increased by 3 percent plus 12 cents an hour, retroactive to Sept. 15. The 12 cents is the amount workers would have received last October under an escalator clause in the old agreement.

The pact also calls for 3 percent wage hikes in the second and third years plus an uncapped cost-of-living clause providing for adjustments of one cent an hour for each rise of three-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index.

The pact also raises pension benefits from $8 to $9 a month times years of service prior to Sept. 15 and to $10 for service after that date. Medical care coverage and insurance benefits were improved.

The firm also agreed to pay workers for Thanksgiving and Christmas - New Year holiday periods last year. During the talks, the company locked out the workers and withheld their pay for these holidays.

District 720 negotiators kept intact a union-shop provision which McDonnell Douglas attempted to eliminate in its two previous contract offers.

While the old agreement expired seven months ago, union members continued to work while negotiations went forward. On Feb. 9, when District 837's contract at St. Louis expired, the strike got under way.

Extremist Group Mounts Campaign To Disrupt Local Labor Programs

York, Pa.—The "crazies" have come to this industrial community to carry on for free the anti-union disruptions that in an earlier era were done by employer-paid labor spies and thugs.

A handful of self-styled "revolutionaries" under the banner of the so-called U.S. Labor Party has mounted a sick campaign of obscene leaflets, disruption of union meetings by shouted profanities, and personal harassment of the area's union leaders.

The "Labor Party," with no ties to the trade union movement, has gained a certain notoriety by sending people with phony press credentials to union meetings and conventions around the country for the sole purpose of trying to disrupt meetings with shouts and name-calling.

The AFL-CIO earlier this year warned affiliates of some of the "front" names used by the group in seeking press credentials and the Auto Workers sued to prevent the U.S. Labor Party from calling its publication "New Solidarity" in an obvious attempt to confuse it with the UAW's newspaper, "Solidarity."

The president of the York-Adams Central Labor Council, Ed Clinch, a Machinist, Vice President Jack Barnhart, a Roofer, and Earl Keihl, a Furniture Workers representative, have been the chief targets of the harassment. Keihl is chairman of the council's special committee on unemployment and is currently working on arrangements for busloads of York area trade unionists to come to the Industrial Union Dept.'s Washington, D.C. rally on Apr. 26.

The goal of the "Labor Party's" members, Keihl said, appears to be to scuttle labor's jobs campaign.

At public meetings, their favorite epithet is "fascist." Their leaflets often include obscene cartoons. In a repetition of tactics used in other cities where the group has operated, every union leader is portrayed as a homosexual.

All three targets of harassment here have received anonymous phone calls at night, and a window in Keihl's home is pockmarked by pellets.

After having been ejected from a union meeting, three of the U.S. Labor Party members brought assault charges against the three trade union officials which were promptly dismissed in court.

Later, the county district attorney charged two of the extremists with illegal harassment, citing "lewd, lascivious and indecent language" in their attacks on the union leaders. But those charges also were dismissed.

Annoying as the personal harassment is, the community's union leadership sees the group's real threat as an impediment to organizing and as a potential source of disruption and division in a strike situation.

The disruptions have already spread beyond the trade union movement to the community at large, Keihl reported. He said a local meeting of senior citizens has already had a taste of the U.S. Labor Party tactics—a wild harangue from one of its spokesmen.

Fire Fighters Get New Training Pact

The Fire Fighters were awarded a new one-year Labor Dept. contract to recruit and train about 730 minority group persons to qualify for civil service registers leading to jobs on municipal fire departments.

The IAFF will receive a $400,000 grant to prepare candidates for examinations in 10 cities. Trainees will be given six weeks of special tutoring and physical conditioning in efforts to meet the requirements of the civil service tests.

Under the union's government-funded recruitment and training program, 725 blacks and Spanish-Americans have been hired as fire fighters and an additional 1,800 minority group members have been placed in the civil service.

Cities where the program is expected to operate under the new contract are Atlanta, Baltimore, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Houston, Los Angeles, Memphis, New Orleans, San Diego, Seattle and Tacoma, Wash.

The People's Channels

WE WANT PUBLIC BROADCASTING to be a truly independent broadcast system—independent of politics and independent of commercial interests but not independent of the people in the communities it serves.

The bill before you does nothing to guard against the growing influence of private corporate interests on programming and station policy. This influence is exerted through the so-called underwriting process and through tax deductible grants made to individual stations. As a result, fiscal dependence on corporate largesse is encouraged and places on the governing boards of public broadcasting are assured for corporate representatives. In addition large portions of public broadcasting's prime time schedule is controlled, in effect, by Mobil, Exxon, or other commercial sponsors.

When a corporate underwriter buys a program and gives it to the public system, its primary objective is not to encourage minority programming, to help develop domestic talents, or otherwise strengthen the programming of public broadcasting. If these were its objectives, it would contribute funds with no strings attached for use by the stations and the system as its administrators and leadership perceive public broadcasting's goals and needs.

Grants for specific programs are given to enhance a corporate image and this takes precedence over the mission of public broadcasting. This, we submit is wrong and, for that reason, general grants should be encouraged and program grants prohibited.

At present, we believe, corporate underwriting provides less than 4 percent of the income for public television and radio. It will be far easier to end this practice now, as the Carnegie Commission suggested, than allow it to grow and public broadcasting to become more dependent on it. It takes little imagination to see a day when these corporate underwriters demand more for their dollar than a simple, on-the-air acknowledgement. Next will come the commercial "message"—that message which now consumes so much time on non-public television. The time to stop it is now—not when it's too late.

PUBLIC BROADCASTING belongs to all the people—working people and their representatives, as well as businessmen and their managers; women as well as men; minority group members as well as white Anglo-Saxons. The boards and councils governing CPB and public stations must reflect this diversity. Today, they do not.

In addition, more must be done to insure that women, blacks, Latinos, native Americans and others, who in the past have suffered exclusion from meaningful participation in broadcasting, are afforded new opportunities—not only to be employed but to be employed in professional and policy making positions. If this requires additional expenditures for recruitment and training, then so be it.

We endorse long range financing at the higher levels supported by CPB. But we suggest that this committee attach basic safeguards to insure that, during the next five years, the public broadcasting system will grow to nurture American artistry; that it will be independent of economic as well as political pressure from special interests; that it will involve a broad cross-section of the American public in its administration and that it will insure full participation from the citizenry it aims to serve.

—From AFL-CIO testimony on public television before the House Subcommittee on Communications.

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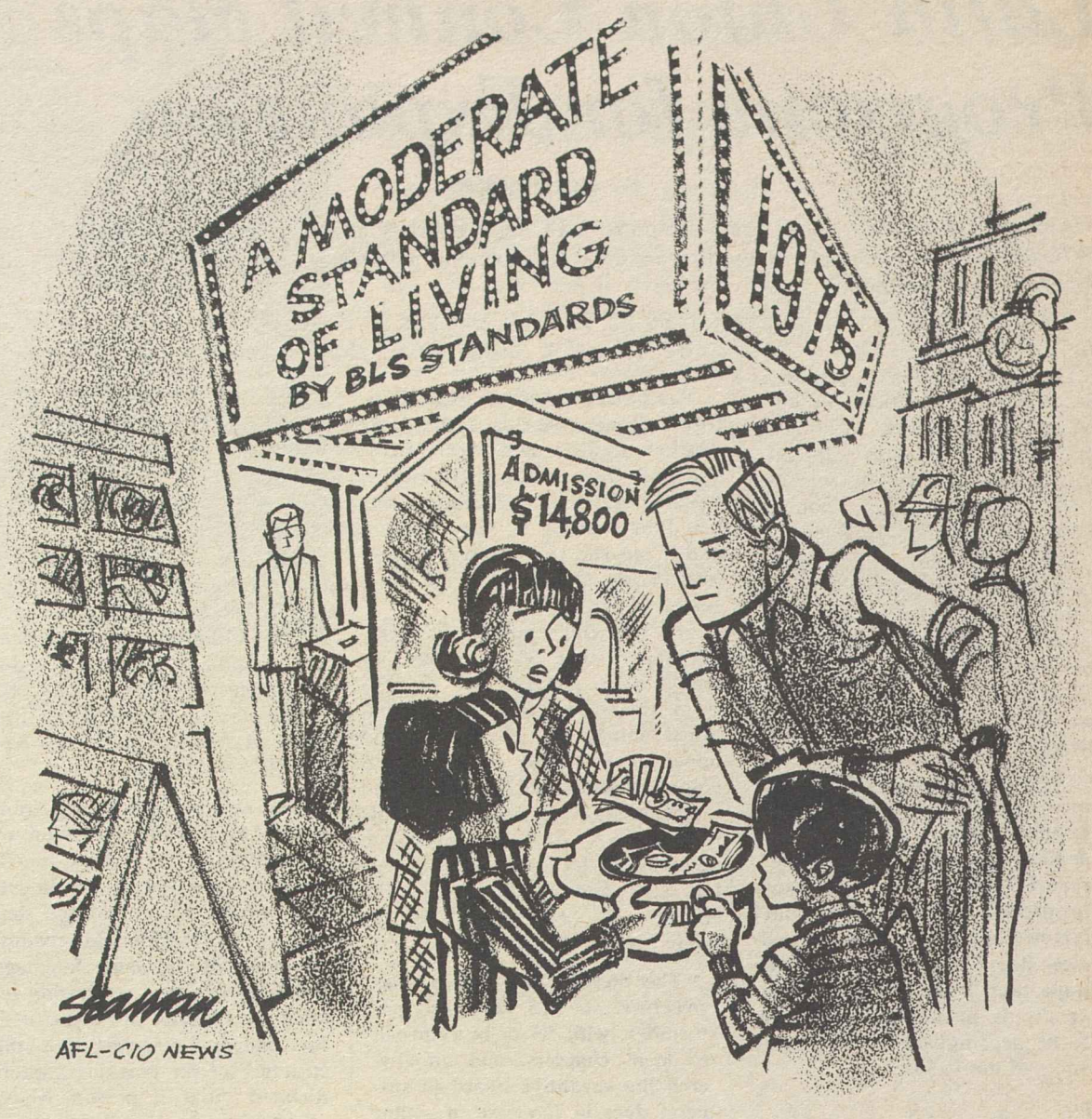


A Word Edgewise:

Flow of Vietnamese Refugees Amounts to Vote Against North

By John P. Roche

MAYBE I HAVEN'T READ the papers closely enough, but I can not recall once in the last quarter of a century reading a headline: "Seven West Germans Shot Trying to Escape to East," or, "Hong Kong Police Capture Five Attempting Swim to Red China." On the contrary, movement has invariably been in the other direction: Is there any greater monument to the appeal of freedom than the Berlin Wall?

It is therefore hardly a coincidence that the flow of refugees in both Cambodia and the Republic of Vietnam has been away from the Communists. In Vietnam this is a rerun of events after the Geneva agreement of 1954 which provided for "regrouping." Communists in the South were to be allowed to move North and anti-Communists in the North to go South.

When the swap began, less than 100,000 southerners headed for the workers' state, while almost a million left the North before Hanoi, in embarrassment, illegally forbade further emigration. Still the determined ones slipped out, climbing aboard just about anything that would float, and—as always—pursued by men with guns. As one now sees the pictures of those poor people thronging the roads to Saigon, perhaps he should put aside the stereotype of the "corrupt Saigon dictatorship," and ask, "What do they know that I don't?"

A number of commentators have been taking elaborate evasive action to avoid this moment of truth. One account had it that the reason peasant families fled was simple mob hysteria—they saw everyone doing it. Try that on your piccolo. Then, a more sophisticated version appeared: The people left to avoid the fighting. There is a certain plausibility about this, but it fails to answer the key question: Why didn't they go North and join their liberators? Back to the drawing board. (By the time this column appears, I fully expect that Jane Fonda, or some equally authoritative interpreter of Vietnamese events, will announce that the refugees fled South under orders from that brutal dictator, Thieu.)

What do they, and the North Korean prisoners of war in South Korea back in 1953, and the Chinese Communist prisoners of war in the same year, and the Tibetans who fled to Nepal, and the East Germans who still try to penetrate the border minefield or scale the wall, or the Czechs who managed to get out in 1968, or, or, or . . . what do these simple folk know that is hidden from many of the great minds of our time? I'll tell you what they know: They know that a Communist government is a barbarian regime. And they are capable of making the crucial distinction between black and grey; that is, they much prefer an inefficient authoritarian state to efficient totalitarianism.

THERE IS A STORY which vividly makes this point. Pre-World War II Yugoslavia was hardly a nation dedicated to the Bill of Rights: Its secret police were a rough lot and its prisons were below average in comfort. About 1936, in one of these prisons, a leading Communist was politely handed a newspaper by a guard who usually belted him a couple of times just for exercise. The guard was chuckling because the paper carried word that leading Yugoslav Communist exiles had been shot in Moscow shortly after confessing to working for French-Japanese-British intelligence. As the shocked prisoner absorbed the details, the guard said: "Now aren't you lucky? The best day of your life was when we started protecting you."

To say this in no sense to justify any variety of authoritarianism; it is merely to emphasize that in this world one rarely has a nice clear choice between black and white. A civil liberties lawyer in Boston can issue a quite valid attack on some of the Saigon government's actions, but the issues he raises are irrelevant to the Kontum peasant fleeing from effective barbarism.

To use language this strong is to invite dismissal from the club of gentlemen journalists as a cold war relic, but sometimes the only way to put the truth is crudely. Communist regimes are barbaric. If anyone refuses to believe this (and is prepared to look at the evidence), I suggest he go to his friendly neighborhood bookseller and purchase, in paperback, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's "The Gulag Archipelago." Reading this will fill him in on what the Vietnamese peasants know and what a number of distinguished American intellectuals fail to comprehend.

A British Viewpoint:

Shelepin Visit Exposes a New Hypocrisy

On Mar. 31, a Soviet "trade union" delegation visited Great Britain at the invitation of the British Trades Union Congress and in exchange for a TUC delegation's visit to Moscow in 1973. Heading the Soviet delegation was Alexander Shelepin, chairman of the "All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR."

Before his appointment as head of the Russian "trade unions," Mr. Shelepin was head of the KGB (1958-61), the hated Soviet secret police. In this capacity, Mr. Shelepin has been accused, among other things, of having directed the murders of two anti-Soviet Ukrainian refugees.

His visit to London was greeted by protest demonstrations and sharp editorial attacks in British newspapers. Among the sharpest were two articles in the Times of London by Bernard Levin. The first, reprinted below, is reproduced from the Times with permission; the second will appear in this space next week. Clive Jenkins, to whom Mr. Levin refers, is secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical & Managerial Staffs.

I HAVE NEVER SUBSCRIBED to the opinion that because Mr. Clive Jenkins is a most egregious ass he is not dangerous. But until Monday I would have said that it did not matter very much. On that day, however, he was interviewed (or, more precisely, fed) on *The World at One*, the subject being the proposed visit to Britain of a notorious murderer and torturer.

There is a case—it is based on *raison d'état*—for allowing Mr. Alexander Shelepin to come to Britain, and even for swallowing the extra insult implied in his coming as the head of the Soviet "trades unions." I am not persuaded by this case, and in a further column I shall go into detail on the reasons for my inability to accept it, but it is a real one, and it is accepted by many people who are neither supporters of Soviet tyranny nor deceived by it. There is also a case for considering Mr. Shelepin as significantly less wicked than his predecessors as head of the Soviet secret police, and I accept that that is indeed true, though I do not think the argument is of much importance one way or the other.

No; what interests me today is not so much Mr. Shelepin as the attitude to him of Mr. Clive Jenkins. It is unfortunately impossible, by quotation in mere print, to convey the self-satisfied, oily smirk in his voice (he is the best living case for Offa's Dyke). But since it is impossible to give away a recording with every copy of the Times, print will have to do. As for instance:

The head of our secret police and intelligence is always knighted and looked upon as a splendid, amiable character, but the head of their secret police is looked upon as being bloodstained and diabolical. Now really, what a lot of hypocritical nonsense.

But the head of our "secret police" (by which I suppose the fool means M16) does not rule over an empire of concentration camps, does he? Does he deploy a gigantic army of jailers and informers?

Does he have the entire apparatus of the state at his disposal to crush any form of dissent from, or disagreement with, the state's purpose? Does he have the power to put anyone in prison or camp or lunatic asylum indefinitely, without trial?

Or, when he considers it appropriate, to kill or torture Britain's citizens in furtherance of his ends? Does he work in a society that refuses accused persons the right to an open trial, with counsel of their choice and access to witnesses? Do those prosecuted in this country have their sentences determined in advance by the police authorities, and communicated to the judge for passing? Do the "secret police" in Britain have literally uncontrolled power over the lives and liberties, the bodies and possessions, of every citizen, and the utmost encouragement to exercise that power?

When abuses occur in Britain, are there no newspapers, no Members of Parliament, to take up cases of suspected injustice or arbitrary acts? Are demonstrations and protest marches invariably prohibited here, and anyone raising a banner automatically arrested?

I am sorry to insult you by such questions. But it is necessary to ask them, to descend into the unplumbable sea of ignorance and dishonesty which Mr. Jenkins was swimming in with his comparison of the head of the KGB with the head of Britain's intelligence service; for only by so doing is it possible to suggest the mounting rage with which I listened to his disgusting buffooneries.

Disgusting? More than 10 million human beings were exterminated in the Soviet camps, those camps which Mr. Shelepin, when he became head of the KGB, inherited, after working his way up through the system that produced them and the slaughter that went on in them. (Do not assume that because he was appointed by Khrushchev during the brief period of partial "destalinization," he would not have cooperated in the slaughter if that had still been the order of the day when he got the job.)

And Clive Jenkins seems to think elephantine jokes ("You see the Russians haven't got a House of Lords and they don't play cricket either, and therefore, of course, it's very hard to understand them") constitute the correct response to the stench of death and torture that hangs over the Soviet Union, and to the cries of the murdered millions and of those dying now in the camps and asylums. Let Clive Jenkins tell Vladimir Bukovsky, let him tell Valentin Moroz, let him tell Semyon Gluzman, let him tell Edward Kuznetsov that it is "hypocritical nonsense" to call the head of the organization that holds them "diabolical."

Mr. Jenkins was then reminded that the KGB, when Mr. Shelepin was its head, was responsible for the hounding of Boris Pasternak. (An error, actually; it was Pasternak's Lara, Olga Ivinskaya, whom Mr. Shelepin hounded into a concentration camp. The campaign against Pasternak himself was conducted by the hacks of the Soviet literary establishment.) To this Mr. Jenkins replied:

"I think that's nonsense. I believe that the current campaign is effectively inspired by cold war forces, especially the Americans . . . the attacks on Mr. Shelepin I'd have thought were nonsense. . . . I really can't understand this rather febrile and amateurish campaign."

Just so did Britain's pre-war fascists claim that criticism of the Nazis and their methods were Jewish propaganda. No doubt a fascist equivalent of Clive Jenkins could have been found to defend a proposed visit to London by the head of the Nazi Arbeitsfront, even if he had been appointed to the job after serving as head of the Gestapo. And indeed, the analogy is extraordinarily close; Mr. Jenkins might have been quoting a BUF apologia for Hitler when, in reply to the interviewer's tentative suggestion that Soviet trades unions are not comparable to British ones, Mr. Jenkins started off: "Well, they are not comparable in so far as they are products of a different system."

Then he explained the difference in the two systems:

"The different system is that they have no private ownership of the means of manufacture there, and we live in a mixed economy. And we are very proud, and very defensive, of the independence of our unions. But their different mechanisms on the other hand are representative organizations—as are ours."

That is the difference between British unions and Soviet ones, is it? We have a mixed economy and they do not; but their unions are nevertheless representative organizations, as are ours.

So they can, say, go on strike, can they? Well, yes, as a matter of fact they can—if they are brave enough. They did so in Chimkent in 1967, after a taxi-driver had been arrested for a minor traffic offense and beaten to death by the police. An angry crowd gathered to protest, and the normal method of industrial arbitration in the Soviet Union was employed, to wit, a massacre; the number of dead is not precisely known, but was certainly scores.

Later, three men were executed—not three of the murdering troops but three of the protesters. There is no record of a mass protest on behalf of the Chimkent Three, by the Soviet Trades Union Congress, of which Mr. Shelepin was then, as he is now, the head (he had had no previous trades union experience of any kind, incidentally, which is itself a nice indication of the Soviet attitude to those "representative organizations").

Nor were there sympathetic strikes while they were under sentence of death; nor were there letters of protest in Pravda; nor did Mr. Shelepin lead a mass lobbying of the Soviet "Parliament."

Clive Jenkins was also at pains to dismiss as unimportant the fact that Mr. Shelepin had been the head of the Komsomol (the Soviet youth movement), and had been appointed to the post by Stalin:

I'm told that he was, as they say, a henchman of Stalin before the war—that means the reference to the fact that he ran their Young Communist League. But the people who ran our Young Communist League in Britain in the thirties are now members of the House of Lords.

To which bizarre comment the most suitable reply is this official Soviet description of the Komsomol in the days when Mr. Shelepin was running it for Stalin, while the corpses piled up in the camps:

The very first task of all Komsomol education work was the necessity to seek out and recognize the enemy, who had then to be removed, purely forcibly, by methods of economic pressure, organizational-political isolation, and methods of physical destruction.

As I have said, it can possibly and decently be argued that acceptance of Mr. Shelepin's visit is necessary. (Mr. Jenkins gave a single nod in the direction of this argument: "We have to deal with people as they are and systems as they are. . . .")

What it is not possible to do with decency is to maintain that Alexander Shelepin is an ordinary and harmless official, or that Soviet trades unions are real ones. Yet that is what Clive Jenkins did. His position as a kind of licensed jester to the British trades union movement has hitherto given him a certain immunity from serious criticism. I think that the performance he has just given makes it necessary to lift that immunity.

Shoppers' Dilemma:

Computerized Price Markings Seen No Benefit to Consumers

ELIMINATION of price markings on individual supermarket items will largely rule out any chance for price consciousness and comparison shopping with no guarantee that the automated checkout system will save consumers either time or money.

The warning was issued on Labor News Conference by Carol Tucker Foreman, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America, and Walter L. Davis, special assistant to the president of the Retail Clerks. They are in the forefront of the joint drive by the labor and consumer movements to retain traditional price markings on grocery items through consumer demands or legislative action.

Davis said that packages without prices leave consumers "at the mercy of the computer" that will replace the cash registers now used for grocery market checkout. He noted that posting prices on the supermarket shelves is largely hit-or-miss and often little help to shoppers, who want to make sure that their food dollars buy the best in quality and value.

Foreman said that the high cost of installing a computerized checkout system may well lead many markets to cut back the number of checkout stands they now use, which would offset any time saved by the faster electronic scanner system. She also stressed that although the Consumer Federation has pressed hard for a commitment from the supermarket industry that any savings brought by the electronic system will be passed on to consumers, the answer has never been a positive "yes."

Foreman scored the grocery industry's charge that labor is using the consumer movement to block layoffs and "protect feather-bedding" practices. She labelled the claim "a convenient propaganda device" that is "very offensive to those of us who began working in opposition to the removal of price markings long, long before the Retail Clerks became interested in it."

Davis and Foreman were questioned by Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Charles Flinner of United Press International. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Rights and Jobs

RIGHT AFTER PASSAGE of the civil rights bills in the early Sixties, the AFL-CIO's George Meany began advocating full employment. The AFL-CIO Executive Council said, "The right to be hired is empty indeed when there are no jobs to be had. The right to be served in a restaurant or a hotel has no meaning for those with no money to spend."

But few listened to George Meany in those days of sit-ins and marches. Now that more leaders are beginning to stress full employment, it's time that George Meany gets some credit for his long campaigns.—*From a radio commentary by Simeon Booker.*

PACKAGES WITHOUT PRICES carry no guarantee that shoppers will save time or money, said Walter L. Davis, second from left, special assistant to the president of the Retail Clerks, and Carol Foreman, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America. They were questioned by Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Charles Flinner of UPI.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS President Glenn E. Watts talks over the telephone with Vladimir Slepak in Moscow, a Soviet Jew who has tried for six years to resettle in Israel. Slepak's right to emigrate—guaranteed under international law—has been denied by the Soviet authorities. Furthermore, the KGB, Russia's secret police agency, has harassed him, breaking into his apartment to remove his phone, Watts told reporters. With the help of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, CWA called Slepak on a public line. The move was designed to dramatize the plight of some 130,000 Soviet Jews unable to leave the USSR.

Full Political Rights:

U.S. Workers Ask Hatch Act Repeal

Unions representing a big majority of federal and postal employes urged repeal of the Hatch Act restrictions on the political rights of government workers.

The AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. and a group of affiliated unions testified at House hearings in support of the Hatch Act repeal bill introduced by Rep. William L. Clay (D.-Mo.) with 53 co-sponsors.

They argued that the Hatch Act has had a chilling effect on government workers, encouraging apathy as the "safe" course and making several million persons second class citizens.

President Clyde M. Webber of the American Federation of Government Employees declared that the only law needed is one that affirms the right of public employes "to freedom in the political area without fear of reprisal."

He said the concept of a merit system free from political pressures should be preserved through stiff penalties for intimidating an employe to support a candidate, work in a campaign or contribute money.

President James H. Rademacher of the Letter Carriers termed the law's restraints on voluntary, partisan political activity "unnecessary, unwise and unconstitutional."

Rademacher said the "chilling effect" of the Hatch Act has been demonstrated by the hesitancy of members to contribute to the union's new nonpartisan political action fund. There is "no question," he asserted, that the problem lies in the "fear" of members that they would be violating the Hatch Act "with its unreasonable provisions and penalties."

Patrick J. Nilan, legislative director of the Postal Workers, termed the Hatch Act "an outstanding example of legislative overkill."

America's concern, he suggested, should be the lack of political participation as indicated by the fact that "barely half of the electorate even goes to the polls in the average election and a 65 percent vote is something to shout about."

A statement by the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. on behalf of its 28 affiliated unions noted that last year Congress exempted from most of the restrictions of the Hatch Act the large number of state and local government workers who had been covered because their jobs were financed in part by federal funds.

The decision was "wise," the department said, and "should now be applied to federal and postal employes."

A statement from the Fire Fighters, presented by Legislative Rep. Jack A. Waller, noted that the federal law passed in 1939 had been followed by a number of "little Hatch Acts" in state legislatures restricting the political activities of state and local employes.

While welcoming the recent exemption of non-federal employes from the federal Hatch Act, the union said "the time has come for all public employes to enjoy the freedom of political participation."

Weller noted, as did other witnesses, that most other democratic nations have no comparable restrictions on the political rights of their employes.

IAFF Scores Nominee For Federal Fire Post

The appointment of John L. Petersen of Aurora, Ill., as director of the new Fire Prevention & Control Administration is a "disaster that has stunned and angered just about everyone concerned with the fire problem in the nation," President W. Howard McClennan of the Fire Fighters declared.

He said the union would mount an immediate nationwide campaign to persuade the Senate Commerce Committee to withhold endorsement of the nomination of Petersen.

Petersen, a 49-year-old Aurora law firm partner, does not have the necessary experience for the job, the IAFF charged. His only credential is that he has served as a volunteer firefighter.

Most of the nation's firemen are professional fire fighters and ought to be represented by someone who understands their problems, the union argued, calling appointment of Petersen "a political one."

"We will be joined in this effort," McClennan said, "by many other organizations concerned with the fire problem. There is a widespread belief that on the basis of experience, leadership, breadth of vision and ability, the presidential nominee does not measure up to the challenges of the new and important post for which he was appointed.

"There is no lack of first-rate talent for this post.

"Within the past two weeks the Joint Council of National Fire Service Organizations — representing many groups with varied membership and specialized interests in coping with the fire problem— voiced its concern that appointments to the top positions of the new organization 'be qualified to lead an effort that is so important to the fire service and the general public.' "

These positions had been vacant for five months after passage of the legislation. The Joint Council offered the names of two men to head the new agency: Howard Tipton, a former executive director of the National Commission on Fire Prevention & Control; and David McCormack, now the deputy chief of the New York City Fire Dept. and chairman of the Fire Science Dept. of John Jay University.

Organizations affiliated with the joint council, besides the IAFF, include the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, the National Fire Protection Association, the International Fire Service Training Association, the International Association of Arson Investigators, Fire Marshals Association of North America, the International Fire Administration Institute, the International Municipal Signal Association, and the Black Professional Fire Fighters Association.

TWUA Okays Mid-Atlantic Model Pact

Boston—A one-year contract providing for a two-step increase of 25 cents an hour has been reached by the Textile Workers Union of America and four leading northern cotton-synthetic textile manufacturers.

Alton M. Hodgman, the union's director for that branch of the industry, said the agreement is expected to set the pattern for settlements with some 70 firms employing approximately 20,000 workers in the New England and mid-Atlantic states.

The new contract has been ratified by workers of the American Thread Co., Willimantic, Conn.; Berkshire Hathaway, New Bedford, Mass.; Bates Fabrics, Lewiston, Me., and Edwards Manufacturing Co., Augusta, Me.

It provides for an across-the-board increase of 15 cents an hour effective Apr. 15 and 10 cents additional next Oct. 13. The industry's original offer was a total increase of 10 cents an hour, effective in October.

The only variation from the pattern was at American Thread, where workers voted to divert 1 cent an hour from the initial raise to improve pensions, Hodgman said.

Among other members of the union's contract policy committee were TWUA President Sol Stetin and Sec-Treas. William DuChessi.

Solidarity Pledged to Soviet Jews

New York—"There is no more urgent moral issue before the civilized world today than the Soviet Union's perpetuation of the ancient and odious curse of anti-Semitism," AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a message to the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry on Apr. 13, Solidarity Sunday.

A crowd of 100,000 paraded down Fifth Avenue, joined by rabbis, ministers, nuns and priests. Other demonstrations of support for Soviet Jews were held throughout the nation the same day.

Meany assured the conference of organized labor's solidarity and support of efforts to help Soviet Jews "and all peoples who are the victims of totalitarian persecution everywhere."

Meany congratulated the conference, and its constituent organizations, "for their steadfast commitment to the principle that freedom is indivisible" in an era "when the noblest ideals of human rights are on the verge of being engulfed by what Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn has called 'the spirit of Munich.' "

Meat Cutters Oppose Tax for Advertising

A high-power advertising campaign, ultimately financed by consumers, is no solution to the sales problems of cattle raisers, the Meat Cutters testified.

Arnold Mayer, the union's legislative representative, urged a Senate Agriculture subcommittee to reject a bill that would impose a form of value-added tax on the sale of cattle. The tax would go into a multi-million dollar fund that would be used for research and for advertising and promotion designed to increase the sale of beef and the price of cattle.

While advertising isn't likely to induce consumers to buy more steaks, Mayer suggested that the legislation would "do wonders for the income of the advertising industry and the persons who manage and operate the fund."

He told the panel that the Meat Cutters union is concerned with the preservation of the industry and the high costs that are driving many cattle feeders out of business. But, he added, this sympathy "does not extend to the Wall Street, Dallas and Hollywood cowboys who had been exploiting cattle feeding for tax advantages."

As for the proposed value-added tax, Mayer suggested that while producers might initially bear the cost, whenever market conditions permit it will be passed on to consumers in higher prices. Because it is such a regressive tax, state legislatures and Congress quite properly "have repeatedly shunned it," Mayer noted.

On the so-called "research" to be funded by the tax, Mayer expressed concern that it would be comparable to Dept. of Agriculture studies that ended up as attempts to blame unions for all food price problems.

NEW PRESIDENT of the United Garment Workers, Howard D. Collins, is congratulated by President Emeritus Joseph P. McCurdy, right. McCurdy had headed the union since 1941. Collins is from Bellevue, Ky., and was serving on the union's executive board prior to assuming the presidency Mar. 29.

In Arts, Entertainment:

Professional Unions Set Jobs Program

Expanded job opportunities for artists and craftsmen in entertainment and communications are the focus of an action program drafted by the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees.

The program was developed at a two-day Emergency Leadership Conference on Jobs for the Arts which drew top representatives of affiliated entertainment and communications unions.

Policy statements adopted by the council's Arts, Entertainment & Media Industries Committees explored common problems in such areas as public broadcasting, government funding of arts programs, television reruns, copyright reform and others.

Participating unions in the committee represent more than 500,000 members in the entertainment field.

The conference called on Congress to approve long-range funding proposed by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, provided that the legislation prohibits the use of federal funds to buy foreign-made programming.

Noting that 30 percent of PBS funds are spent on imported programs, the committee said future labor support of the system will depend on efforts to assure a greater use of programs produced domestically.

The committee also stressed that PBS artists and craftsmen must be paid wages and benefits prevailing in their occupations.

Copyright laws should be amended, the committee suggested, to correct basic injustices by requiring broadcasters and other commercial users of recordings to pay modest royalties to performers, musicians and recording companies.

Since 75 percent of all broadcast time sold to advertisers is devoted to playing sound recordings, the committee said it is appropriate that broadcasters make at least token payments for the use of the materials.

On the National Endowment for the Arts, the committee said the $82 million budgeted by the Ford Administration for fiscal year 1976 is inadequate and urged that the entire $128 million authorized for the bicentennial year be appropriated.

The committee also criticized the use of National Endowment for the Humanities funds to support foreign programming while American artists face severe unemployment.

Renewing organized labor's stand against the extensive use of television reruns, the committee called on the Federal Communications Commission to limit reruns to 25 percent of prime time programming.

Increased funding is also needed to expand the nation's cultural exchange program to finance the appearance of American artists and institutions overseas, the committee stressed.

It noted that the current budget of $1 million is an embarrassment to the nation and that the budgeted increase to $2.2 million for the coming fiscal year "is a modest step in the right direction."

To stimulate employment in the arts and increased production of motion pictures, video tapes, sound recording and live performances, the committee urged Congress to legislate additional tax breaks for producers.

It also called for repeal of local admission taxes imposed on both non-profit and commercial cultural activities in eight of the nation's 25 major cities.

New Leaders Take Helm of Shipbuilders

Frank Derwin, the new president of the Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, announced that the appointment of Arthur Batson, Jr., as secretary-treasurer was approved by the union's executive board. He will take office Apr. 28.

Derwin, who had served as secretary-treasurer since 1972, assumed the presidency of the union on the death of Eugene L. McCabe last month.

Derwin has been a member of the Shipbuilders since 1943 and was an officer of Local 12 in New York for 14 years before joining the national staff in 1961. He became New York regional director in 1962 and was elected secretary-treasurer in 1972.

Batson joined the union in 1959 and has been president of Local 5 at Quincy, Mass., since 1970. He was elected to the union's executive board last month.

Labor Protest Called Key To Blocking TV Runaway

Leaders of entertainment unions hailed the AFL-CIO Executive Council's strong position against the proposed runaway production by ABC of an American bicentennial television series, calling it a decisive factor in the decision not to produce the series overseas.

ABC had originally planned to produce the "Burr" series, based on a book by Gore Vidal, in England. The network has since said the production will not take place in England, but it has yet to announce whether the series will go forward using American talent.

At an emergency conference on jobs for the arts, the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees (CPE) declared that programs commemorating the nation's national bicentennial should be produced in this country "in keeping with the spirit of the American independence and the economic hardships facing American workers."

"Not until the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO called on ABC to abandon this 'most insulting of all runaway productions . . . as a matter of simple decency' were actual results achieved," the CPE said.

AT HOUSE HEARINGS on federal funds for public broadcasting, Subcommittee Chairman Torbert H. Macdonald (D-Mass.) welcomes Jack Golodner, center, executive secretary of the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees, and Sanford I. Wolff, executive secretary of the Television & Radio Artists. They urged that federal tax funds be used only for programs produced in the United States.

More Public TV Aid, U.S. Programs Urged

(Continued from Page 1)

ity programs, but sharply criticized the operating arm, the Public Broadcasting Service, and its affiliated stations for overreliance on foreign productions.

While American talent goes unused, Golodner noted that imports dominate prime-time on public television stations and account for nearly two-thirds of all dramatic productions.

During 11 evenings of "showcase" performances last month aimed at showing public television at its best, Golodner said the Washington, D.C., outlet used 34 imports and only five programs produced in the U.S.

He quoted a newspaper critic, Alan Kreigsman of the Washington Post, who said the moral appeared to be that "if the American public will only cough up its fair share, British writers, actors and TV crews can be kept alive and healthy for the duration."

Golodner stressed that U.S. unions "are not opposed to foreign-produced cultural programming" and favor a mix of quality programs from abroad along with domestic shows. It is the current imbalance that labor opposes, he said.

To reverse the trend, he proposed in addition to banning use of federal funds for foreign programs a requirement that privately-raised dollars used to buy foreign programs not qualify for matching U.S. tax funds.

The AFL-CIO testimony also criticized a policy allowing corporate sponsors to underwrite specific programs—giving them an opportunity for institutional advertising on a supposedly non-commercial station. To encourage general grants by corporations, rather than indirect advertising, Golodner said corporate fundings of specific programs should not qualify for matching federal payments.

Golodner welcomed the increased hiring of racial minorities by public broadcasting, but urged a greater effort to bring minority group members into "professional and policy-making positions."

Further, he said, the boards and councils governing the system and its stations should reflect the fact that "public broadcasting belongs to all the people—working people and their representatives as well as businessmen; women as well as men; minority group members as well as white Anglo-Saxons."

Arthur Rosenstock, Guild Leader, Dies

New York—Arthur Rosenstock, president of the Newspaper Guild from 1959 to 1967, died at Montefiore Hospital Apr. 9 following a long illness. He was 72.

Rosenstock joined the Guild as a charter member in 1933 and was elected to a number of offices in the New York local before becoming a regional vice president of the international in 1956.

He was elected as the seventh president of the Guild in 1959, and his eight years in that office were the longest tenure as president in the union's 42-year history.

Ford Names 3-Man Board In Rail Dispute

President Ford invoked emergency provisions of the Railway Labor Act to block a nationwide railroad strike by the Railway & Airline Clerks. Ford's appointment of a factfinding panel to investigate the dispute automatically delays any strike for 60 days.

BRAC's members had voted overwhelmingly to walk off their jobs at 12:01 a.m., Apr. 18. C. L. Dennis, president of the union, said the tally showed "between 85 and 90 percent" of the members favored a strike.

"By their votes, our members have told us of their determination to win a pattern-breaking and pace-setting contract in the railway industry," Dennis said.

The emergency board has up to 30 days to investigate the dispute. After it files its report with the President, there is another 30-day "cooling-off" period.

Ford appointed attorney and labor arbitrator Alexander B. Porter to head the three-member panel. Other members are James M. Harkless, a Washington lawyer and labor arbitrator, and the Rev. Francis X. Quinn of Temple University.

BRAC's agreement with the carriers was up for renegotiation on Jan. 1. The union has termed the carriers' offers to date inadequate and substandard. It is also seeking protection against layoffs during economic slumps.

Meanwhile, four shopcraft unions—members of the AFL-CIO Railway Employees' Dept.—were taking strike polls of members at special meetings across the country. The vote count won't be ready until mid-May.

The unions are the Carmen, Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The only other rail union that has not settled in the current bargaining is the Yardmasters. The union has asked the National Mediation Board to assist in the negotiations.

Government Study Hits Subsidies for Exports

Costly export promotion programs of the Commerce Dept. and the Export-Import Bank are facing cutbacks because of their questionable economic impact and failure to expand U.S. jobs, the Journal of Commerce reports.

The Journal said that a study by the Office of Management & Budget, which has yet to be publicly released, is the basis of an Administration proposal to slash the Commerce Dept.'s export promotions $6.4 million and effectively reduce Eximbank financing in fiscal year 1976.

The OMB report noted that the real costs to the economy for export promotion may be greater than any benefits, suggesting that export expansion should not be a "priority national objective in and of itself."

The Journal said the OMB also found no reason to recommend export promotion as a way to create more American jobs, since the promotion transfers "our national output to foreigners at less than its real resource cost."

Because of the Eximbank's low-cost loans, the OMB found that the agency has become the lender of the first resort and is therefore competing with private export credit sources—something it is not supposed to do.

Eximbank's financing programs "have no inherent advantages in furthering national employment objectives in light of other fiscal and monetary tools available," the Journal said in quoting the report.

The AFL-CIO has repeatedly criticized the policies of the Eximbank as furthering the export of American jobs and technology, which in the long run result in increased imports into the U.S. market.

Eximbank loans made to foreign countries are at lower interest rates than Americans must pay at home, the federation stressed in congressional testimony last year.

The OMB report also termed the Eximbank's programs "particularly weak policy tools for stabilizing exchange rate fluctuations or achieving other balance of payments objectives because of the delay in receiving payments for exports."

Under the tax deferral programs of the Domestic International Sales Corp. (DISC), the U.S. Treasury lost $1 billion in revenues last year even though exports increased by $1.6 billion, the OMB report said.

"In effect, the U.S. economy was paying $2.6 billion to earn $1.6 billion in foreign exchange," the OMB report pointed out.

Mortgage Aid Voted:

House Acts to Avert Home Foreclosures

(Continued from Page 1)

gages and enable thousands of people to keep their homes.

Also pending in the Senate is a companion measure to another House-passed bill—the Middle-Income Housing Act.

In its House version, this would provide a choice of two types of mortgage subsidies to middle-income families who buy new houses or condominiums priced at less than $38,000 in most areas and up to $42,000 in high-cost communities. The choice would be between a straight 7 percent mortgage rate—closer to the AFL-CIO position—or a temporary 6 percent rate that would move up to the regular market rate within six years.

The pending Senate bill would not have the 7 percent option, but it would offer an alternate choice of a $1,000 cash subsidy for persons who do not qualify for the 5 percent tax credit on new home purchases under the recently enacted tax cut law. The payment would apply only to new homes.

In non-housing areas, there were these congressional developments:

● A House Post Office & Civil Service subcommittee voted 6-3 approval of a bill that would give postal workers a limited right to strike.

The legislation, endorsed by the postal unions, would allow a union holding bargaining rights to choose between asserting a right to strike or accepting binding arbitration if contract negotiations are deadlocked. But the choice would have to be made before negotiations begin. If a strike is called, "essential" mail would continue to be delivered.

The bill is based on Canada's collective bargaining law, which applies to all government workers.

● An appropriations bill approved by the House includes an additional $5 billion for unemployment compensation programs, including non-interest loans to states whose own reserves have been drained by high unemployment.

● A House-Senate conference committee agreed on a trimmed-down version of a farm assistance bill in the hope of avoiding a presidential veto—or alternatively of producing the votes to override a veto.

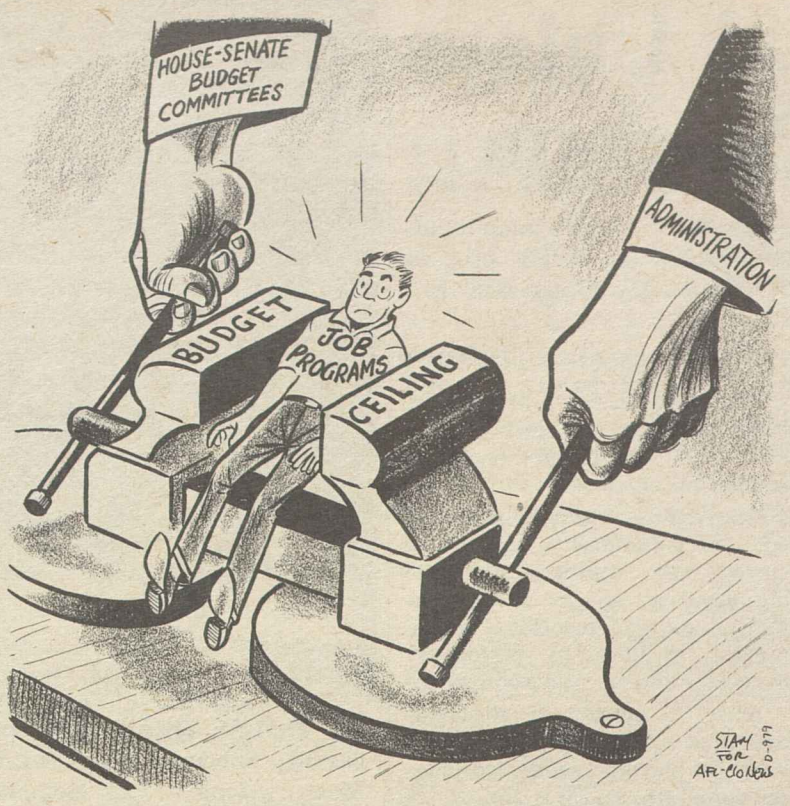
● A labor-supported extension of the Older Americans Act passed the House by a 377-19 vote, assuring continuation of a number of services and programs for the elderly and the expansion of some.

● Rep. Dominick V. Daniels (D.-N.J.) successfully steered through House passage a bill to establish federal safety standards for summer camps for children and youth.

● Two House committees moved in different directions on legislation to provide health care for the unemployed. A House Commerce subcommittee approved an approach backed by the AFL-CIO of using federal funds to continue insurance coverage of workers receiving unemployment compensation, with Medicaid available for those who had not been covered in their previous employment. It is similar to a bill approved by the Senate Labor Committee. The House Ways & Means Committee took an approach of a tax on insurance premiums to pay for continued coverage, with other funds temporarily supplied by Medicare.

● The Senate approved a bill giving the President a variety of standby powers in the energy field, including authority to ration gasoline. But Congress would have review and veto power over his actions.

The Squeeze Is On



Jobless Toll Mounts Among Family Heads

(Continued from Page 1)

Unemployment increases were "widespread and sharp," affecting all major demographic, industry and occupational groups, BLS reported. For most demographic categories, jobless rates rose to new highs over the quarter.

The rate for adult women averaged 8.2 percent; teenagers, 20.5 percent (39.8 percent for black teenagers); 7.6 percent for whites; 13.7 percent for blacks, and 5.5 percent for household heads.

The BLS report is issued quarterly and provides data for some worker groups not included in the agency's regular monthly release on job statistics. Among its highlights:

● Joblessness among household heads "increased substantially" to 5.5 percent from 4.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 1974 and 3.2 percent in the July-September period of last year.

About three-quarters of all household heads are men. Their rate was 4.7 percent. "In terms of the direct impact of the economic slowdown," BLS noted, "the number of male family heads in the unemployed ranks has doubled since the first quarter of 1974."

● Sharply higher rates of unemployment were experienced by all whites, blacks and persons of Spanish origin, but these rates varied to show an upsurge in joblessness (60 percent) for workers of Spanish origin that was in excess of that for blacks (54 percent) but less than among whites (71 percent).

● The number of discouraged workers—those who stop looking for work because they believe they cannot find jobs—rose to 1.1 million, by far the highest level recorded since BLS initiated the series in 1967.

● Joblessness among Vietnam-era veterans 20-34 years old took a sharp jump to 8.9 percent from the 6.5 percent average for the final three months of 1974. But it was still below the 9.5 percent rate for non-veterans in the same age group.

● The incidence of joblessness in poverty areas remained much higher than for the rest of the nation. The jobless rate averaged 11.2 percent in poverty areas, up from 7.1 percent a year earlier, while the rate in nonpoverty areas rose from 5.2 to 8.7 percent over the year.

"The severity of the employment situation for poverty-area residents was reflected both in the burgeoning number of jobless, which increased by 625,000 to 1.7 million, as well as in terms of the employment trend, which showed a decline of 800,000 to 13.7 million," BLS noted.

Labor force growth has been slow since mid-1974, in marked contrast to the rapid expansion in 1972-73, BLS observed. From fourth-quarter 1974 to first-quarter 1975, moreover, there was no change in the civilian labor force level (91.8 million).

Rates of participation in the labor force showed mixed trends, the report noted. The rate for adult women remained at its all-time high of 45.7 percent, while participation among adult men fell to 80.2 percent, the lowest point on record. The teenage participation rate, at 54.8 percent for the quarter, was below the high mark set in the same period a year ago.

Total employment over the first three months of this year fell to 84.1 million, a decrease of 1.6 million, BLS reported.

Education Bill Increased By $487 Million

The House refused to let the Administration's budget proposals hold down federal aid to education during the coming fiscal year.

It approved a $7.8 billion money bill, an increase of $1.3 billion from President Ford's budget-cutting request.

On the key vote, the only issue was whether to go along with the smaller budget increases proposed by the House Appropriations Committee or an amendment supported by the AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers that substantially increased the funds.

The higher amount, adding $487 million to the Appropriations Committee figure, was approved by a 259-143 margin. The amendment was sponsored by Representatives Edward R. Roybal (D-Calif.), David R. Obey (D-Wis) and Louis Stokes (D-Ohio), all members of the Appropriations Committee who had contended that the financial crisis facing states and communities would force cutbacks in education programs unless federal aid were increased.

The added funds include $150 million for the basic program of aid to disadvantaged children, $11 million to provide bilingual education services for children who do not speak English, $10 million for educating handicapped children and $6 million for the Follow-Through program to help children from poverty backgrounds keep up in school.

A letter sent to all House members by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller urged support for the amendment "to make sure that there will not be real disruptions in education."

President Albert Shanker of the Teachers also wrote House members that the added funds are needed to prevent "large and traumatic cutbacks."

Shanker acknowledged the conflicting demands on the budget but said that "cutting back on federal aid to education is not a way to deal with an economic crisis."

Minimum Wage Brief Refutes State Challenge

(Continued from Page 1)

the law because the low pay of many of them was "a national disgrace." In 1973, when the legislation was being debated, more than 400,000 state and local government workers were paid less than $1.90 an hour, the AFL-CIO noted.

As for the states' rights argument, the AFL-CIO noted that the Supreme Court has affirmed the right of Congress to act without hindrance from contrary state laws to defend the nation against economic forces it considers "inimical or destructive of the national economy."

And substandard wages certainly fall in that category, the AFL-CIO suggested.

The brief termed the claim that cities would be bankrupt if they had to pay overtime to fire fighters "a false alarm."

Congress provided an elaborate, gradual phase-in of overtime coverage for fire fighters under which initially no overtime would be required unless they work an average of more than 60 hours a week in any 28-day period. Only an estimated 10 percent of fire fighters are on duty more than 60 hours a week, the brief noted. Eventually the straight-time maximum week would drop to 54 hours. All of the pro and con arguments were thoroughly aired during congressional consideration of the legislation, the AFL-CIO noted, and the debate made clear that volunteer firemen would not be covered.

In explaining the AFL-CIO direct interest in the case, the brief noted that about 1.7 million local and state employes are members of affiliated unions.

And "it is the conviction of the AFL-CIO," the brief stressed, "that working men and women, whether employed by a private or public employer, and whether they have chosen to be represented in dealing with their employer or not, deserve a living wage for their labor."

SL-61-4

More Funds Called Key To College Aid Dilemma

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to provide more federal aid for both colleges and college students, but warned against spreading a limited amount of student aid funds too thinly.

That's one of the risks in a well-intentioned bill being considered by a House subcommittee, AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis testified.

The bill, authored by Subcommittee Chairman James G. O'Hara (D-Mich.), has some desirable features, but Davis cautioned that it wouldn't bring the cost of college within the means of most youngsters from low- and even middle-income families.

By trying to expand eligibility for educational opportunity grants without a substantial raise in total funds, the legislation could "reduce the amount of the grant available to a student at the very time when tuition and other college costs have reached an all-time high."

Davis noted that the nation's jobless rolls are already swelled by high school graduates who have been pushed "involuntarily" into the labor market by high tuition costs.

The chief problem with the bill, Davis suggested, "is that it is apparently designed to exist within the constraints of Administration budgetary policy. . . . This inevitably leads to an unwholesome tug of war for available funds, with the result that the needs of none are adequately met."

Davis, accompanied by Assistant Director John A. Sessions, cited this competition for funds as a major weakness of another provision of the bill—full expense-paid scholarships to students from lower-income families who score outstanding grades on academic tests.

Most such tests are geared "to white middle-class children," Davis noted. But "even if foolproof testing were available, we cannot accept the view that higher education is for an intellectual elite."

The AFL-CIO's position has been that "low tuition, not a scholarship program for the gifted, is the best form of student aid," Davis testified.

Paperworkers Win Representation Vote

Baton Rouge, La.—The Paperworkers won a union representation election by a better than two-to-one margin among employes of Owens-Illinois working in the western woodlands of Louisiana and Texas.

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Meany Stresses Job Needs More Critical Than Deficit

3,000 at Conference:

Building Trades Take Case to Hill

By David L. Perlman

More than 3,000 building trades delegates carried to Capitol Hill legislative proposals designed to overcome depression-level unemployment in the construction industry.

They had adopted the program at an all-day National Jobs Conference called by the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. to turn the spotlight on 10 months of double-digit unemployment and a jobless rate more than double the national average.

A fleet of chartered buses took them to the steps of the Capitol early the next morning for a welcome by House Speaker Carl Albert and other congressional leaders. The delegates, who came from 44 states, fanned out to special hearings called by House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over major portions of the labor program.

The 10 committees, with nearly all members present, heard building trades proposals dealing with such areas as housing, public works, unemployment insurance, energy development, environmental issues and funding of federal programs.

Later, department officers including the presidents of the 17 affiliated unions met at the White House with President Ford.

Position papers presented to the jobs conference reinforced the grim report by BCTD President Robert A. Georgine that never before has the construction industry been in so disastrous a condition.

One out of five construction

(Continued on Page 3)

Real Wages At 11-Year Low Point

By James M. Shevis

Workers' buying power fell to its lowest level in 11 years in March, the result of a further decline in the average workweek and a rise in consumer prices, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Real spendable weekly earnings—that is, take-home pay adjusted to take account of inflation since 1967—amounted to $87.35 for a worker with three dependents last month. The only other month in which such earnings were lower was January 1964 when BLS began recording these statistics. The figure then was $87.15.

Last month's real weekly earnings were 34 cents below the previous month and $4.35 less than the year-earlier level. On a per-

(Continued on Page 7)

ONLY CURE for budget deficits is jobs, AFL-CIO President George Meany says in urging passage of a $5 billion accelerated public works bill. With him at House hearings are Legislative Director Andrew Biemiller, left, and Economist Arnold Cantor.

Appeal by Meany:

Refugee Aid Urged For Vietnam Allies

AFL-CIO President George Meany appealed to Congress to take action to save hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese "who face certain destruction because they stood by our side."

"We have a moral obligation here that cannot be denied," Meany declared in letters to the Democratic and Republican leadership of both houses and to key members of the House and Senate Armed Services and Foreign Relations committees.

"If we do not stand by these desperate people, how can we ever claim to conduct a credible foreign policy?" Meany asked.

"Even if the Congress has decided—wrongly in our view—to write off the country of South Vietnam, it simply cannot and must not abandon the masses of human beings who will pay with their lives for their loyalty to us."

Meanwhile, the House voted 230 to 187 to authorize $327 million for humanitarian and evacuation costs in connection with removal of Vietnam refugees. The Senate earlier voted 75 to 17 to authorize $250 million for evacuation and refugee relief. A conference was set to work out differences between the two aid bills.

Pointing up the certainty of retribution against South Vietnamese supporters of U.S. policies, Meany forwarded eyewitness reports of atrocities that have taken place in recent days in areas overrun by the Communists.

The reports were made to the U.S. Embassy in Saigon and directly to AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington by telephone from the CVT, South Vietnam's labor confederation.

"These grim developments, reviewed in the light of North Vietnam's long history of using systematic terrorism to consolidate its power, suggest that the bloodbath many of us have feared would fol-

(Continued on Page 3)

Endorses $5 Billion Works Plan

Jobs for America's unemployed are more important than holding down the budget deficit, AFL-CIO President George Meany told Congress.

Meany urged approval of a $5 billion accelerated public works construction program. Along with other economic stimulants, he testified at House hearings, this could point the nation back to economic health.

He told a questioner that the cure for budget deficits is jobs. "Instead of paying people unemployment benefits or welfare, you get them jobs—and then they pay taxes."

The United States can stand a temporary $100 billion deficit, Meany said, but drawing the deficit line at $60 billion, or even the somewhat higher figures suggested by congressional budget committees, would spell "disaster" for America's jobless workers.

The labor-backed bill is sponsored by House Public Works Committee Chairman Robert E. Jones (D-Ala.) and Rep. Robert A. Roe (D-N.J.), whose subcommittee is holding the hearings.

The bill would provide full federal financing of public works projects that cities and states need but can't afford. It is one of the economic recovery measures announced by House

(Continued on Page 7)

Unemployed Exceed 6% In 105 Areas

The number of major labor areas with substantial unemployment—6 percent or more—swelled to a record 105 in March with the addition of 31 areas, the Labor Dept. announced, as the nation's deepest and longest recession since the 1930s continued to exact a heavy toll among American workers.

The Labor Dept. each month surveys 150 major employment centers around the country, and classifies them according to the adequacy of their labor supply. An area is placed in the "substantial unemployment" category when its jobless rate is 6 percent or more, discounting seasonal factors, and this rate is expected to hold for another two months.

"The rise from 74 in February to 105 among the 150 major areas

(Continued on Page 8)

Labor Calls for Major Overhaul Of 'Outmoded' Jobless Aid System

A major overhaul of the "outmoded and fragmented" unemployment compensation system was proposed by the AFL-CIO at House hearings.

The system developed 40 years ago and the patchwork programs of extended benefits provided during crisis levels of joblessness remains "far short of meeting the needs of the nation's unemployed," AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman testified.

Seidman noted that half the unemployed aren't receiving compensation and that the average wage replacement for those who do get benefits amounts to only 40 percent of their lost wages.

This deficiency is hampering economic recovery as well as imposing severe hardships on the jobless, Seidman told a Ways & Means subcommittee. He urged that the universal coverage of all wage and salary workers that Congress enacted recently as "a one-year, stop-gap measure" be made a permanent part of the law. In addition, he called for:

- A wage replacement benefit keyed to two-thirds of a worker's former wages, subject to a ceiling of not less than three-fourths of the average wage in the state.
- Standards for qualifying that would assure that a person with 20 weeks of employment could receive a full 26 weeks of unemployment benefits.
- A six-week limit on the disqualification penalty that could be imposed on an unemployed worker, with lesser penalties for minor infringements.

As for the assortment of temporary and permanent legislation providing for extended benefits for the jobless during periods of high unemployment, Seidman said the program "simply has not worked." He noted that "Congress has had to tinker with it no less than 10

(Continued on Page 8)

JOB PLACEMENT GOALS of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute are reviewed at HRDI's annual conference in Chicago. From left, are HRDI President Alan Kistler, Sec.-Treas. Harold H. Jack, Economist Stanley H. Ruttenberg, and Director Robert J. McConnon of the Manpower Administration's Office of National Programs.

HRDI Works to Place Jobless In Midst of 'Disaster' to Economy

Chicago—More than 100 staff members of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute were called on by HRDI President Alan Kistler to "work doubly hard" to carry out their mission of combating joblessness despite "the burdens of the depression we are now facing."

A week-long HRDI conference drew together officers and staff members from 52 HRDI offices throughout the United States, including the newest office in Alaska.

In his keynote address to the conference Kistler reviewed previous accomplishments of the institute, which was founded in 1968, and said:

"HRDI's job has always been difficult. Today it's like working in a disaster area. Certainly, a man who loses his job and loses his house because he can't make the mortgage payments is just as homeless and in need of help as those people in towns who were struck by tornadoes last year here in the Midwest."

He pointed out that union members the institute turned to a year ago for help in developing jobs for disadvantaged workers "are themselves looking to HRDI for help this year.

"We have a special responsibility to these people to find jobs and to see that they benefit from the manpower programs HRDI is trying to implement," Kistler declared.

Charles E. Bradford, acting executive director of HRDI, said in his report that the institute had met and surpassed its contractual commitments for job placement and development, even though, "the economy was a disaster, job openings were scarce and the unions had more unemployed members than ever before."

Bradford said HRDI had developed 28,515 jobs in the past year, 6,518 more than its goal, and placed more than 12,000 persons in good jobs paying an average of $3.57 an hour.

He also reported that goals for placing ex-offenders and poverty-level workers were substantially surpassed. Most placements, he noted, "were in companies with union contracts."

Both Kistler and Bradford stressed that HRDI has a major role in implementing the AFL-CIO action program for putting America back to work.

"This is HRDI's obligation to the AFL-CIO," Bradford said. "Through HRDI and other AFL-CIO affiliates, the labor movement can and will play a major role in pulling the jobless out of this economic mess."

"We're not merely in a recession," Kistler said, "we're in a depression. And the AFL-CIO is the only voice on the national scene with a comprehensive, coherent program to meet the job problems millions of Americans are facing. HRDI has a specific designated role in this crisis. We have to bring all our expertise and hard-won experience to bear on these problems."

Conference delegates attended workshops throughout the week for close scrutiny of current programs and for development of staff skills necessary to carry out the programs. They also heard from Robert McConnon, director of the Office of National Programs in the Labor Dept.'s Manpower Administration.

Discussing his concerns over programs under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act, McConnon said:

"We are proceeding into a period of high unemployment without a cohesive national manpower program. For example, only 3 percent of CETA funds go to older workers. Yet they represent 20 percent of the population. Only 6 percent goes to on-the-job training. Both of these areas need to be strengthened."

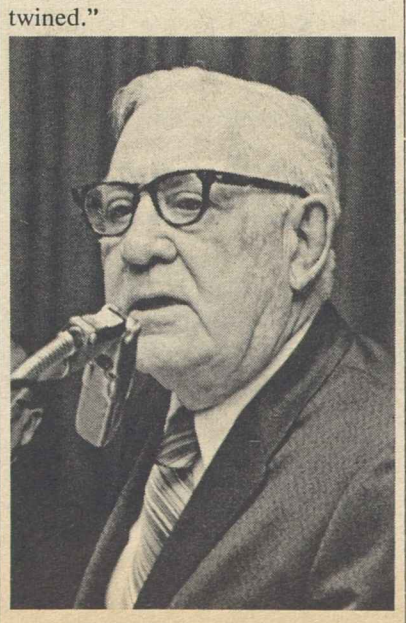
Labor economist and consultant Stanley Ruttenberg, in an address to the staff conference, predicted that there will be a great increase in public works spending at the local level in the next few months. He urged HRDI staff members to make certain labor is well represented in local manpower planning councils.

"You have major responsibilities to carry out," Ruttenberg said. "You must make special efforts to see that labor is represented on the vital planning committees and the evalution and monitoring committees of the local councils."

AFL-CIO Vice President Joseph D. Keenan, an HRDI trustee and secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, also dealt with the special role of HRDI.

"Who is helped by HRDI programs?" Keenan asked. "Those who have not developed any skills, victims of racial discrimination and language discrimination, ex-offenders, welfare recipients, veterans, teenagers, anyone who has difficulty in finding and keeping decent paying jobs. These are the people HRDI helps."

Keenan reviewed the wide ranging accomplishments of HRDI and concluded: "The goals of HRDI and the labor movement are intertwined."



JOSEPH D. KEENAN

Rail Buildup Urged to Aid Energy Saving

The United Transportation Union has called on Congress and the railroad industry to take steps to expand the nation's railroads, pointing out their high degree of efficiency in transporting both freight and passengers.

Releasing a new study called "Transportation and Energy," UTU President Al H. Chesser told a Washington, D.C., news conference that the railroads' advantages are so far-reaching virtually all Americans would benefit from a buildup.

"Railroads consume only 3 percent of all transportation energy to haul more than 40 percent of the nation's freight," Chesser said.

Charging that federal transportation and energy policy has been consistently biased against railroads, Chesser proposed new investment and experimentation to increase and improve rail transportation, particularly in the urban corridors between Boston and Washington, Seattle and San Diego, Chicago and Pittsburgh.

Institution of this program could save 8 million gallons of fuel a year by 1980, he said. Copies of the study were sent to all members of Congress, transportation planners and government agencies involved with transportation.

Program's Success Cited:

Funds Pushed to Aid Vocational Training

Federal vocational education programs should be extended and their funding authorization increased as a key element in helping to get America back to work, the AFL-CIO urged in congressional testimony.

Education Director Walter G. Davis told a House Education subcommittee that the Vocational Education Act, which was adopted in 1963 and amended in 1968, has been the most successful of all federal programs in the field of education.

Davis also noted that graduates of programs set up under the act have an outstanding record of job placement in addition to contributing to the productivity of the nation's economy. Unless Congress extends the act, it will expire June 30.

Tracing the development of federal vocational programs, Davis observed that vocational education was in a deplorable state before the 1963 law was enacted.

"It was evident that when school boards began to divide scarce education funds, the parents of future Harvard graduates carried more political weight than the parents of future bricklayers and carpenters," he said.

The result was that throughout the nation, vocational training students were being taught obsolete skills on obsolete equipment. And because of the competition for educational funds, Davis noted, handicapped and disadvantaged children also failed to get adequate training.

Despite the early success of federal vocational training programs, Davis noted that the record of funding during the past three administrations has been dissappointing with appropriations running far below authorized levels.

"Moreover, there has been a dangerous tendency to utilize specific vocational funds for other programs," Davis observed. "Much of the money supporting the currently fashionable 'career education' has been siphoned away from discretionary vocational education funds."

He pointed out that use of vocational education funds for other programs was not what Congress intended when it passed the 1963 legislation.

Davis called on Congress to reject a proposal of the Ford Administration to consolidate education funds and further drain away the money intended for vocational training programs. Instead, he said, organized labor sees the need for additional categories of funding to finance specific programs through separate authorization.

Davis also expressed concern that states have been overstepping their discretionary powers by failing to budget enough funds for classroom instruction in apprenticeship training programs.

He also cited an imbalance in the distribution of vocational education funds, noting that states have failed to keep pace with the shift in the population from rural areas to urban centers.

Joining with Davis in the testimony were Kenneth Young, assistant director of legislation, and John A. Sessions of the federation's Dept. of Education.

House Panel Backs Bill Lifting Child Labor Ban

A labor-opposed bill to allow big farm enterprises to employ children under the age of 12 won a surprising 5-1 endorsement from a House subcommittee, and the efforts to block it shifted to the full Education & Labor Committee.

Both the AFL-CIO and the Administration oppose the legislation that is sponsored by Rep. Lloyd Meeds (D-Wash.) and is being pushed by commercial strawberry growers in the Pacific Northwest and farm groups in some other parts of the nation.

The bill would repeal an amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act adopted just last year that prohibits farms subject to the wage-hour law from employing children less than 12 years of age. Only large farms, those using more than 500 man-days of hired labor, are subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Kenneth Meiklejohn said the trade union movement rejects the contention "that agriculture must employ very young children in order to survive."

He said the AFL-CIO considers employment of pre-teen children on big farms detrimental to their well-being, a form of economic exploitation and a means of holding down the wages of mature workers.

Meiklejohn scoffed at testimony by one farm employer who told the subcommittee: "There is nothing quite like seeing a child six, eight or 10 years old stand in line waiting for his paycheck at the end of the week. He really feels like a man."

With unemployment above the national average in the states most directly affected, Meiklejohn suggested that a labor shortage couldn't properly be used as an excuse for hiring small children.

Assistant Sec. of Labor Bernard E. DeLury said there is no shortage of older teenagers available to work on farms. And even if the employment of children under 12 were limited to harvests not requiring the use of machinery, he foresaw demands of vegetable growers in the Rio Grande Valley and through sections of the South and Midwest for authority to hire children under 12.

Steelworkers Due 8¢ COL Increase

Pittsburgh—More than 400,000 Steelworkers in the basic steel and container industries will receive cost of living increases of 8 cents an hour in May, the USWA reported.

The adjustments will go into effect May 1 for 400,000 USWA members employed by 10 major basic steel companies and on May 15 for 36,300 members of four major container firms.

Earlier COL adjustments under the union's 1974 contracts raised the hourly pay of the USWA members 56 cents, union President I. W. Abel noted.

Conference Program:

Building Trades Take Case For Job Action to Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

workers is without a job, Georgine noted. And many others, although counted as employed, are on short weeks because of lack of work.

The severity of the construction crisis is fueling the nation's overall unemployment problem and it will take "massive emergency measures" to turn the economy around and put America back to work.

He pledged the department's full efforts to accomplish the program adopted by the conference. To do this, "we intend to use every bit of influence we can muster with Congress . . . the Executive Branch . . . every state, county and local government."

The resolutions adopted by the conference dealt with the issues raised by speakers and with others outlined in a booklet of position papers.

A comprehensive resolution on unemployment covered labor's program for strengthening the jobless compensation system, urged health care for those who lose their insurance coverage along with their jobs, and asked federal assumption of welfare costs.

Another resolution backed legislation to crack down on employers who hire and exploit illegal aliens and urged more funds for enforcement of immigration laws.

The conference strongly defended the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law in a resolution and reiterated support for legislation to allow on-site picketing.

Before acting on a series of resolutions, delegates listened to formal reports on major problem areas:

● Martin J. Ward, president of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, said lack of capital funds has forced cancellation or postponement of construction of 130 generating plants in recent months—despite the nation's urgent need for energy self-sufficiency.

Those projects alone would mean more than 83 million manhours of construction work, he noted.

Ward called for an expanded money supply, lower interest rates and direct government loans, if necessary, to enable the utility industry to meet expansion needs. And he urged also the importance of quick action by Congress to authorize slurry pipelines to carry coal mixed with water from mines to power plants.

● Charles H. Pillard, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, urged expanded public works programs concentrated in areas where unemployment is highest.

"Public works not only put the unemployed back to work but they also build schools in poor and undeveloped areas; they build hospitals for medically underprivileged people, and they rebuild roads where they are needed," he said.

● Hunter P. Wharton, president of the Operating Engineers, called for "a balanced and flexible transportation policy" that would provide both public mass transit and continued highway improvement.

"Both forms of transportation are vital," he said. "Both are necessary to insure future economic growth, and neither will be able to replace the other."

● William Sidell, president of the Carpenters, noted that while unemployment in construction is twice as bad as in the overall economy, the unemployment rate in residential construction is twice as bad as in the construction industry as a whole. Further, he noted, each new home that is built means additional jobs making furniture, carpeting, appliances, as well as building supplies and public facilities.

The greatest need, he said, is for a policy of credit allocation to provide mortgage funds and a major reform of the Federal Reserve Board to compel policies lowering interest rates.

● President S. Frank Raftery of the Painters said the quickest way to create jobs for idled construction workers would be to release and spend federal funds voted by Congress but impounded or deferred by the President. While there has been some improvement from court and congressional action, he said billions of dollars are still tied up by "a game of bureaucratic ring-around-the-rosy."

The complex approval and review procedures set up by the Environmental Protection Agency, Raftery said, have resulted in a lag of more than five years between planning and construction starts. As a consequence, he said, the release of $9 billion in construction funds this year means actual spending of only $50 million in the coming year.

● Thomas F. Murphy, president of the Bricklayers, expressed the frustration and resentment of the building crafts at being made to appear anti-environment when they protest that endless lawsuits and administrative delays are needlessly holding up major construction projects.

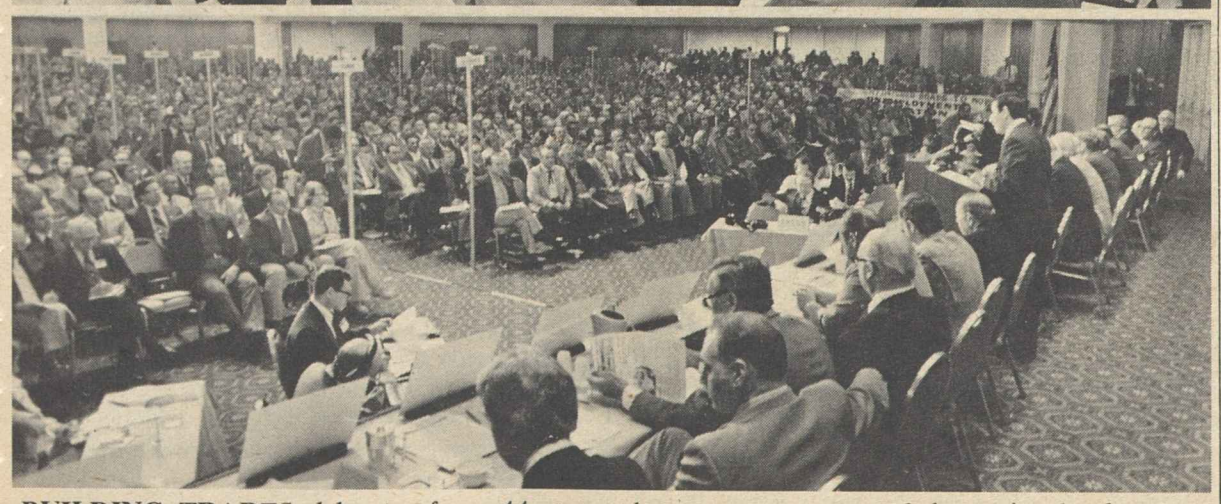
"Union building tradesmen," he said, "believe in clean water, clean air and in safe noise levels —for themselves, their families and all Americans." But they want decisions made on merits and not on technicalities.

Congressional committees that met in special session to consider proposals from the building trades representatives were the House and Senate Labor Committees, House and Senate Banking Committees, House and Senate Interior Committees, House and Senate Public Works Committees, House Ways & Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee.

White House Duties Assigned to Usery

W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, has been appointed a special presidential assistant for labor-management negotiations.

The White House said Usery will continue to head the FMCS while taking on the additional functions of coordinating efforts to settle disputes traditionally beyond the scope of the mediation service. This would include such areas as transportation and atomic energy.



BUILDING TRADES delegates from 44 states shape a program to end depression level unemployment and bring it to Capitol Hill. In top photo, they are welcomed on the Capitol steps by congressional leaders. Below, President Robert Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. addresses the National Jobs Conference.

2 Million Workers Due Wage-Hour Improvement

Nearly 2 million workers will be entitled to overtime pay after fewer hours worked starting May 1 when an amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act takes effect. The reductions apply to groups that are now partially exempt from the basic FLSA overtime standard of time-and-a-half after 40 hours a week.

The largest group consists of 1.5 million hotel and motel workers, who currently are legally entitled to overtime only after 48 hours. This will be reduced to 46 hours on May 1.

Within this group, an estimated 250,000 housekeeping and custodial workers will receive two further reductions in straight-time hours. On May 1, 1976, they will be entitled to overtime pay after 44 hours and on May 1, 1977, after 40 hours.

In addition, 246,000 food service employes will have their maximum straight-time hours reduced from 48 to 44 this May 1. The same reduction will apply to local transit drivers, bowling establishment workers, seafood canning and processing employes and certain telegraph employes.

CWA Fights Rate Hike To Struck Phone Firm

Rochester, N.Y.—The Communications Workers called on the New York State Public Service Commission to deny any portion of a $16 million rate hike sought by the Rochester Telephone Co.

The CWA charged that the telephone firm has shown contempt for the public interest and absolute disregard for its employes in refusing efforts to resolve a union-management dispute. The telephone company's 1,500 plant department employes have been on strike since last Nov. 22.

CWA Vice President Morton Bahr charged in a statement to the commission that while the company is attempting to pattern its rates after those charged by the Bell System, it wants to impose substandard wages and benefits on its employes.

Although the commission has taken the position that it could not deny a rate increase because of a labor dispute, Bahr said that much more is involved, including a marked decrease in service to subscribers.

He further noted that more than 45,000 Rochester telephone subscribers, a unanimous Rochester city council and scores of members of the state legislature have also urged the commission to deny the rate increase.

Bahr pointed out that the union had tried to avert the strike by continuing negotiations for almost a month after its old contract expired. He said the major cause of the strike was the company's attempt to reverse the progress made in earlier CWA contracts in working conditions, wages and fringe benefits.

Subsequent efforts by the CWA and the New York State Board of Mediation to find an acceptable solution to the five-month strike have been totally rejected by the company, Bahr charged.

Not only has the company refused to meet with CWA President Glenn E. Watts, but it also rejected fact-finding procedures mandated by state law. The firm is now attempting in federal court to overturn the state statute governing labor-management disputes in the private sector.

"Rochester Tel obviously has something to hide," Bahr declared. "It seeks to pattern its rates upon those of the Bell System, but wants serious contract retrogression aimed at its employes whose work is identical with that of the New York Telephone Co."

Since the start of the strike, the CWA charged that Rochester Telephone has contracted with an Arizona firm to hire strikebreakers, transport them across state lines and pay them more than double the wages offered its striking employes.

Meany Urges Aid to Rescue Vietnam Allies

(Continued from Page 1)

low a Communist takeover of the South has in fact begun," Meany said.

He said the AFL-CIO has been advised that Peter Nguyen Huy Trai, the bishop of Ban Me Thuot, and two priests have been tried by a "people's court" and executed. In addition, Paul Nguyen Van Hoa, the bishop of Phan Thiet, and four more priests have also been executed, he said in his letter.

Urging bold and forthright action, Meany called on Congress to take "whatever steps are necessary, including the use of American troops, to facilitate the evacuation" of Cambodian and Vietnamese endangered by a Communist takeover.

This "would send a message to our allies and 'potential adversaries' throughout the world and perhaps restore some of that sense of hope in America's role in the world that has been so badly damaged in recent months," Meany said.

Four days after Meany's letter was made public, Attorney General Edward H. Levi issued orders permitting up to 130,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees to enter the United States. These are persons whose lives would be in danger under a Communist regime:

● 50,000 "high risk" Vietnamese refugees and their families, including past and present U.S. government employes and Vietnamese officials.

● Between 10,000 and 75,000 Vietnamese nationals who are immediate relatives of American citizens or permanent resident aliens.

● 1,000 Vietnamese now at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, provided they qualify as high risk individuals.

● 1,000 Cambodians now in Thailand who had been evacuated from Cambodia by the U.S.

● 5,000 Cambodian diplomats in third countries facing forcible return or expulsion.

The Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously endorsed Levi's action.

The Jobs Deficit

ON THE PROJECTED budget deficit for this coming year, the President puts a $60 billion limit and I understand that the House Budget Committee and the Senate Budget Committee put it up to maybe $65 billion or $67 billion.

This spells disaster. We have to face up to the fact that this country is big enough to take a $100 billion deficit. After all, this is a capitalistic system.

AT&T can go out and borrow $500 million and borrow it without any trouble at all. Why? Because they are a growing concern. They are a viable concern. They have assets. They do not sell off their assets when they need money. They go out and raise money.

Why shouldn't Uncle Sam do the same thing? Uncle Sam is a viable concern and this idea that we are going to be ruined by a budget deficit is absolutely ridiculous.

If we listened to the economists, Hitler would have won the war in 1941, 1942, 1943, because the economists said America could not afford to rearm itself and to rearm and supply our allies overseas and we had the greatest production miracle in the history of mankind financed by this government here, financed by the American people, with a huge deficit.

So, we can face a deficit. There is nothing sinful about a deficit, this is a part of our economy. This is the type of society that we live in. You live on borrowed money. You do not sell off your assets. We are not going to sell the national parks. We are not going to sell the great natural resources we have. We are going to go out and borrow from the American people.

In 1947 the gross national product was $219 billion and our national debt was $225 billion. Of course, this was the aftermath of the war.

In 1960, our gross national product was $495 billion and we owed $237 billion. In other words, 47 percent of our gross national product.

WE COME DOWN to today and the last figure we have as an estimate is the gross national product of 1974 of $1,348 billion, with a national debt of $346 billion. In other words, 25 percent.

So, we have come from 102 percent in '47, 89 percent in '48, 82 percent in '49, 83 percent in '50, and we are now down to 25 percent. We are much better off than we were in the last 20 years and still you get these people crying the only solution is to balance the budget.

Well, let me tell you, they are not going to put a white flag on top of the Kremlin and surrender to us if we happen to balance the budget.

The way to balance the budget is to put people back to work and get them paying taxes. That is the way to balance the budget.

The problem is not the budget and the budget deficit. The problem is the jobs. Get America back to work. Find out how much money you need to get these people back to work and then find out where to get the money and we can get it.

This is a very, very wealthy country. This country has tremendous resources and the idea that we cannot face a deficit or that we cannot raise the national debt to where it is 50 percent of the gross national product when it was 100 percent of the gross national product 30 years ago, to me this is absolutely ridiculous.

—From testimony by AFL-CIO President George Meany before a House Public Works subcommittee.

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Under the Gun

A Word Edgewise:

Getting Friends, Foes Straight Is Basic Foreign Policy Need

By John P. Roche

AS THE GRIM NIGHT settles over Southeast Asia, those of us who have agonized over the American commitment for a decade or more are simply heartsick. Not just because we lost—though I am not a good loser and have never yet met one—but because of all the wrong turns that were taken in a basically good cause.

Perhaps the most ironic coincidence of all is that Ambassador Graham Martin, who is witnessing at first hand the shambles in South Vietnam, was the most vehement and persuasive opponent of the "Americanization" of the war—which was the real source of our trouble. However, there is nothing less fruitful than rewriting history as it should have happened. History is not like a film where, if the bad guy outdraws the sheriff, you can shout "cut!" and do a rerun with the appropriate ending.

So, where are we? What are the implications? What should be our national focus? First of all, the President of the United States should stop blaming the Congress for doing precisely what it was elected to do: represent the views of the American people. The hard fact must be faced that the American people blacked out Southeast Asia on their mental maps; they don't want to hear any more about it and probably wish the whole place was 10 feet underwater. The reasons for this are not hard to understand. As the average citizen looks back, he recalls the 50,000 dead, the 300,000 wounded, the $140 billion shot down the drain, and asks a quite sensible question: "Why?"

Ten or 15 years ago there was an answer: to prevent the spread of Communist totalitarianism. But listening to President Ford's speech demonstrated the degree to which that perfectly sound answer has been undermined: the "enemy" of 1960 has in 1975 become the "potential adversary." The minute Mr. Nixon put detente at the top of the list of international objectives and popped up chatting with Brezhnev and Mao, the line between them and us was hopelessly blurred. After all, if you accept the ideological legitimacy of the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, why shoot up their small cousin, North Vietnam?

In saying this I am not nominating myself for president of the Committee for an Insane Nuclear Policy. I am merely arguing that we must look reality in the face; and the reality, as I can document liberally from my reading of the Soviet and Chinese Communist press, is that they are at war with us, that they have repeatedly dedicated themselves to the destruction of democracy. One of the reasons it is so hard to get people to accept this fact is they think that if it is true, there will be war. Since war is too horrible to contemplate, the backward logic runs, they can't be dedicated to the destruction of democracy. And you, Roche, when you write things like this, are a warmonger.

As I have confessed before, gunfire makes me extremely nervous and I am as terrified as the next man at the possibility of nuclear war. But one of the many things I learned from my father was that the surest way to find trouble is to run from it. Thus I am prepared to argue that no rational policy of dealing with the Communist powers can be formulated except on the assumption of implacable ideological hostility.

THE UNILATERAL DETENTE of the past five years must stop, and we should go over to the ideological offensive. Our first national priority, then, is to get our categories straight. If the U.S. government permits the shipment to the USSR of sophisticated electronic equipment (the better to target their missiles with), who can blame the citizen for taking a vacation from world affairs?

The second item on our national agenda should be a full-scale review of our commitments with an honest recognition that the debacle in Southeast Asia has weakened our credibility. Vice President Rockefeller, attending Chiang Kai-shek's funeral, gave an address which never mentioned our mutual defense treaty with the Republic of China. Is it still on? Or, did Secretary Kissinger whisper something to Chou En-lai?

Indeed, there has been too damn much whispering: Let's find out who said what to whom. "Private communications," in Press Secretary Ron Nessen's clumsy phrase, may not include "secret commitments," but let the public make that judgment. I am not suggesting a scapegoat hunt—there is enough blame to go 'round—but a grand inquest which could clear the air and restore our sense of national purpose. We are not a Fourth Century Rome.

A British Viewpoint II:

Murderer's Visit to Haunt TUC Leaders

On Mar. 31, a Soviet "trade union" delegation visited Great Britain at the invitation of the British Trades Union Congress and in exchange for a TUC delegation's visit to Moscow in 1973. Heading the Soviet delegation was Alexander Shelepin, chairman of the "All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR."

Before his appointment as head of the Russian "trade unions," Mr. Shelepin was head of the KGB (1958-61), the hated Soviet secret police. In this capacity, Mr. Shelepin has been accused, among other things of having directed the murders of two anti-Soviet Ukrainian refugees.

His visit to London was greeted by protest demonstrations and sharp editorial attacks in British newspapers. Among the sharpest were two articles in the Times of London by Bernard Levin. The first was reprinted with permission from the Times last week; the second appears below.

TODAY, THE MURDERERS are among us; Mr. Alexander Shelepin has arrived to be fawned over by Mr. Len Murray on behalf of the TUC, and possibly even hobnob merrily with the shameless Mr. Clive Jenkins.

When I say murderers, I am not using the word only as a reminder of the criminal nature of the regime which Shelepin serves; I am not even thinking of the fact that as a former head of the KGB, Shelepin was a murderer in the sense in which every head of that organization has been. (Indeed, in terms of numbers exterminated in the camps, he was probably less homicidal than any other holder of the post.)

I mean murderer in exactly the same sense as would be appropriate in describing a Mafia chief who engages a "hitman" to kill someone who has fallen foul of the organization.

In 1959, the Soviet leaders were becoming alarmed, or at the least disturbed, by the activities abroad of Ukrainian refugees who had managed to escape from the Soviet Union and were having some success in disseminating the truth about the renewed campaign, which had intensified in the previous year, to crush all remaining Ukrainian national individuality.

Two of the leaders of the Ukrainian refugees (has anybody else noticed the bland way in which our minimizers of Soviet tyranny tend to use the slightly raffish and emollient word "émigré" to describe those who have escaped from that vast prison, usually preferring to reserve the starker "refugee" for victims, of say, right-wing Chilean oppression?) were Lev Rebet and Stepan Bandera, who lived in West Germany.

It was decided to have them killed, and the KGB "hit-man," Bogdan Stashinsky, was selected for the job. (Obviously, such a double murder, on the territory of an independent foreign state, was a project which could only have been initiated with the full personal approval of the head of the organization, Shelepin.)

Stashinsky travelled from Moscow to Munich and carried out his orders; he murdered both troublesome refugees by firing cyanide pellets in their faces. He then returned to Moscow, where he was received in public audience by Shelepin, who personally invested him with the Order of the Red Banner.

The citation congratulated Stashinsky on carrying out "an important government commission," and Shelepin drew attention, in his speech, to the fact that the citation was signed by both the Chairman and the Secretary of the Presidium.

This was not designed to be the end of Stashinsky's career. On the contrary, it was made clear to him that a wonderful horizon as an assassin, and as the director of a squad of other assassins, was opening out before him. (One of the first steps taken by Shelepin's KGB in grooming their new activist was to arrange for him to learn English; apparently this would be useful for the work Shelepin had in mind for him, which he described to Stashinsky as "difficult but honorable."

There followed one of the most extraordinary and heartening stories in the entire history of tyranny. Stashinsky had fallen in love in Germany (where he had assumed a German cover-name and identity), with a German girl called Inge Pohl, and they were married. (His employers wanted him to marry another KGB agent, but he assured them Inge was politically "reliable" and they allowed him to go ahead.)

Even as a huge campaign was mounted by the KGB to keep Stashinsky a docile Communist robot and to turn Inge into another, she was chipping away at the life of lies and crime her husband was leading, and opening his eyes to the true nature of his masters and their regime.

Eventually, in circumstances more like a spy-film than real life (or indeed than most spy-films) they defected to West Berlin—that is how we know the full details of the story I have recounted—and there Stashinsky confessed to the murders of Rebet and Bandera, for which he was tried, and was sentenced to eight years imprisonment.

At his trial the judge said that "the guilt of those from whom he received his orders is far greater . . . political murder has now become institutionalized," and Stashinsky said "I wanted to unburden my conscience, and I wanted to give worldwide publicity to the way in which 'peaceful co-existence' really works in practice."

Well, for four days, we shall have an even better, or at any rate closer, demonstration of "the way in which 'peaceful co-existence' really works in practice" as the man who directed, briefed, congratulated and decorated Stashinsky for the murder of two of his victims who believed that they were beyond Shelepin's power, meets British trades unionists, headed by the poor dim thing who is their appointed leader and spokesman, to discuss "matters of mutual concern."

That sounds like an abrupt *non sequitur*, and as a matter of fact it is. For Shelepin's appointment as head of the Soviet "trades union" organization had and has no more validity in terms of any institution bearing the same name in free countries than would his appointment as Chief Justice of the Soviet Supreme Court (equally likely, incidentally, as his lack of any legal qualifications is no greater than his lack of any knowledge or experience of industry or workers' interests, and the one job has no more to do with justice than the other with trades unions, both being instruments through which the total state direction of all aspects of Soviet life are achieved).

From a country where strikes are treated as crimes and strikers, if they are too numerous or too resistant to be arrested, are simply shot down, where no collective bargaining exists, where all organizations except those authorized by, and part of, the State are forbidden, where the principal task of organizations called "unions" is to enforce labor discipline and to carry out—in Shelepin's own words—"the successful implementation of the Party's directives on the development of the national economy," and where it excites no comment (and where no comment would be permitted if it were excited) that the head of the secret police should be appointed to run the national "trades union" body—from such a country comes such a man, a murderer and hirer of murderers, an oppressor and director of oppressors, a liar and servant of liars.

He comes to Britain, where the corruption of the trades union movement has now gone so far that he can be welcomed here, and while here treated as the opposite number of Len Murray, rather than—as would be more appropriate—the opposite number of Ronald Kray.

There will, I hope, be continuous demonstrations throughout the visit. I hope that the demonstrations will be peaceful and orderly, and I hope that they will be massive and vociferous. I hope that the task of showing Shelepin that his nature and role are fully understood here, and that the impudence of his claim to represent Soviet "trades unions" is likewise justly estimated, will not be left only to organizations of refugees from Soviet persecution or the people who work on behalf of those still suffering from it.

I hope—particularly since no less important, and possibly more so, is the task of showing the British people the nature and extent of the poison that has entered the trades union body here—that the demonstrators will include many members of British trades unions, who will recall (I see no reason why it should not be the message on the demonstrators' banners) the words of Mr. Frank Chapple, one of the best and most truly representative of all British union leaders, who said: "The only experience Shelepin has of workers is throwing them in jail."

That is indeed the case, and it is the case against permitting Shelepin to enter this country as a trades union leader, whatever obligations we may have to allow Soviet Government representatives here. It is now too late to prevent him entering, and has clearly been too late from the start to expect the TUC to acquire consciousness of the enormity of what they are doing to change their mind about doing it.

But it is not too late to ensure that Shelepin, and any British trades union and Labor Party officials or MPs associating with him, to be met, wherever they dare to show their faces in public, by people determined to express the contempt and disgust that constitute the proper reaction to this visit.

Programs Urged to Benefit All:

Problems of Elderly Magnified For Nation's Minority Groups

PROBLEMS of low income, health and housing that are so severe for older Americans are magnified for the elderly among the nation's black and other minority groups, two experts on aging declared on Labor News Conference.

The difficulty of meeting the needs of the elderly in a youth-oriented society, when further complicated by factors of race and social disadvantage, becomes multiple jeopardy, said Lawrence Smedley, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, and Hobart Jackson, chairman of the board of the National Caucus on the Black Aged. Jackson pointed out that half of the nation's black elderly have sub-poverty level incomes, about double the rate for the white elderly.

Smedley and Jackson called for a stepped-up effort to locate the more than 2 million elderly who are eligible for, but haven't yet enrolled in the Supplementary Security Income program shaped by Congress two years ago. Jackson called for "an alert—mostly using their peers in a door-to-door campaign." He agreed with Smedley on the need to prod the Administration for an outreach effort to make sure that those who are eligible for SSI know about the program and have a chance to sign up.

Smedley and Jackson said that the health problems of the elderly will not be effectively met as long as there is a separate program for the poor. They said that health care and health services should be a right, not a privilege; that there should be no distinction between the poor and the affluent in receiving such care, and that guarantees should be spelled out in any national health insurance law passed by Congress.

Jackson said that while the NCBA does zero-in primarily on the problems of the black aged, both the membership and leadership of the organization come from all segments of U.S. society. "We feel that if the programs that we recommend are enacted, all of the elderly will benefit," he asserted, and the NCBA recognizes the importance of "coalitions with other groups in that direction."

Reporters questioning Smedley and Jackson were Theodor Schuchat of North American Newspaper Alliance and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. Labor News Conference is broadcast Tuesdays over Mutual radio.

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Worried Americans

The people need to know that the leaders of their government see human beings in unemployment lines, not statistics. Workers must believe that their government recognizes, as they do, that jobs are a worker's only hedge against inflation and disaster.

The unemployed who need food stamps are not cheaters; they are hungry. The jobless are not loafers; they are the victims of ill-advised governmental policies. Those who fear unemployment and fear to purchase needed goods now have not given up on America; they are just worried sick.

Workers know in their hearts that this nation can bear any burden, meet any hardships, defeat any foe—if their leaders deal compassionately, sensibly, fairly, and with all of its people.

—From a statement by AFL-CIO President George Meany.

SEVERE PROBLEMS that afflict older Americans are magnified for the elderly among the nation's minority groups, Hobart Jackson, second from left, board chairman, National Caucus on the Black Aged, and Lawrence Smedley, third from left, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, declared.

UNION NEGOTIATORS bring to the bargaining table contract proposals on behalf of 600,000 postal workers. Bargaining for a new national agreement with the U.S. Postal Service got under way in Washington Apr. 21. The present two-year contract expires July 20. Unions bargaining together are the American Postal Workers, the Letter Carriers, the Mail Handlers division of the Laborers—all AFL-CIO affiliates—and the unaffiliated Rural Letter Carriers.

Illegal Underpayments:

Sharp Jump Found In Wage Violations

Employers illegally underpaid 350,540 workers protected by federal wage and hour laws by nearly $82 million in the first nine months of fiscal year 1975, the Labor Dept.'s wage and hour division reported.

The amount of underpayment was up sharply from the $70.3 million found owed to 266,600 workers during the same period in fiscal 1974. The chiseling occurred during the period from July 30, 1974 to Mar. 31, 1975.

"We attribute the increase to vigorous enforcement of the law by our compliance officers, greater awareness by workers of their wage rights, and to a rise in employer violations following two minimum wage increases since May 1974," Bernard E. DeLury, assistant secretary for employment standards, said.

Also in the same nine months more than 282,000 employes received about $43.2 million in back wages, the Labor Dept. said.

The difference between the total money found due to employes and the actual amount paid them is largely the result of employers' refusals to pay back wages in cases unsuitable for litigation by the Labor Dept., the wage and hour division noted.

The wage and hour division is responsible for enforcing provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act and other wage and hour laws. The FLSA sets minimum wage, overtime and child labor standards for most industries in interstate commerce.

The government noted that 165,339 workers were underpaid a total of $2.2 million in minimum-wage payments in the first nine months of fiscal 1975. In the same period a year earlier, 104,372 workers were underpaid nearly $18 million.

Overtime underpayment amounted to $34.5 million for 192,764 workers, compared to $35.6 million owed 161,543 employes over the comparable period of 1974.

Under the Equal Pay Act, 25,066 workers were underpaid $20.9 million, compared to 22,321 who were cheated of $14.2 million in the same period a year earlier. The act requires equal pay for men and women performing substantially equal work in the same establishment.

Under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 1,610 workers were found to have been underpaid $4.2 million over the period, compared to 1,106 workers who were shorted $2.5 million in the first nine months of 1974. The law protects workers between the ages of 40 and 65 from job and wage discrimination based on age.

Seventy-four workers were underpaid $37,778 as a result of violations of the federal wage garnishment law which limits the amount that may garnished from an employe's pay and prohibits the firing of an employe for garnishment for a single debt. A year earlier, 68 employes were cheated of $17,326.

Poll Demonstrates Public Support Of Social Security Improvement

By John R. Oravec

A great majority of Americans favors automatic cost of living increases in social security benefits without arbitrary limitations and the use of general tax revenues to meet the needs of the elderly—two positions long advocated by organized labor.

The findings are among the highlights of a Louis Harris Poll commissioned by the National Council on Aging (NCOA).

Of the 4,254 persons surveyed during late spring and early summer of 1974, Harris said 97 percent expressed the belief that increases in social security benefits should be made automatically based on rises in the consumer price index. And there was no indication of public support for limiting such cost-of-living increases.

"This is in direct conflict with the effort of President Ford to limit the increase to 5 percent, despite a cost-of-living increase of about 12 percent last year," NOCA President Albert J. Abrams pointed out.

The study also showed that 81 percent of the public feels the federal government has the responsibility to use general tax revenues in assisting older persons.

"There certainly is no support for any notion of a taxpayers' revolt against more assistance to the elderly," Abrams observed.

The Council on Aging described the Harris study as the most extensive ever conducted to determine the public's attitude toward aging and to document the views and attitudes of older Americans about themselves.

Of the 4,254 persons questioned in the survey, 1,457 were between the ages of 18 and 60 and 2,797 were over 65.

Harris also found that 86 percent of the public is opposed to mandatory retirement at a fixed age if the worker wants to continue working and is able to do a good job.

"Most older people of this country have the desire and the potential to be productive, contributing members of our society," Abrams noted in citing the Harris data. "They do not want to be 'put on the shelf' and excluded from social and economic activities."

Among the older persons now retired, 37 percent—or 4.4 million—said they did not retire out of choice, and about 31 percent of those said they would like to be working now.

The pollsters also found that 76 percent of the public agrees that "no matter how much a person earned during his working years, he should be able to have enough money to live on comfortably when older and retired."

The NOCA also said that the survey revealed that most older people feel their condition in life is better economically and socially than the general public believes it to be.

"But 'most' can be a deceptive term," the council pointed out. "It is vitally important to remember that many millions of older people are living at, or below the poverty line.

"Thus, when 15 percent of people over 65 say that 'not having enough money to live on' is a personal problem for them, that percentage translates to some three million needy people."

At its February meeting, the AFL-CIO Executive Council called on Congress to upgrade the nation's social security system through a gradual increase in payroll taxes and the use of general tax revenues to supplement the needs of the fund.

The Executive Council said that arguments against such improvements during the current economic difficulties are unsound.

"We will vigorously oppose the pending Administration proposal to cut back the Medicare program and to hold the scheduled cost-of-living increase to 5 percent," the AFL-CIO statement declared. "The victims of the Administration's economic mismanagement must not be forced to make additional sacrifices."

Court Awards Back Pay to City Strikers

San Francisco—The California Supreme Court has awarded millions of dollars in back pay to some 11,000 members of the Service Employees who struck the city in March 1974.

SEIU Vice President Tim Twomey, secretary-treasurer of Local 250, one of the four units involved in the nine-day strike, said that under the court ruling the city workers are now entitled to an average of $50 each a month for at least 10 months.

Victor Van Bourg, attorney for SEIU Locals 250, 400, 66A and 535, said the state Supreme Court decision strikes down taxpayers' actions against the city, known as the Bangs cases, to stop the raises.

The County Board of Supervisors had passed an order implementing the raises following a strike. The Superior Court in San Francisco issued a temporary restraining order against the board, and seven months later the city filed suit to pay the raises, thus joining the union's position.

"This is a landmark decision," Van Bourg said, "because it settles once and for all that public employers must live up to their agreements with unions even though those unions were engaged in a strike to secure benefits for their members."

Heavy opposition to implementing the raises came from the Chamber of Commerce and other business groups.

Job Protections Gained In Airlines' Route Swap

The Air Line Pilots hailed the government's amendment of the Pan American-Trans World Airline international route swap agreement to include labor protective provisions as a "big victory."

The amendment, approved by the Civil Aeronautics Board, marks the first time in 15 years and only the second time in the board's history that labor protective provisions have been applied to this type of air carrier agreement, ALPA President John J. O'Donnell noted. Normally they are reserved for airline mergers only, he observed.

CAB earlier this year approved the two carriers' agreement to eliminate duplicative services in their Pacific and transatlantic route systems to alleviate current financial problems in their international operations. The amendments will protect 312 TWA pilots and 78 Pan Am pilots affected by the route alignment, O'Donnell said.

Cost of the labor provisions could amount to about $4.7 million a year for TWA and about $1 million annually for Pan Am, O'Donnell pointed out.

The labor protective provisions extend benefits to affected personnel in three ways, O'Donnell noted:

- A furloughed pilot can receive 60 percent of his average monthly pay for a period of up to five years, depending on his length of service.
- A downgraded employe can receive a displacement allowance which represents the difference between what he will earn under the agreement and what he would have earned had the agreement not gone into effect. This special compensation would last for up to four years.
- A pilot required to move as a result of the agreement would receive travel and moving allowances and financial protection involving the sale of his home.

The CAB action is the result of ALPA's efforts to protect the airline personnel who will be impacted by the route swap. The union has long urged the board to treat major route realignment cases as it has handled mergers in the past.

"This action will serve as an important precedent since other carriers are engaging in similar route-current economic slump," O'Donswap negotiations to counter the nell said.

RUBBER WORKERS attending their union's five-day legislative institute in Washington, D.C., had a chance to meet with members of Congress and attend congressional hearings. Here, the speaker is Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio).

Backs $5 Billion Public Works Plan:

Meany Stresses Job Needs More Critical Than Deficit

(Continued from Page 1)

Speaker Carl Albert as part of the Democratic leadership program.

Earlier, Steelworkers President I. W. Abel and President Robert Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. testified to the need for the legislation and its potential value to the nation.

Abel urged Congress to "cast aside once and for all the idea that government spending is wasteful" and spoke of the unmet public needs. Georgine told the panel that the real waste is in the workers, machinery and equipment idled by depression.

Meany sharply challenged the budget line that President Ford drew in a recent televised speech when he pointed to a projected budget deficit on a chart and said that point "is as far as we dare to go."

It was "a sad commentary on the priorities of this Administration," Meany said, that Ford wasn't pointing to an unemployment chart when he drew his line.

"America cannot stand double-digit unemployment. She cannot afford to waste the productive capacity of millions of workers," Meany insisted.

The cost of unemployment in poverty, suffering, crime, the stress on the nation's social fabric doesn't show up on Ford's budget chart, he noted. The President "should also be worried about what unemployment is doing to the people of America."

Meany emphasized that the federal deficit was caused by economic mismanagement and not by excessive federal spending.

Citing the Administration's own estimate as to the revenue drop and spending increase caused by joblessness, Meany suggested that "if unemployment were at the same level today that it was in 1969, when Richard Nixon and Arthur Burns started practicing economic black magic, then there would be a budget surplus right now."

Meany recalled that a $1 billion accelerated public works program enacted during the Kennedy Administration helped the nation recover from the 1960-61 recession and break a cycle of recurring recessions, each of which left a larger number of workers out of jobs when the economy had supposedly returned to normal.

The current economic crisis is worse than any of the recessions since World War II, Meany said, and the task of recovery is correspondingly larger.

The $5 billion proposed in the legislation would create 250,000 jobs—half on construction sites and half off the sites. But as the paychecks flowed into the economic stream, nearly as many additional jobs would be generated.

Further, Meany noted, "workers who have decent jobs aren't drawing unemployment compensation or welfare" and are also paying taxes to federal, state and local governments.

As to the contention that budget deficits spur inflation, Meany countered that when America's economic house is on fire, "let us put out the fire first, then mop up any excess water."

He said that even if the economic plunge were to bottom out in the next few months—which most economists don't expect to happen—the legislation would still be needed "to help get hundreds of thousands of American workers off the bottom."

Millions of unemployed and underemployed look to Congress for help, Meany declared. "They don't want a dole. They want to work."

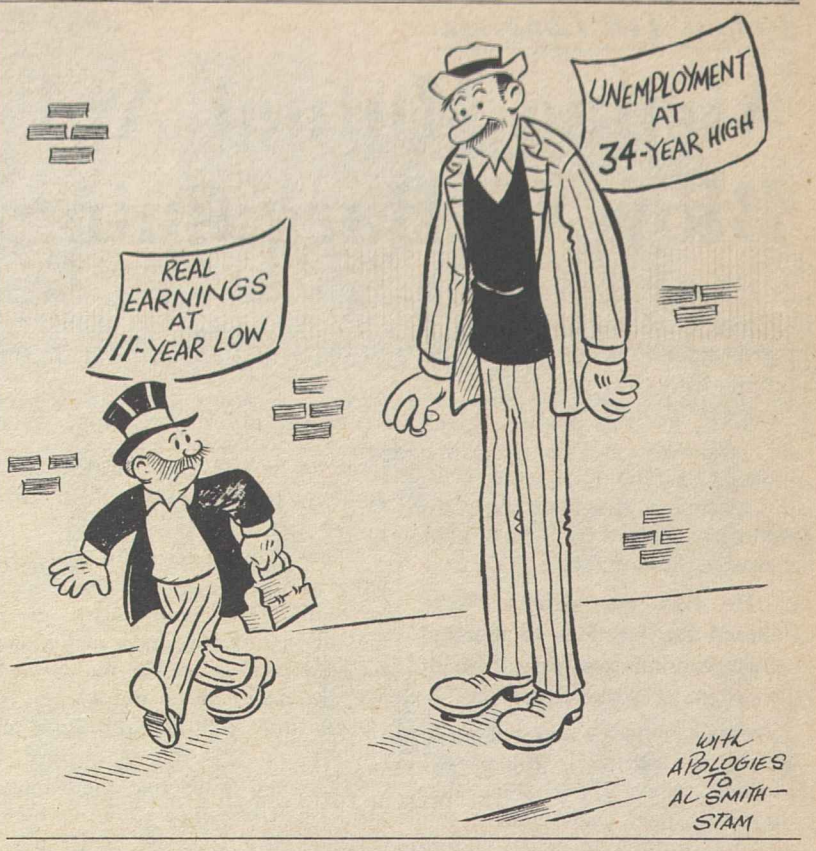
In response to a question, Meany said there is no such thing as an "acceptable" level of unemployment.

A jobless rate that might be acceptable to a person who has a job wouldn't be acceptable to someone still unemployed, he suggested.

As for Administration optimism that recovery will show up in the fourth quarter of the year, Meany noted that the Administration's economists are always seeing upturns in the fourth quarter—until it arrives. Then they start looking to the spring.

The Ford Administration's director of the Office of Management & Budget, James T. Lynn, had told the committee that the proposed legislation would take too long to help end the recession but would increase inflation.

Meany retorted that there is no reason why it should take more than 60 days to get projects under way and put people to work.



Worker Buying Power Drops to 11-Year Low

(Continued from Page 1)

centage basis, the decline was four-tenths of 1 percent from February and 4.8 percent over the year.

The March drop in real spendable earnings reflected a drop of six-tenths of 1 percent in average weekly hours and a rise of three-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index. The average number of hours worked dropped from 36.1 a week in February to 35.9 last month.

The shrinking workweek is a by-product of the slowdown in the nation's economy, which resulted in a record drop of 10.4 percent in real gross national product in the first three months of 1975 alone, according to the Commerce Dept.

With the March decline, real spendable earnings have dropped below their year-earlier level for 25 months in a row.

Prices overall rose at the seasonally adjusted rate of three-tenths of 1 percent last month, continuing the declining trend in the rate of increase that began last fall, BLS said.

The March increase was the smallest since July 1973 when wage-price controls were in effect. The CPI that month rose by two-tenths of 1 percent.

Food prices in March declined five-tenths of 1 percent while nonfood commodity prices rose six-tenths of 1 percent and service charges increased four-tenths of 1 percent.

At 157.8, the March consumer price index was still 10.3 percent higher than it was a year earlier. While prices over the month were lower for many foods—particularly beef, eggs and sugar—prices rose for many nonfood items, including automobiles, clothing, houses and medical care services, BLS said.

For the three months ended in March, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.6 percent. Food prices over the quarter were up 1.4 percent; prices of nonfood commodities increased 8.3 percent over the same period, and the cost of services during the January-March period rose 8.2 percent.

Over the year, the food index rose 7.7 percent, the nonfood commodities index went up 11.4 percent, and the services index increased 11 percent.

While price declines were posted for a wide variety of grocery store foods in March, BLS noted they were partially offset by price rises for bakery products, non-alcoholic beverages and other products for which sugar is an important ingredient.

ULLICO Set New Records During 1974

New York—Union Labor Life Insurance Co., a union-owned firm, reported life insurance in force topped the $3 billion mark last year.

Citing 1974 year-end figures, ULLICO Board Chairman J. Albert Woll, disclosed that the insurance in force climbed from $2,919,390,000 at the close of 1973 to $3,070,006,000. This is about double the $1,507,483,000 recorded 10 years earlier, Woll noted.

Assets of the 48-year-old company also reached an all-time high of $184.6 million, an increase of 21.9 percent from 1973.

ULLICO paid out a record $194.3 million in benefits to policyholders and beneficiaries last year, bringing payments since 1927 to more than $2 billion, Woll pointed out.

Dividends to policyholders also increased 15 percent last year to a record $15.2 million. Woll said other records were set during 1974 in earnings, premium income and pension plan reserves.

ULLICO is principally owned by AFL-CIO affiliates, local unions, and state and city central bodies.

Labor Studies Center Lists Schedule for May

Five labor organizations will use the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center for leadership training during May. They include the Machinists, Building & Construction Trades Dept., United Transportation Union, Fire Fighters, Bricklayers and the Government Employees.

The center will also conduct two off-campus institutes in May at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and the University of California, Berkeley.

The center's schedule for May:

Machinists—A program to help IAM business representatives negotiate and write contract provisions under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. Participants will review how the law is being applied and the trends in court decisions with emphasis on protecting and promoting the interests and rights of members and their union. From 4 p.m., Monday, May 5, through Friday, May 9.

UTU—A seminar for the union's general chairmen will cover initial claim and grievance processing and presentation before public law boards, railroad economics, current legal problems, union structure and communications techniques. From 4 p.m., Sunday, May 11, through Friday, May 23.

Building Trades—An advanced institute on occupational safety and health sponsored by the Building & Construction Trades Dept. for officers who attended the department's earlier OSHA sessions last year. From 4 p.m., Sunday, May 11, through Friday, May 23.

Fire Fighters—A program to instruct union officers on procedures under Executive Order 11838 as it relates to bargaining for fire fighters in the federal service. From 4 p.m., Monday, May 26, through Friday, May 30.

Bricklayers—A special staff conference from 4 p.m., Tuesday, May 27, through Friday, May 30.

Government Employees—A meeting of the National Capital Area Dept. education committee for 75 leaders of District 14. Saturday, May 31.

The two off-campus institutes are:

Intelligence and Aptitude Testing—An institute offered with the cooperation of the School for Workers, University of Wisconsin, Madison, on testing and its implications for collective bargaining. From 4 p.m., Sunday, May 4, through Thursday, May 8.

Grievance Arbitration—An institute offered with the cooperation of the University of California, Berkeley, on the preparation and presentation of arbitration cases. From Monday, May 12, through Friday, May 16.

More information on these and other programs may be obtained from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Phone 301/431-6400.

State-County Adds 4,100 In Two Units

Some 3,000 state workers in Iowa and 1,100 in Louisiana have chosen the State, County & Municipal Employees to represent them in negotiations with their employers.

Officials at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge granted voluntary recognition to AFSCME after the union had collected 750 authorization cards from maintenance, food service and custodial workers at the institution. The new bargaining unit has a membership of 1,100.

In Iowa, the 3,000-member State of Iowa Employees Association decided by a vote of more than 2 to 1 to affiliate with AFSCME. The group had been affiliated with the Assembly of Governmental Empolyees, a loose alliance of state employe associations.

Two other former AGE affiliates previously had negotiated affiliation agreements with AFSCME. They are the 22,000-member Hawaii Government Employees Association and the 8,000-member Rhode Island State Employees Association.

Nygren Retires from AFL-CIO Staff Post

Lawrence G. Nygren, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Information Systems & Data Processing, retired Apr. 25 after more than 21 years with the federation and the AFL before merger.

Nygren started out as a Bricklayer's apprentice in the mid-1920s in Minneapolis before switching to the white-collar trades. He joined the Stenographers, Bookkeepers, Typers & Assistants in 1937 and served as a local business agent and financial secretary.

From 1945 to 1953, Nygren was a national vice president of the Office Employees International Union, a forerunner to the Office & Professional Employees.

Nygren joined the AFL national staff in 1953. He was head of the federation's tabulating department until the Information Systems & Data Processing was set up in 1973.

Unions Tell Congress:

Airline Mutual Aid Blow to Bargaining

The so-called "mutual aid pact" operated by the nation's major airlines is incompatible with collective bargaining, and should be legislated out of existence, the AFL-CIO and its airline industry unions told Congress.

MAP, as it is known, gives carriers an unfair advantage over its employes at the bargaining table, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller charged in testimony before a Senate Commerce subcommittee.

He said the airlines "have abused the freedom to marshal their economic resources through a system of strike assistance."

Sixteen of the 19 major domestic airlines are parties to the pact, in existence since 1958. Since then, they have paid each other a total of $360 million in strike support funds.

Under the agreement, a carrier-member is guaranteed 50 percent of its normal operating expenses for the first two weeks of a strike; 45 percent for the next week; 40 percent for the following week, and 35 percent during the remainder of the strike. The money is paid the struck carrier by other pact signatories.

Because a walkout reduces an airline's operating expenses, MAP guarantees the carrier a profit, Biemiller charged, adding:

"There can be little or no incentive on the part of a management to compromise and conclude a strike so long as the company is guaranteed a profit during that strike no matter how long the strike lasts and . . . so long as it is distinctly possible that this guaranteed profit may be even greater than the return to be anticipated from continued operations.

"Under these conditions," Biemiller noted, "the incentives are all the other way. A means is thereby provided of breaking the strike, and even the union."

Air Line Pilots President John J. O'Donnell termed the mutual aid pact "a concerted effort by the large carriers to gain absolute bargaining power over their employes."

"The fact that these carriers have not succeeded is irrelevant." he said. "The unnecessary grief and the agony that have accompanied the process are the real issues. We do not believe the Congress can permit such a procedure to endure."

O'Donnell noted that there have been 14 strikes since 1969 in which carriers have received MAP payments. ALPA pilots were affected by 13 of the strikes.

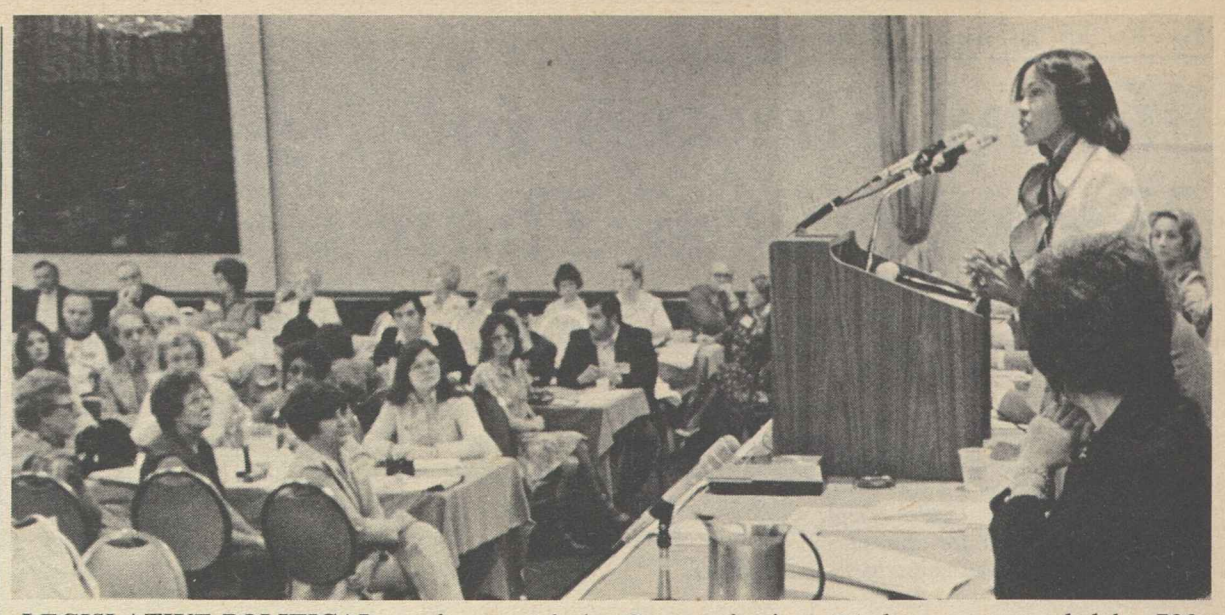
"We estimate that our pilots have lost approximately $65 million in wages by reason of these stoppages," O'Donnell said.

Beyond the damage to airline employes, the flying public also suffers because of the pact, the ALPA leader noted. Communities dependent on commercial air service have been left completely isolated. Ticket costs have risen, and flight safety has deteriorated, he said.

Rep. Joseph E. Karth (D-Minn.), who has introduced legislation in the House to outlaw the agreement, told the Senate panel MAP inflicts serious economic damage on local business enterprises as well as communities.

Communities that have suffered most severely from needlessly prolonged strikes are those served by only one airline, he noted.

Among others testifying in support of legislation to abolish MAP were Machinists Vice President John Peterpaul, Transport Workers Vice President William Lindner, and Allen McCauley, general chairman of the Northwest Orient Airlines System Board, of the Railway & Airline Clerks.



LEGISLATIVE-POLITICAL conference of the Communications Workers was attended by 700 delegates, the largest number in the program's history. Here they listen to Rep. Yvonne B. Burke (D-Calif.), one of many members of Congress who spoke to the group.

Anti-Union Bills Die In New Hampshire

Concord, N.H.—Two anti-labor measures were defeated in the New Hampshire legislature as trade unionists responded to a call by the State AFL-CIO to contact their representatives on the issues.

The first measure, calling for the repeal of the state's "Little Davis-Bacon Act," which requires payment of prevailing wages for public works employes, came out of committee with a recommendation for passage. But after a series of parliamentary moves, the House voted to postpone the bill indefinitely.

A week later, a "right-to-work" bill to outlaw union shop agreements met a similar fate.

Labor Asks Overhaul of Jobless Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

times in the past five years."

Seidman told the panel that linking the availability of long-term benefits to large-scale and rising unemployment "just doesn't make sense." Many workers suffer long periods of joblessness even when the overall unemployment rate is comparatively low and the closing of a plant could leave a large group of workers in a community jobless for a long time.

He compared the present approach of providing extended benefits only during severe recessions to a hospitalization insurance plan that would provide an individual with up to 60 days of coverage, with an additional 30 days available "on the condition that a certain proportion of the population is also sick."

Jobless workers, he said, "can't wait for an epidemic of unemployment."

A U.S. Chamber of Commerce spokesman had suggested earlier that there should be a careful study of the entire unemployment insurance system, perhaps by a special commission.

Asked his reaction to the suggestion, Seidman said the AFL-CIO would "strongly oppose" a long-term study unless it were coupled with legislation that would meet present urgent needs.

Earlier, Sec.-Treas. William Lucy of the State, County & Municipal Employees, urged a permanent extension of coverage to all public workers. He said a majority of the 12 million state and local government employes are not eligible for jobless benefits under state laws.

Unemployment Tops 6% in 105 Key Areas

(Continued from Page 1)

surveyed each month was the highest total in any one month since the present classification system was started in May 1955," the government said.

The total was 64 above a year earlier. The previous high was in April 1961 when 101 areas reported substantial joblessness.

The one-month increase of 31 new areas was also a record, the Labor Dept.'s Manpower Administration observed. The previous record increase was 25, posted in March 1961 when the classifications were made on a bimonthly basis.

The number of areas with jobless rates of 12 percent or more within the substantial unemployment category rose to 11 in March from 4 the previous month.

Areas with rates between 9 and 11.9 percent increased from 3 in March 1974 to 22 last month. The number of areas with rates between 6 and 8.9 percent rose from 37 to 72 over the same period.

"The worsening of the unemployment situation in most areas reflected primarily sizable employment losses in factory employment, mainly in the durable goods sector," the Labor Dept. noted.

"In the majority of areas, employment declines in construction and trade also contributed significantly to higher unemployment levels."

The 31 areas added to the substantial unemployment list in March are Hartford and Stamford, Conn.; Atlanta; Chicago; Evansville, Fort Wayne, Gary-Hammond-East Chicago, Indianapolis, South Bend and Terre Haute, Ind.; Kansas City, Mo.; Omaha; Albany-Schenectady-Troy, Binghamton and Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.; Asheville, Charlotte-Gastonia and Greensboro - Winston-Salem - High Point, N.C.; Akron, Canton and Dayton, Ohio; Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Erie, Johnstown, Pittsburgh and York, Pa.; Salt Lake City-Ogden, Utah, and Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee and Racine, Wis.

A labor area consists of a central city or cities and the surrounding territory within commuting distance. Major labor areas usually have at least one central city with a population of 50,000 or more.

Besides major job centers, the department also lists other areas that meet the substantial unemployment criteria.

In March, the government added 12 more areas to the list of smaller labor areas with substantial unemployment, and deleted one. This brought the total of such areas to 310, compared to 299 in February. A year earlier, the total was 274.

Areas classified as having substantial unemployment become eligible for preferential treatment in bidding on federal contracts.

North Carolina Stalls Equal Rights Plank

Raleigh, N.C.—The Equal Rights Amendment is still four states short of the 38 ratifications needed to write it into the Constitution and the goal almost certainly won't be reached this year.

The North Carolina House voted 62-57 against ratification of the labor-endorsed amendment that would prohibit all legal inequalities based on sex.

North Dakota ratified the amendment in February—the only state to do so this year. Hopes for approval in Illinois and Missouri have dimmed and supporters are now looking to 1976 elections to state legislatures to achieve ratification the following year. The deadline for approval by 38 states is March 1979.

Stronger Pay Priority Sought in Bankruptcy

A long-overdue updating of the federal Bankruptcy Act is needed to protect workers when their employer's business fails, the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. testified at Senate hearings.

IUD General Counsel Elliot Bredhoff noted that the ceiling on employe wage claims that have priority on the assets of a bankrupt firm was last adjusted in 1926. At that time it was set at $600 and limited to wages earned but not paid during the three months before the start of bankruptcy proceedings. The priority, furthermore, applied only to assets of the firm not held as security for other debts.

A bill before the Judiciary subcommittee would raise the wage claim ceiling to $1,200 and include a range of fringe benefits priced at up to $300.

Bredhoff said the legislation would be "a step in the right direction." But he urged the subcommittee to improve on the bill, especially since adjustments in the wage claim provisions come at long intervals.

There should be no dollar limit on claims on behalf of workers, Bredhoff said, and valid claims dating up to a year before the "substantial cessation of business" should be recognized.

The law should be clear, Bredhoff suggested, that the priority wage claim should include such factors as failure of an employer to keep up contributions to a health and welfare plan or to make other payments obligated by a collective bargaining agreement.

Bredhoff strongly urged that wage claims be treated in the same manner as secured claims. "Employes who invest their working careers in their companies should have no less protection under the law than one who invests capital on a secured basis," he said.

4-26-75

Bank Profits Still Rising Despite Economic Slump

Early reports on first-quarter profits show that while the economy was in its worst decline since the Great Depression the banking industry remained calm, cool—and collected.

Indeed, the nation's 25 major bank holding companies collected an astounding first-quarter average earnings gain of 28 percent, according to M. A. Shapiro & Co., Inc., a New York bank securities firm.

What's more, of the first 100 banks and bank holding companies to report their first-quarter profits, 77 listed higher income before securities transactions. The 77 banks showed an average increase of 24.4 percent.

Analysts observe that the banks have pursued a simple policy of keeping profits high by not cutting their interest rate charges as fast as their interest rate costs have fallen, thus creating a fatter spread.

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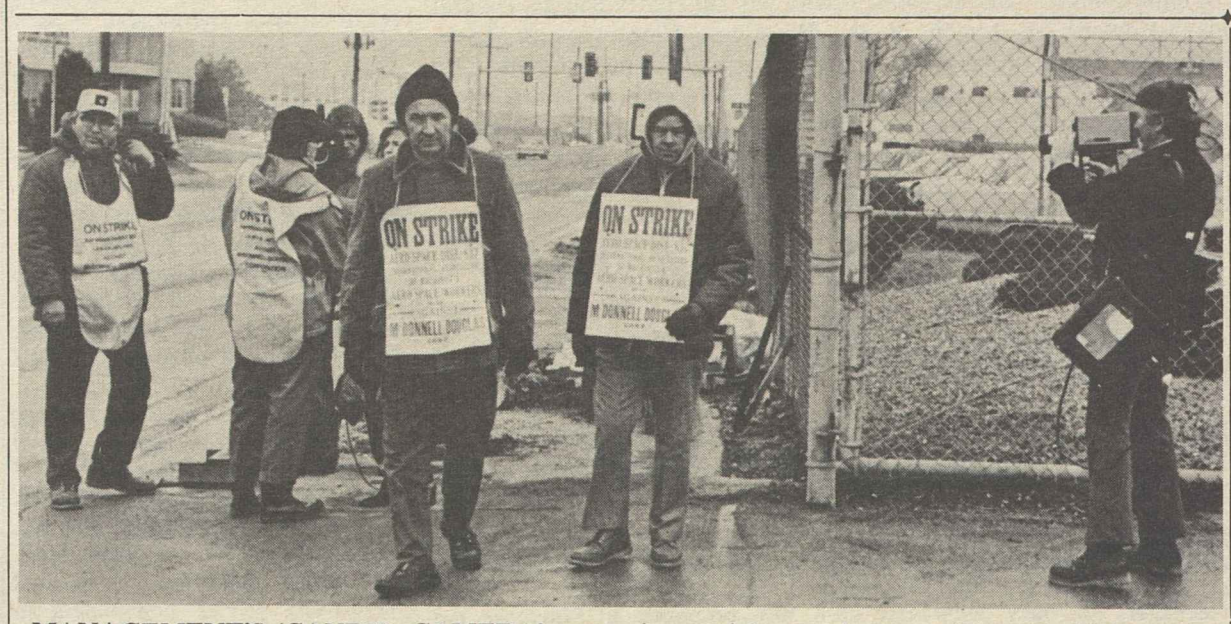
Budget Ceiling Undercuts Anti-Recession Programs



MANAGEMENT'S 'CANDID CAMERA' zooms in on pickets to harass striking Machinists at a McDonnell Douglas aerospace facility in St. Louis. The strike by 12,000 IAM members is now in its third month because of the company's refusal to make any meaningful proposals to settle the contract dispute, the union charged. IAM's contracts with the firm expired last October.

Job Funds, Housing Aid Threatened

A $6 billion emergency job-funding bill and an anti-recession package of housing legislation advanced closer to final passage despite Administration veto threats.

The bills passed both the House and Senate by margins greater than the two-thirds that would be needed to override a veto. They will be voted on again after House-Senate conference committees resolve some differences between the two versions.

President Ford sought unsuccessfully to persuade first the House and then the Senate to slash the $6 billion price tag of the Emergency Unemployment Appropriation bill.

The bill was put together by House leaders in early March with the intent of getting as many people to work as soon as possible by voting more funds for a vast array of existing programs. It included public service jobs, summer jobs for youth, an assortment of public works construction, conservation projects and purchase of vehicles with the aim of reviving the auto industry.

Ford's attempt to limit the extra funds to the $2 billion provided for public service and summer jobs was overwhelmingly rejected and the bill passed the House, 313-113.

The Senate changed the ingredients somewhat, adding additional funds for summer jobs for youth, cutting back on purchases of new vehicles but earmarking $700 million "to provide federal financial assistance to railroads for repairing, rehabilitating and improving rail rights-of-way and facilities." Before the rail money could be spent, however, Congress would have to pass enabling legislation.

In the Senate as in the House, attempts to cut back the amounts were beaten by one-sided votes and the bill was approved, 53-14.

The portion of the funds that would be spent during the 1976 fiscal year starting July 1 are included in the budget totals developed by both the House and Senate Budget Committees—which could become an important factor in a veto override battle.

On housing legislation, the Senate combined two House-passed measures into a single bill.

It then gave 64-26 approval to a bill including:

- A form of mortgage interest

(Continued on Page 3)

Message to Ford, Congress:

60,000 at IUD Rally Demand 'Jobs Now'

By John R. Oravec

Sixty thousand unemployed workers and trade unionists staged the largest jobs rally Washington has ever seen and, in the words of their leaders, served notice on Congress and the Administration that the nation's jobless "will not quietly or supinely accept unemployment as a way of life."

They came from dozens of eastern and midwestern states to call on their government for policies and programs that will restore a full employment economy.

They came in trains, cars and more than 1,000 buses to Robert F. Kennedy Stadium for the "We Want Jobs Now" rally sponsored by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

The rally itself, Apr. 26, was preceded by a demonstration at the Capitol by thousands of trade unionists from New York and New Jersey, who then marched two miles to the stadium. Earlier in the day a contingent from the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers conveyed their jobs protest to the Ford Administration by marching outside the White House before joining the stadium gathering.

Before many of the marchers made it to the stadium, the gates were ordered closed when stadium officials declared the 53,000-seat facility filled to capacity. Thousands remained outside.

On the basis of the massive turnout, the IUD termed the rally a success even though the proceedings were disrupted when a number of demonstrators poured onto the field. The speakers were unable to be heard over the chanting demonstrators who crowded the platform.

When the on-field demonstrators swelled to about 1,500 it became impossible to continue the scheduled program.

But the message the rally participants brought for the Administration and the Congress was made clear, IUD President I. W. Abel and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman declared.

In a letter to members of Congress and President Ford, Abel and Clayman warned that they must

(Continued on Page 3)

Wage Gains Climb in '75 Settlements

Workers covered by major collective bargaining agreements negotiated first-year wage increases averaging 12.5 percent in settlements reached in the first quarter of 1975, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The 12.5 percent figure compares with a 10.3 percent increase during the previous quarter, 7.1 percent in the first quarter of 1974 and 9.8 percent for 1974 as a whole.

When averaged over the life of the contract, the settlements reached in the January to March period provide an annual gain of 7.7 percent. This compares with a 7.2 percent rise in fourth-quarter 1974 settlements, 6.1 percent in the same quarter a year earlier, and 7.3 percent for all of 1974.

The measures do not include possible gains under cost-of-living escalator clauses, BLS noted. The

(Continued on Page 7)

Vote Limits Economic Stimulus

By David L. Perlman

Congress moved towards adoption of a budget ceiling that would rule out many of the programs the AFL-CIO considers necessary to get America back to work.

A key 64-29 vote in the Senate rejected a labor-sponsored amendment that would have added $9 billion to the spending level recommended by the Senate Budget Committee. The extra money would have been earmarked for job-creating programs.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller termed the rejection "a vote against stimulating the economy and a vote for continued high unemployment."

While the budget ceiling is not binding on Congress this year, it is expected to be a strongly persuasive factor in congressional appropriations votes and in the ability of Congress to override a host of threatened presidential vetoes. Congress last year voted to establish its own budget machinery in an attempt to recapture control of spending from the White House. This involves setting a spending ceiling that in future years will be legally binding.

The budget ceiling this year will be somewhere between the $365 billion recommended by the Senate Budget Committee and the somewhat higher amount in a budget resolution that was being considered by the House as the AFL-CIO News went to press. The House Budget Committee proposed a $368.2 billion spending total.

After defeating the labor-sup-

(Continued on Page 7)

Labor Stands Firm On Health Care Goal

New York—National health insurance will stay at the top of labor's legislative agenda until it is enacted, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

Meany urged a New York state coalition supporting the Health Security bill to hold firmly to the basic principle that all Americans —"as a matter of right"—should have access to the same high standard of health care.

The AFL-CIO doesn't want a bill that will just take care of union members, Meany said. And labor won't support a bill tailored to guarantee the insurance industry a profit, even if some argue it would be "politically smarter" to give the insurance lobby "a piece of the action."

Meany's address to a dinner sponsored by the New York State Committee for National Health Security was presented by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. The committee headed by Clothing Workers President Murray H. Finley, also honored Mary Lasker for her lifetime dedication to public health and support for the concepts embodied in the Health Security bill.

Other speakers included Leonard Woodcock, chairman of the Committee for National Health Insurance and president of the Auto Workers, Gov. Hugh Carey and New York City Mayor Abraham Beame.

A subcommittee of the House Ways & Means Committee is scheduled to begin hearings on national health insurance this spring, and

(Continued on Page 7)

Economy's Indicators Show Negative Trend

The government's composite index of leading economic indicators pointed downward again in March, the seventh decline in this key barometer in the past eight months.

The index, which is supposed to foreshadow trends in the economy, fell five-tenths of 1 percent in March after rising six-tenths of 1 percent the previous month, the Commerce Dept. said.

The March decline put the index at 154.5 percent of its 1967 base, or 14 percent below its peak of last July.

Five of the nine available indicators showed declines from February to March, while four registered increases. Moving unfavorably were new orders for durable goods, the average workweek, the price-labor cost ratio, building permits and the change in consumer installment debt.

The positive indicators were stock prices, industrial prices, initial unemployment insurance claims and contracts and orders for plant and equipment.

Meanwhile, more Americans applied for the first time for unemployment insurance benefits after being laid off from their jobs. The

(Continued on Page 2)

EMERGENCY CONFERENCE on jobs for the arts explores proposals for expanding employment opportunities for members of entertainment unions. Shown from left are Henry Kaiser, general counsel of the Musicians; President Edward M. Lynch of the Broadcast Employees & Technicians; AFL-CIO Economist Elizabeth Jager; Joan King, secretary for the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees; Jack Golodner, council executive secretary; AFM President Hal C. Davis, conference chairman; Executive Vice President George Gill of the Communications Workers; Executive Sec. Sanford I. Wolff of the Television & Radio Artists; Executive Sec. Donald Grody of Actors' Equity, and Executive Sec. DeLloyd Tibbs of the Musical Artists.

Upgrading Least Desirable Jobs Held 'Major National Challenge'

Undesirable, low-level jobs—filled disproportionately by minority, female and young workers—need to be upgraded "as part of the general effort to improve society," the National Planning Association declared.

Aside from this broad moral mandate to raise the quality of low-level work, however, a growing shortage of workers willing to accept these substandard jobs adds to the urgency of the problem, NPA notes in a joint statement signed by 100 leaders of business, labor, agriculture and the professions.

As defined by NPA in its statement, "Upgrading Low-Level Employment: A Major National Challenge," low-level jobs are those that combine low pay, low skill, little challenge and no upward mobility. NPA estimates some 12 million jobs in the United States have these characteristics.

Reasons cited for the expected decline of Americans willing to take low-level jobs include rising expectations and opportunities for minorities, higher levels of education and training, reduced rural outmigration, demographic changes that will diminish the numbers of teenagers and new labor-force entrants in the 1980s, and increased income-support measures.

The statement points out that the normal forces of the market in the long run tend to correct imbalances between the supply and demand for low-level workers but adds the adjustment process can be assisted and speeded with timely and enlightened action by government, labor and management:

"By seeking ways to eliminate, upgrade or redesign low-level jobs, these institutions can smooth the path toward a society in which all workers have decent jobs with adequate wages."

The statement was developed by an ad hoc committee and endorsed by members of the NPA board and standing and special committees, including 20 labor leaders.

Projections of future labor supply and demand by the NPA suggest that for the lowest skilled jobs there will be a shortfall of low-skilled workers in the years ahead.

The dilemma posed, then, is a prospective mismatch of needed work and available workers in low-status jobs that will command the attention of both public and private policy makers in coming years.

The NPA proposes a number of specific policy actions to deal with the problem and comes down hard on two goals to be avoided.

First, it calls for a crackdown on illegal alien workers and those who employ them.

"The plea that certain jobs will go unfilled without illegal aliens willing to tolerate substandard conditions must be met by imaginative job upgrading or foregoing certain goods and services if that cannot be done," the statement asserts.

"Prohibiting employers from hiring illegal aliens is probably the only means of stemming the tide of illegal immigration or of getting proper attenton paid to upgrading the jobs."

A second strategy to be rejected, the NPA statement says, is the "backward-looking" idea of tailoring the educational system to fit the job market by discouraging extended schooling for those who do not need much formal education for certain low-level jobs.

The statement declares that any proposals to "increase the supply of 'dumb' workers for 'dumb' jobs" by restricting education are contrary to democratic principles and ignore the non-economic benefits of education.

Outlining its recommendations to upgrade low-level jobs, the NPA says that planners should encourage elimination of these jobs where possible through technological change, seek to improve continuing low-status jobs by restructuring them, and "try to insure that no segment of society is unfairly relegated to the undesirable work which remains."

Labor officials who signed the statement added a footnote, declaring:

"The more rapid unionization of workers now employed at low-level jobs holds the greatest promise of upgrading their status quickly. . . .

"To facilitate unionization of low-level employes, the National Labor Relations Act should be amended to provide full coverage of all workers, to expedite its procedures, and to provide effective penalties for unfair labor practices."

Union leaders endorsing the statement included Steelworkers President I. W. Abel; Rubber Workers President Peter Bommarito; Steelworkers Research Director Otis Brubaker; Steelworkers Sec.-Treas. Walter J. Burke; Frank Fernbach, assistant to Abel; Sander Genis, manager of the Clothing Workers Minnesota Joint Board; AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger; President Paul Jennings of the Eelectrical, Radio & Machine Workers; Sec. Joseph D. Keenan of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; President-emeritus Edward J. Leonard of the Plasterers' & Cement Masons; Gerard P. O'Keefe, international director of the Retail Clerks; Rudolph Oswald, Service Employees' research director; Newspaper Guild President Charles A. Perlik; Letter Carriers President James H. Rademacher; Painters President S. Frank Raftery; AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman; Lazare Teper, research director of the Ladies' Garment Workers; Operating Engineers Sec.-Treas. J. C. Turner; Operating Engineers President Hunter P. Wharton, and Machinists Vice President William W. Winpisinger.

Rail Accord Wins Approval Of Machinists

The Machinists overwhelmingly ratified a new agreement with the nation's major railroads, leaving only six unions with railway employes that have not settled with the industry in the current round of bargaining.

The IAM pact, reached in March, is similar to the agreements other rail unions have negotiated, and provides for boosts in wages and fringe benefits valued at about 41 percent over three years.

Meanwhile, the four shopcraft unions that make up the AFL-CIO Railway Employees' Dept. continued their negotiations with the assistance of the National Mediation Board.

The unions currently are conducting a poll of their members to authorize a strike if a settlement is not reached. The voting is expected to be completed by May 16.

A presidential factfinding panel is investigating the dispute between the Railway & Airline Clerks and the carriers. The appointment of the emergency board in mid-April put off a strike BRAC had scheduled for Apr. 18.

The Yardmasters continued to negotiate minor differences that have proved obstacles to settlement. They sought the aid of the National Mediation Board.

Key Government Index:

Economic Indicators Resume Downturn

(Continued from Page 1)

Labor Dept. reported 493,000 new claims were filed during the week ended Apr. 19.

Of this number, 456,600 were filed under regular state employment programs, a decrease of 39,700 from the previous week. Overall, 6,368,600 Americans drew jobless insurance benefits under one program or another in the week ended Apr. 12.

While down slightly from the previous week, the number of new claimants still was at an extraordinarily high level. Joblessness in the United States in March spread to 8 million workers, with the unemployment rate of 8.7 percent the highest in 34 years. The April jobless rate, due to be released on May 2, was expected to be even higher.

The deepening economic slump also was reflected by the volume of help-wanted newspaper advertisements and machine-tool orders in March.

The business-oriented Conference Board reported its help-wanted advertising index fell another 1.4 percent over the month to 70 percent of the 1967 average, and was 41 percent below last July's level. The index measures help-wanted advertising in 52 newspapers in nine regions of the U.S.

Machine-tool orders in March were up from the previous month but still remained sluggish, according to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. Orders totaled $79.4 million, but were only about a quarter of the $321.1 million of a year earlier.

Adding to the woes of the depressed housing industry, the Housing & Urban Development Dept. announced an increase in the maximum allowable interest rate on home loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration or guaranteed by the Veterans Administration. The rate ceiling was boosted from 8 to 8.5 percent on Apr. 28. Builders had looked to lower interest rates to revive the industry.

In another report, the Labor Dept. noted a sharp plunge in manufacturing productivity in the first quarter of 1975. The decline in output per man-hour was 7.2 percent, and followed a 1 percent drop in the fourth quarter of last year.

The movement reflected a 31.4 percent decline in output and a 26.1 percent decline in man-hours, declines which "may be indicative of a drawing down of inventories, in which sales are not replaced by immediate new production of goods," the Labor Dept. said.

Ford Urged To Affirm U.S. Ties to Israel

President James T. Housewright of the Retail Clerks called upon President Ford to reaffirm the basic U.S. policy of uncompromising support for the continued independence of the State of Israel.

"When the President himself is questioning the steadfastness of U.S. resolve, it is no time to dilute one of our most principled and justifiable international commitments," Housewright said.

He continued: "Israel is a democratic government. Her people are totally committed to the defense of their country. U.S. assistance is well used and deeply appreciated, and no request for U.S. military intervention has been made. Under these circumstances, and in recognition and understanding of modern history and the United States' international role, our deep rooted commitment to provide Israel with the means to defend herself must be fulfilled.

"The pointed call for a reassessment of U.S. Middle Eastern policy should not be allowed to be interpreted as a weakening of our basic commitment," Housewright said.

ILO Conference Asks Public Worker Rights

Geneva—A 61-nation conference held by the International Labor Organization proclaimed that all categories of public service workers "should have the same civil and political rights as all other citizens."

The more than 300 government and trade union delegates who attended the 10-day session urged the ILO to draft a new international accord to insure that all public workers enjoy such rights.

"This is a real step forward because it is the first time that an international conference has recognized that public sector workers are entitled to the same political rights as those in the private sector," President Francis S. Filbey of the Postal Workers commented after the session.

Filbey represented American workers at the ILO technical conference on public service.

Filbey, a member of the board of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., said that the endorsement given the civil and political rights of public workers "should help" the campaign against the Hatch Act that denies U.S. government employes full participation in political life.

During the conference debate, Filbey urged that serious attention be given the question of public employes having the "ultimate weapon." The right to strike without fear of penalties is the "only real weapon that exists in collective bargaining," he said.

The majority of governments were not willing to recognize formally the right of public workers to strike. A compromise formula said that conciliation and arbitration arrangements should make it "unnecessary" for public workers to resort to strike action.

The conference's final recommendations on the proposed new standard to guarantee public service workers their trade union and civic rights are not as strong as Filbey would have liked.

"Nevertheless, it was a good meeting on the whole," he said. "To get an agreed text at such a conference there must be compromises."

The proposed standard, the conference said, should provide public servants adequate protection against acts of anti-union discrimination. No public servant, it was recommended, should be fired or otherwise penalized for joining a union and participating in its activities.

60,000 Convey Message:

IUD Rally Airs Frustration, Anger of Jobless Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

not misread the intention of those who vented their "anger and frustration" in a noisy display.

They noted that "99 percent or more of the vast audience was made up of decent and hard-working Americans, coming from virtually all basic industries in the country. They were completely representative, in every respect, of the nation's workforce."

"We read into the events of the rally on Saturday a warning to all of us—in and out of government," the IUD officials said, "that unemployed and underemployed workers will not quietly or supinely accept high unemployment as a way of life. We must not expect workers will react as passively as they did in the Great Depression," they stressed.

That point was brought out in Abel's opening address to the rally, which was delivered by Steelworkers Sec.-Treas. Walter J. Burke. Abel could not attend because of a death in his family.

"We are here in the great tradition of the American labor movement to voice our protest against the economic conditions that have caused so much hardship in our nation today," Abel stressed.

He said the rally was called "to insist that the government launch meaningful and constructive programs to alleviate this condition and to provide jobs for the unemployed."

The IUD objectives in calling the rally were embodied in a 10-point action program to end unemployment:

- Creation of jobs for everyone and passage of a Full Employment Act spelling out definite responsibilities for Congress and the President.
- A national public works program in urban and rural areas to overcome the extensive backlog of construction needs in homes, hospitals, schools and other public facilities.
- Revitalization of the mass transit system to ease the demand on highways and streets, in addition to reducing the nation's energy waste.
- Modernization of railroads to improve passenger and freight service.
- Genuine tax reform to achieve full equity in the tax structure and to boost revenues through the closing of loopholes for corporations and the wealthy.
- Development of 300,000 public service jobs through speedy congressional action on a multi-billion dollar labor-backed program.
- Reduction of interest rates to stimulate construction and consumer purchases.
- Curbing low-wage imports and regulating multinational corporations which export American jobs and technology.
- Adequate financing of public sector programs to create more jobs and improve services to the public.
- Decent treatment of unemployed workers by eliminating long delays on claims, improving jobless benefits and providing medical insurance coverage for the unemployed.

In his keynote address, Abel stressed that immediate government action is needed on labor's proposals. He said the message from the rally to the President, Congress and big business is simple: "We're fed up—fed up with delay, fed up with excuses, fed up with lack of vision and lack of initiative."

Except for a few minor scuffles when demonstrators first began to pour onto the field and an incident at one of the stadium gates after it was closed, there were no reports of violence or arrests.

NEW CHAIRMAN of the National Labor Relations Board, Betty Southard Murphy, joins other board members for an informal portrait. Clockwise from left are John H. Fanning, Ralph E. Kennedy, John A. Penello and Howard Jenkins, Jr. Mrs. Murphy is the first woman on the board in its 40-year history.

Conferees Shape Form Of Anti-Recession Bills

(Continued from Page 1)

subsidy for middle-income families buying moderately priced new homes. As in a bill the House had passed by a 259-106 vote in March, it would provide funds to lower the initial mortgage interest rate to 6 percent with the rate returning to market levels after six years of federal subsidy. The House bill had an alternative, closer to labor's position, of a subsidy to lower the rate to 7 percent for the full life of the mortgage. The Senate version instead had the option of a $1,000 government grant as part of a down payment.

- A new program of government loans to prevent unemployed persons from losing their homes because of mortgage foreclosures. The House version, passed 321-21, would authorize loans of up to $250 a month for a maximum of two years. The Senate bill would set the ceiling at $300 a month for up to three years. In both cases, the money would have to be repaid to the government.

In another area, the House voted 335-59 approval of a labor-endorsed bill to expand the school lunch program by adding an additional 5 million youngsters to the 10 million children from low-income families now receiving free or reduced cost meals.

The $3 billion price tag is almost twice the amount President Ford had requested in his budget. The House, however, voted down an amendment that would have raised the subsidy the government gives to the lunch program for all schoolchildren, without an income test.

A legal snarl that has tied up 130 highway construction projects in New York, Connecticut and Vermont would be untangled by a House-passed bill modifying a law that requires the federal government to prepare detailed environmental "impact" reports for highway projects. The projects involved would employ about 150,000 workers.

In another area, the House Commerce Committee brought its version of a health insurance for the unemployed bill somewhat closer to the version drafted by the House Ways & Means Committee. Instead of funding the program from general revenues, as the AFL-CIO had urged, it would impose a tax on health insurance premiums to pay for health insurance coverage of persons receiving unemployment compensation.

Action on Jobs Spurred By Louisiana Delegates

Baton Rouge, La.—Massive federal efforts are needed to create jobs, the Louisiana AFL-CIO declared in calling on Congress to take immediate action in getting the unemployed back to work.

The 2,600 delegates to the state federation's 20th annual convention also urged Congress to implement the unanimous recommendations of the Labor-Management Advisory Committee to the President to stimulate the nation's faltering economy through added puchasing power.

This action, along with steps by the President and Congress to protect existing jobs from unfair foreign competition, is vital in reversing the nation's and Louisiana's climbing unemployment rate, the delegates stressed.

They voiced their feelings also through their response to addresses by several Democratic senators who accused the Nixon and Ford Administrations of mismanaging the nation's economy.

Among the Democratic senators and congressmen addressing the convention were Birch Bayh of Indiana, Lloyd Bentsen of Texas, John Glenn of Ohio, Henry M. Jackson of Washington, Morris K. Udall of Arizona, Andrew Young of Georgia and Gillis W. Long of Louisiana.

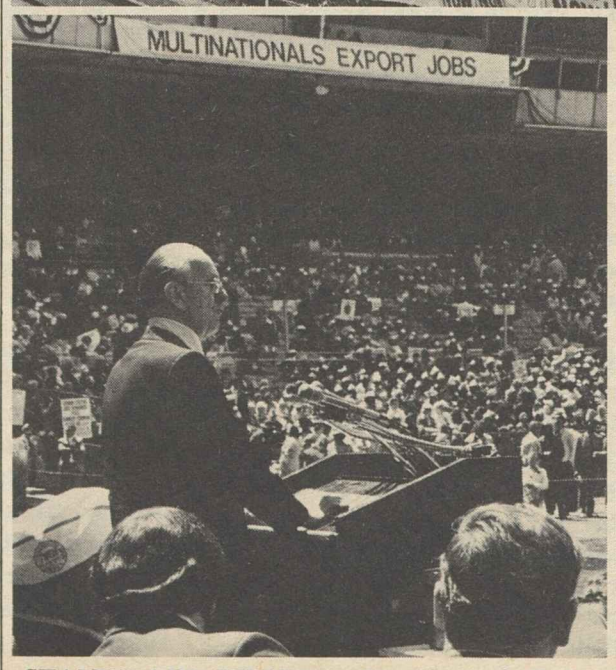
They attributed the nation's excessive unemployment, tight money, high prices and the deepest recession since the 1930s to the economic and monetary policies of Ford and Nixon.

Focusing on issues affecting Louisiana workers, the convention called on the state legislature to increase workmen's compensation benefits to at least two-thirds of lost wages. The convention noted that the current maximum payment of $65 a week is far below the poverty level of $82.69 for a family of four in the state.

The legislature also was urged to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Delegates re-elected state federation President Victor Bussie to his 20th term. Other top officers re-elected were First Vice President A. P. Stoddard and Sec.-Treas. E. J. Bourg, Sr.

In all, 30 resolutions were adopted at the four-day convention, covering such issues as labor's political action programs, full union rights for postal workers, easier obtainability of food stamps, comprehensive day care programs for children of workers, and passage of National Health Security legislation.



STANDS ARE FILLED at Washington's Robert F. Kennedy Stadium by trade unionists from dozens of eastern and midwestern states for the Apr. 26 jobs rally sponsored by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. Lower left, Sec.-Treas. Walter J. Burke of the Steelworkers delivers IUD President I. W. Abel's address calling for full-employment government policies. Signs spell out the demands for action by some of the 57 unions participating in the rally, lower right.

Rep. Pettis's Widow Elected to House Seat

San Bernardino, Calif.—Republican Shirley Pettis easily won election to succeed her late husband and represent California's 37th Congressional District in the House.

Mrs. Pettis won 65 percent of the vote in a contest with five other Republicans, six Democrats and one American Independent candidate.

A Health Consumers' Bill

WE BELIEVE that fundamental changes must be made in the way that this nation provides health care for all of its citizens.

As taxpayers, we know that separate programs for the poor and the elderly are costly, inefficient and ineffective.

As human beings, we know the deep hurt a person feels when he or she is forced to declare, "I am a pauper; I can't help myself"—before being able to receive help.

We know the terrible and increasing cost of medical care—to our members' family budgets and to our employers' insurance premiums. We know that our members' insurance covers them while they are sick but does nothing to keep them well. And that it vanishes when the layoff slips are handed out.

We aren't convinced that the bureaucracy of the private insurance companies is more efficient than the public bureaucracy. We have seen the waste and inefficiency that resulted from having insurance companies administer Medicare. We know the problems HEW has had keeping insurance companies from padding their Medicare bills with football tickets, monogramed golf balls, private airplanes, country club memberships, fishing trips, and much, much more.

And we are positive that public administration is far more accountable to the people than private administration.

Every national health insurance proposal before the Congress—except National Health Security—begins with the premise that American citizens should be treated differently, depending on their income, their age, their type of work.

We used to call that discrimination.

But this is different, we are told, because someone has to cull out the "chiselers"—that faceless army of people just itching for the chance to rip off Uncle Sam.

And to keep those "chiselers" from getting the health care which is their right, the government would keep extensive records on every American.

Under Health Security, there can be no "chiselers." Every American would receive the same comprehensive benefits, with no deductibles and no co-insurance. There would be no income tests, no work tests—and no reason to keep a dossier on every American.

HEALTH SECURITY is socially right. It would take the economics of the marketplace—profit—out of health care. It would provide a single standard of health care for all Americans as a matter of right.

And Health Security is also economically right. It has strong cost and quality controls, that would get a handle on the endless spiral of medical costs and treatments. It would cost no more than what America now spends on health care.

The American people have a lot at stake in the continuing debate over national health insurance. Their interests must come first—after all they are the health consumers.

And Health Security is the health consumers' bill. Our job, then, is to make sure that the consumer's voice is heard—loud and clear—in Washington. Because you can rest assured that organized medicine and the insurance industry have a well-financed, powerful lobby to protect their interests.

We must work as if it is a matter of life and death. Because that is what the fight for health is all about.

—From a speech by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the New York Committee for National Health Security.

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Wrong Fire

A Word Edgewise:

New Book Undermines Cliches Of Left and Right About Crime

By John P. Roche

IN 1972 A THOROUGHLY disarrayed Supreme Court (there were nine opinions) almost held the death penalty unconstitutional as a violation of the 6th Amendment's injunction against cruel and unusual punishments. The law that emerged from this shambles seemed to indicate that execution was unconstitutional if the judge or jury were given any leeway; that is, if the judge could choose between death or life imprisonment or the jury recommend mercy. If fulfilled—and a number of states have passed laws attempting to do so—this strange requirement would appear to make for a harsher criminal code. Now there is another case, testing the validity of these new statutes, and perhaps the court will manage to mobilize five justices behind one solid holding.

In the meantime, those concerned with problems of crime and punishment should get a copy of Harvard Prof. James Q. Wilson's new book, "Thinking About Crime" (Basic Books). Wilson, who states frankly that he is not a prophet with answers, proceeds with merciless logic to undermine most of the conventional wisdom (of both the right and the left) on just about every law-and-order issue.

On one hand, he assaults hip and thigh the liberal slogan that the way to end crime is to eliminate poverty (most poor people, black or white, never become criminals). On the other, he makes mincemeat out of the cliches from the right that we need more cops and public hangings (statistics indicate that there were trivial differences in the homicide rate between states with and without the death penalty).

For years I have been suspicious of the notion that the criminal code does not deter people from engaging in crime. The statistics that are usually trotted out indicate that 80-plus percent of all homicides occur among family and friends. For instance, a husband gets furious at his wife for telling him on their return from a party that he was a drunken boor and grabs a kitchen knife. Certainly, the argument runs, this sort of reaction would not be deterred by the death penalty (or anything else).

But what about the missing precincts? What about the husbands who under this uxorial blast meditated on the kitchen knife but didn't grab it? Is there anybody so inhuman (or saintly) that he or she on some occasion has not wanted to kill somebody? In other words, how can we know whether or not deterrence works when our whole sample is composed of those who were not held back?

Moreover, Wilson adds it is almost impossible to make any valid generalizations on this subject because of the chaos which exists in our court system. The courts, he emphasizes, are not really engaged in separating the innocent from the guilty (the overwhelming percentage of those arraigned plead guilty), but in trying to determine the proper sentence. Since there is no pattern—a three-time loser may get probation; a first offender three years—the potential criminal has no basis for calculating the risks involved in, say, burglary. Beyond this, nobody has figured out whether prisons are designed to punish or to rehabilitate.

I confess that the aspect of Wilson's analysis which appeals to me is that—unlike most of the academic experts on crime—he worries about the victims. A couple of years ago I listened to a psychiatrist expand at great length on the tragic background of a local murderer. Finally I had to ask, "But what about the future of the girl he murdered?" To understand is to understand, not to forgive, and I have always wondered if that psychiatrist would have been primarily concerned with the broken family of a guy sticking a knife in his ribs.

Thus Wilson makes the perfectly common-sense point about prisons: they may not deter, they may not rehabilitate, but they do serve to keep a number of extremely anti-social types out of circulation. A felon in Walpole (the Massachusetts prison distinguished by the rate at which the inmates impose the death penalty on each other) may blow himself up making a bomb, but he doesn't take any innocent bystanders with him.

This column can only touch on the many striking points Wilson highlights—his cold-eyed examination of the myths about heroin alone is worth the price of admission. Reading it is a bracing intellectual exercise.

Callous Step Backward:

Child Labor Move Resurrects Myths to Aid Greedy Growers

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

THE PAPERS ARE FULL OF almost unbelievably sad news from Southeast Asia. Indeed the volume—graphically illustrated with heart rending photographs of homeless refugees—is so great that the human imagination, no matter how sensitive, can hardly begin to cope with it. It tends to leave us feeling numb and helpless. In fact, soon we may unconsciously begin to ignore bad news from Cambodia and Vietnam or the Middle East on the grounds that there isn't anything we can do about it.

The same thing can happen, perhaps to a lesser extent, when we are bombarded with bad news about conditions at home. We can absorb only so many stories about economic injustice or the impact of the recession. We may be tempted to turn the page or switch the television dial to tranquilize our nerves—or salve our consciences.

Perhaps this helps explain why there has been little public reaction to a widely publicized congressional subcommittee vote recently which, if uncontested, will make it legal for children, ages five to 12, to do field harvest work by hand in areas authorized by the Secretary of Labor, as long as they work outside of school hours.

When I read about this vote, I could hardly believe my eyes. It represents an incredibly callous atempt on the part of presumably well meaning legislators to undo whatever little progress we have made—and made belatedly—in restricting use of child labor in agriculture. Such child labor was to have been prohibited by the 1974 Fair Labor Standards Act. But an Oregon strawberry grower won a temporary court injunction that permitted children under 12 to continue to work in the fields during most of last summer's harvest season. In September, however, the U.S. District Court denied a permanent injunction, whereupon the agricultural industry in Oregon launched a massive campaign to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act in their own favor.

Unless the action by the House Migrant Labor subcommittee is reversed thousands of children will work in Oregon fields this summer—at substandard wages and to the detriment of their own health and safety.

[The full House Labor Committee later killed the bill by a vote of 21 to 11. Story, page 8.]

It is ironic that most of the pressure in support of this retrogressive vote by the House Migrant Labor subcommittee should have come from the otherwise liberal state of Oregon and doubly ironic that Oregon's governor and its two U.S. senators should have succumbed to the pressure of the growers. Former Gov. Tom McCall and Senators Robert Packwood and Mark Hatfield enjoy a reasonably good reputation as progressive legislators in the field of socioeconomic reform. On this issue, however, they actively lobbied in favor of permitting even pre-school children, five years old, to work side-by-side with adult workers. Their stated reasons are, in my opinion, rather disingenuous. It is bad enough to lobby—under pressure of child labor; but it's even worse to pretend that this is being done for noble and magnanimous reasons.

What is one to think when he hears Sen. Packwood rationalizing the case for child labor as follows: "If a mother chose to go to the fields, leaving her child at home with a full-time baby sitter, she would by rule of Congress . . . be obliged to pay the baby sitter the minimum wage of $2 an hour. She would, therefore, make little, if any, profit for her day's effort in the field."

That's a plausible but completely fallacious argument. It doesn't mean—as the casual or careless newspaper reader might easily conclude—that five-year-old children should be allowed to accompany their mothers to the field because it would be too expensive for the family to hire a baby sitter at home. It means that five-year-old children should be permitted to work in the fields for substandard wages—to the benefit of the growers who hire them.

The growers, in other words, are not thinking primarily of the economic welfare of the working mother who cannot afford a baby sitter and is therefore required to bring her pre-school children with her to the fields. The growers are thinking primarily of their own economic interest. I say this on the authority of former Gov. McCall and Senators Packwood and Hatfield, all three of whom have stated for the record that they are supporting the use of child labor to accommodate the alleged needs of their grower constituents.

Former Gov. McCall and the two senators—if I have understood them correctly—seem to be arguing that if the child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act are not drastically amended, Oregon growers will suffer severe financial losses and might even find it necessary to plow under their crops for lack of an adequate labor force.

I can understand why the growers, in their own interest, might fall back, in desperation, on this line of reasoning, but I am disappointed that their top elected representatives at the state and federal level feel constrained, for political reasons, to run interference for them in the Congress. I would have expected these distinguished public servants —even at the risk of losing votes among the growers—to stand up and fight for drastic reforms in Oregon's agricultural labor system.

Loophole For Runaway Ships:

Revival of U.S. Merchant Fleet Tied to Repeal of Tax Credits

REPEAL OF THE FOREIGN TAX credit is a key step in the drive to restore the U.S. merchant fleet as a major factor in world commerce and a reliable supply line in times of crisis or emergency, President Jesse M. Calhoon of the Marine Engineers declared.

Charging that the loophole has been a major factor in the growth of runaway-flag shipping, Calhoon said that without the lure of special tax breaks, much of the U.S. cargoes now moving in runaway or foreign-flag ships would return to American-flag vessels—"ships built in the United States by American labor and manned by American crews."

He said that repeal of the foreign tax credit is one of MEBA's major legislative goals in the current Congress.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Calhoon said that President Ford's veto of the Energy Transportation Security Act shaped by the last Congress triggered cancellation of many ship-building contracts, and that unemployment among maritime workers, now at 22 percent, is expected to hit 40 to 50 percent by the end of 1975.

Calhoon said MEBA is now preparing an updated study of the energy industry, focusing on oil and gas pipelines that are jointly owned by some of the larger U.S. oil companies.

Over the last 10 years, he said, the pipeline owners got a return of 53 percent a year on their equity investment while they controlled the flow of products and rates.

He renewed the call to split the oil industry into four parts, each free from control by the other. He said there should be separate corporations for production and exploration, for transportation, for refining and for marketing. He stressed that without interlocks among these four areas, the oil companies "could not hold absolute monopoly control on the nation's energy sources of this country."

Calhoon was questioned by Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The program is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

IF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION and Congress ignore the "ravages" of intolerably high unemployment, or if they act inadequately, their failure will result in a "tremendous cost to our social fabric."

The stern warning comes from the National Commission for Manpower Policy in describing the specter of unemployment as a part of an interim report it has submitted to Congress.

The NCMP was created by Congress in the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act of 1973 to identify the nation's manpower goals, to keep tabs on existing manpower programs and goals, and advise Congress on ways to strengthen them.

President Nixon, perhaps partly because of his Watergate problems and partly because of his disinterest in the commission, never got around to appointing members. On Sept. 30, President Ford named the 11 public members, including President John H. Lyons of the Iron Workers, to serve with heads of six federal agencies under the chairmanship of Professor Eli Ginzberg of Columbia University.

The commission has met several times since then, submitted an interim report and generally has demonstrated that it is trying to make up for lost time.

The commission emphasizes that an 8 percent annual average unemployment rate (and it now is running considerably more than that) means that as many as 20 million persons are likely to be unemployed at some time during the year and as many as 4.5 million will be jobless for six months or more.

Further, unemployment "involves more than the loss of earned income." It frequently results in the loss of valuable fringe benefits including medical insurance and pensions and mortgage payments. Even beyond that, the report stresses, joblessness can and does lead to "severe loss of self-esteem, family disorganization, and disturbed or criminal behavior."

The commission also urges governmental leaders to realize that when the decade of the '70s began—well before the recession set in—America was faced with some specific manpower problems that were never resolved and have since worsened.

These forerunner problems include an extremely high rate of unemployment among teenagers and minority groups, chronic underemployment in inner cities, forced retirement of people who couldn't afford it, a steady increase in welfare rolls and the inability of veterans of military service to find jobs.

THERE IS A further warning in the report that even with a revival of the economy, millions of jobless may never get their jobs back because older plants may not reopen and employers will have developed new technologies that permit efficiency with far fewer employes.

The automotive industry is cited as a sector of the economy in which older plants and the facilities that supply them may permanently close, leaving Midwest automotive areas with painful adjustment problems such as those that confronted New England when its textile plants moved to the South after World War I.

It is looking into such devices as the feasibility of a quasi-government corporation to stimulate creation of job opportunities; subsidies to employers for hiring the jobless; a requirement that employers put aside a portion of profits in good times to be released to expand jobs as they are needed; and the use of credit, low interest rates and other incentives to revitalize sagging areas of the economy.

But the urgent need—the thread running through the entire report—is that the federal government should get cracking on legislation to create jobs now. "The commission is deeply sympathetic to the view of those who favor a much enlarged government program to put the unemployed back to work," the report concludes.

ENDING SPECIAL TAX BREAKS for runaway-flag ships would be a big step toward restoring the U.S. merchant fleet as a major factor in world commerce, Marine Engineers President Jesse M. Calhoon, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc. and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The AFL-CIO produced interview is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

House Rollcall on Funds for Education

The House increased aid to educational funds on Apr. 16 when it approved an amendment to an appropriations bill that added $487 million for needed programs. The vote was 259-143.

On labor's scorecard, the 223 Democrats and 36 Republicans who voted for this amendment by Rep. Edward Roybal (D-Calif.) were right (R). Voting wrong (W) were 97 Republicans and 46 Democrats.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; A—absent; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) R
7. Flowers (D) R

ALASKA
AL Young (R) R

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) A

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Mills (D) PW
3. Hammerschmidt (R) R
4. Thornton (D) R

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) R
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) PR
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) A
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) R
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) R
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) W
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Vacancy
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) R
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) R

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) W
4. Johnson (R) A
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Sarasin (R) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) A
8. Haley (D) R
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) R
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) R
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) R
9. Landrum (D) W
10. Stephens (D) A

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) PW
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Vancancy
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) R
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) A
21. Madigan (R) R
22. Shipley (D) A
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) A
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) R
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) R
4. Shriver (R) A
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) PW
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) R
2. Cohen (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) PR

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) W
2. Boland (D) W
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) W
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
5. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) PW
11. Ruppe (R) A
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) PR
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1, Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) R
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) R
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) W

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) R
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) W
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) A
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) PR
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) A
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) R
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) R
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) R
4. Andrews (D) R
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) A
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) A

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) R
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) A
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) A
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) W
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) R
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) R

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) W
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) A
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) W
11. Flood (D) W
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) R
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) W
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) PR
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) A
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) R

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) R
4. Evins (D) W
5. Fulton (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) PW
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) W
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) A
14. Young (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) R
16. White (D) R
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Krueger (D) R
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) R
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) A
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) W
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Job Programs Undercut:

Senate Vote Limits Economic Stimulus

(Continued from Page 1)

ported amendment, the Senate approved its Budget Committee's resolution by a 69-22 vote. Although its spending ceiling was higher than the Administration wanted, the AFL-CIO had termed the slow pace set for economic recovery "totally unacceptable." The spending ceiling was keyed to a projected 7.5 percent unemployment rate by December 1976—20 months from now.

The AFL-CIO strongly supported the amendment raising the budget ceiling that was sponsored by Senators Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.), Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.), Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), and Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.). It included a commitment to recover $2.5 billion through tax reform. And an estimated $3 billion additional would have been quickly returned to the federal treasury through taxes paid by persons given jobs and by the savings in unemployment compensation that otherwise would be paid them.

A letter to all senators by AFL-CIO President George Meany termed the $9 billion rise in the spending ceiling "of critical importance if the economy is to be turned around." Labor's only concern, Meany said, is that the amendment doesn't go far enough.

On the showdown, a number of senators who normally speak out for progressive programs backed away from raising the spending ceiling.

President Ford continued to warn of disaster ahead if Congress exceeded his projected budget deficit of $60 billion—a figure that has already been discarded by all but hard-core conservative ideologues as unrealistically low if a dent is to be made in depression-level unemployment. Thus, supporting a Budget Committee recommendation for a projected deficit about $7 billion higher appeared a politically safer "middle ground" to some senators than voting for still higher spending.

Mondale, a member of the Budget Committee, argued in vain that unemployment was the cause of mind-boggling budget deficits and that reduction in unemployment through spending stimulus was the solution.

In a partial dissent to the Budget Committee recommendations, he and Sen. James Abourezk (D-S.D.) had put it this way:

"Each 1 percent of unemployment costs the federal government roughly $16 billion in reduced taxes and increased spending for unemployment compensation and related programs. Each 1 percent costs state and local governments in the neighborhood of $5 billion. And each 1 percent costs our economy a million man-years and over $48 billion in lost production."

On every vote, the Senate backed its Budget Committee, which is headed by Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) but overall is somewhat more conservative than the Senate as a whole. It beat back attempts to lower the spending ceiling by margins as great as it defeated the labor-supported effort to raise the ceiling.

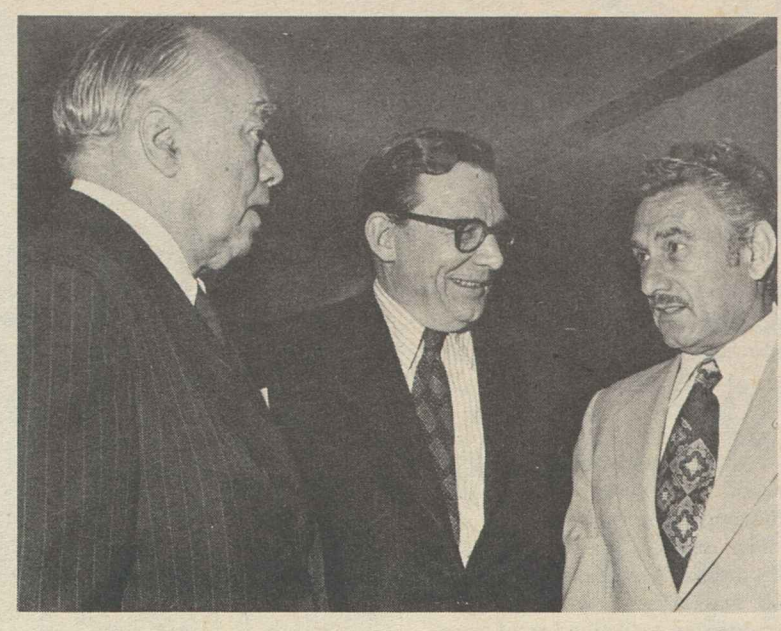
The budget resolution before the House carried a spending total $3.2 billion above the Senate figure for the fiscal year starting July 1.

In terms of deficit estimates—a guess in any event since revenues depend on the condition of the economy—there are some different assumptions that rule out a direct comparison between the two resolutions.

Congressional action to establish a budget ceiling this year started off as a dry run, to test whether the complex procedures established in last year's budget reform law are likely to work when fully effective next year. The full impact of the law calls for a preliminary budget target which would be revised later in the year into a final set of legally binding figures.

The intent was to enhance the role of Congress as a co-equal branch of government and lessen reliance on the Administration in setting the levels and priorities of government spending.

With the economic collapse and the fierce clash of opinions as to the course to be followed for economic recovery, the budget controversy has become much more akin to a shooting war than to a dry run.



NEW BOARD MEMBER of Union Labor Life Insurance Co., President Williaim Sidell of the Carpenters, right, is greeted at ULLICO's annual stockholders meeting by J. Albert Woll, left, AFL-CIO general counsel and board chairman, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. The insurance company is principally owned by AFL-CIO affiliates and state and local central bodies.

Wage Gains Improve In 1975 Settlements

(Continued from Page 1)

data stem from 104 agreements in the nonfarm sector of the economy, each of which covered 1,000 workers or more.

Some 556,000 workers were covered by these first-quarter settlements, primarily in the railroad, petroleum and wholesale and retail trade industries, BLS said.

The size of settlements appears to have been influenced by the possibility of additional increases under escalator clauses," BLS noted.

Contracts containing escalator provisions, covering 62 percent of the workers under major settlements concluded during the quarter, provided for annual wage-rate adjustments of 6.9 percent over the life of the contract.

"Contracts without escalator clauses provided for annual adjustments averaging 8.8 percent. These compare with gains of 6.1 and 9.1 percent, respectively, in 1974."

During the first quarter, BLS said, new escalator provisions were introduced in 18 settlements covering 287,000 workers primarily in the railroad industry. Escalator clauses now cover about 54 percent, or 5.6 million, of all workers in major bargaining units.

Other highlights:

- Workers covered by key contracts—that is, pacts covering 5,000 workers or more—averaged 13 percent increases in the first year of the agreement and 7.5 percent annually over the life of the contract, compared with 10.7 and 7.8 percent, respectively, in 1974.
- The length of contracts concluded in the first three months of 1975 averaged 31.5 months. "Frontloading" of settlements occurred regardless of contract duration, BLS noted. First-year wage adjustments were substantially greater than those deferred to subsequent years of multi-year agreements.
- In the manufacturing sector, an estimated 167,000 workers received an average first-year increase of 11.6 percent, compared with 8.7 percent in 1974 as a whole. The life-of-contract gain in manufacturing rose to 8.5 percent a year from 6.1 percent last year.
- In non-manufacturing, first-year wage gains rose 12.9 percent from 10.5 percent for all of 1974. Over the life of the contract, gains were 7.3 percent annually, compared to 8 percent in 1974.

First-quarter data related to only 34,500 workers in eight settlements in the construction industry, BLS noted, since bargaining in the industry is heavily concentrated in the spring. Thus, wage adjustments in these settlements averaged only 4.5 percent in the first year and 4.1 percent annually over the life of the contract, compared with 11 and 9.6 percent, respectively, in 1974.

Rollcall Vote in Senate On Job-Creating Funds

The Senate on Apr. 30 voted 64-29 against an amendment to a budget resolution that would have added $9 billion for needed job-creating programs.

Labor supported the position of the 22 Democrats and seven Republicans who voted for the amendment. Voting against the job funds were 36 Democrats and 28 Republicans.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 22

Abourezk (S.D.)	Hathaway (Me.)	McGee (Wyo.)
Bayh (Ind.)	Humphrey (Minn.)	Metcalf (Mont.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Mondale (Minn.)
Clark (Iowa)	Jackson (Wash.)	Pastore (R.I.)
Culver (Iowa)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Pell (R.I.)
Hart (Colo.)	Long (La.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Hart (Mich.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Williams (N.J.)
Hartke (Ind.)		

Republicans 7

Brooke (Mass.)	Mathias (Md.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Case (N.J.)	Schweiker (Pa.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Javits (N.Y.)		

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 36

Allen (Ala.)	Ford (Ky.)	Muskie (Me.)
Biden (Del.)	Glenn (Ohio)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Haskell (Colo.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Byrd (Va.)	Johnston (La.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Byrd (W.Va.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Sparkman (Ala.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Chiles (Fla.)	McClellan (Ark.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Church (Ida.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	Stone (Fla.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Montoya (N.M.)	Symington (Mo.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Morgan (N.C.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Eastland (Miss.)	Moss (Utah)	Tunney (Calif.)

Republicans 28

Baker (Tenn.)	Garn (Utah)	Packwood (Ore.)
Bartlett (Okla.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Pearson (Kan.)
Beall (Md.)	Griffin (Mich.)	Roth (Del.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Hansen (Wyo.)	Scott (Pa.)
Buckley (N.Y.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Curtis (Neb.)	Helms (N.C.)	Taft (Ohio)
Dole (Kan.)	Hruska (Neb.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Tower (Tex.)
Fannin (Ariz.)	McClure (Ida.)	Young (N.D.)
Fong (Hawaii)		

Absent: Brock (R-Tenn.); Gravel (D-Alaska); Hollings (D-S.C.); McGovern (D-S.D.); Percy (R-Ill.); Scott (R-Va.).

Meany Cites Health Care As Key Goal

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany expressed the hope that the House "can complete action on a good national health insurance bill in this session."

That would pave the way for Senate action the following year, Meany said, adding:

"If President Ford still wants to veto it, then we are prepared to take our case to the people. And we'll let the people decide: a national health insurance bill that treats all Americans as human beings or a bill to benefit the insurance companies, hospitals and doctors."

Meany expressed satisfaction that a "new wave of doctors concerned about quality and care" is supporting the campaign for legislation. And he noted that even the American Medical Association has moved somewhat from its earlier opposition to any form of national health insurance.

When the debate started, he said, "the AMA wasn't even in the same century. At least now, they are up to the 1950s."

Meany took note of the soaring cost of malpractice insurance for doctors which "winds up in every medical bill" and "is a national problem that needs a national solution."

The AFL-CIO is studying the problem, Meany said. "There has to be a way to protect both doctor and patient, to process legitimate claims, to reject the frivolous and also reduce the cost."

On the immediate legislative agenda, Meany said, there is an urgent need "to provide health care for the millions of unemployed workers who lost their insurance coverage when they lost their jobs and are ineligible for Medicaid."

Finley termed the gathering part of a nationwide grass-roots movement in support of the Kennedy-Corman Health Security bill.

Woodcock stressed the labor movement's unity in support of Health Security legislation, along with "a growing alliance of decent Americans from all fields."

Gov. Carey said of the health care campaign that "our government has no greater responsibility and our people no greater need." And Mayor Beame joined the endorsement of the bill after having issued an official proclamation declaring Apr. 30, the date of the gathering, as National Health Security Day.

Montana Law Sets Maternity Leave as Right

Helena, Mont. — A labor-supported bill entitling public and private employes to maternity leave with continuation of health benefits and the right to reinstatement has been signed into law by Gov. Thomas L. Judge.

The new law provides that pregnancy will be treated as any other disability, with hospitalization and medical benefits continuing until patient and doctor agree on a date for return to work.

Opposing passage of the bill were the telephone company and other large corporations with significant numbers of female employes.

The Communications Workers and the State, County & Municipal Employees joined the Montana State AFL-CIO in actively working for the bill's passage.

University Study Shows:

Job Health Hazards High in Small Firms

A pilot study into the job health hazards in small businesses focusing on selected areas of Oregon and Washington shows that one of every four workers is probably suffering from occupational disease and that almost 90 percent of the affected workers are unaware of their illness.

The findings are the results of a study conducted by the University of Washington under contract for the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health.

Key elements of the study were disclosed by Rep. Dominick V. Daniels (D-N.J.), who termed the results "shocking—revealing a possible horror story of national proportions."

NIOSH, which is preparing a report on the study for a mid-May publishing date, said that although the fiindings may have wide ramifications, its analysts note that the health hazards may not be applicable to all sectors of small business.

But Daniels, who played a key role in drafting the Occupational Safety & Health Act, said that the study only "touches the tip of the iceberg."

"If we had statistics from an in-depth medical survey of the nation's workers, they would truly paint a picture of disease and chronic illness as horrifying as conditions in the sweatshops of the last century."

The University of Washington study covered small businesses employing from eight to 150 workers, zeroing in on the industrial areas of Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., and Portland, Ore., and the agricultural area of Yakima County, Wash.

The published results of the pilot study tend to refute the arguments of conservative members of Congress and employer organizations seeking exclusion of smaller workplaces from coverage of the federal job safety and health law.

In every session of Congress since the 1970 law was enacted, there have been attempts to void enforcement of safety and health standards for small businesses.

Daniels noted that the pilot study, which was conducted from July 1972 through August 1974, was limited to physical examinations and laboratory work.

"Cancer and neurological diseases, for example, were not thoroughly investigated," he said. "The survey, then, understates the actual conditions that would be determined through a comprehensive investigation of worker health."

Daniels outlined some of these major findings:

- Probable occupational disease among 28.4 of every 100 workers covered in the study, indicating that if this 1 to 4 ratio is applied to the nation's total workforce 21 million persons would have an occupationally related illness.
- 89 percent of the workers with probable occupational disease were found only through the pilot study. They were not listed on workmen's compensation claims or reported on logs employers are required to maintain under OSHA regulations.

Other key points brought out in the findings show that employers provide few health services and little environmental and biological monitoring; large numbers of workers are unaware of their exposure to hazardous substances; 42 percent of job-related injuries were found only through medical questionnaires, indicating that injuries as well as disease are underreported; employers' injury-disease logs were not available in more than one-third of the establishments surveyed, although compensation claims were found for such incidents for about half of those workplaces.

Citing the 1-to-4 ratio extrapolated from the University of Washington study, Daniels suggested that the government's estimate that 100,000 workers annually die from occupational disease is too low.

He concluded that it would not be surprising to find that one of every four deaths among adult workers stems from an occupational disease.

House Panel Kills Bill To Lift Child Labor Ban

A bill that would have allowed commercial farms to hire children under the age of 12 to harvest crops by hand was killed by the full House Education & Labor Committee after a strong condemnation by the AFL-CIO.

The decisive 21-11 vote against the bill came just a week after a subcommittee had given the measure a surprising 5-1 endorsement. It would have repealed a child labor restriction that was added just last year to the Fair Labor Standards Act. Commercial strawberry growers in the Pacific Northwest put on a strong push for the bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Lloyd Meeds (D-Wash.).

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller denounced the employment of young children as a threat to their health, a form of economic exploitation and a means of holding down the wages of older workers.

In letters sent to all committee members, Biemiller termed the ban on employment of children under 12 on farms "reasonable and fair" and said there appeared to be no shortage of older workers available.

The bill was also opposed by the Labor Dept., which said there was no shortage of older teenagers to work on the farms and warned that dropping the restriction would lead to pressures to employ young children in other parts of the nation.

Voting to kill the bill were 17 Democrats and four Republicans. Supporting it were seven Republicans and four Democrats.

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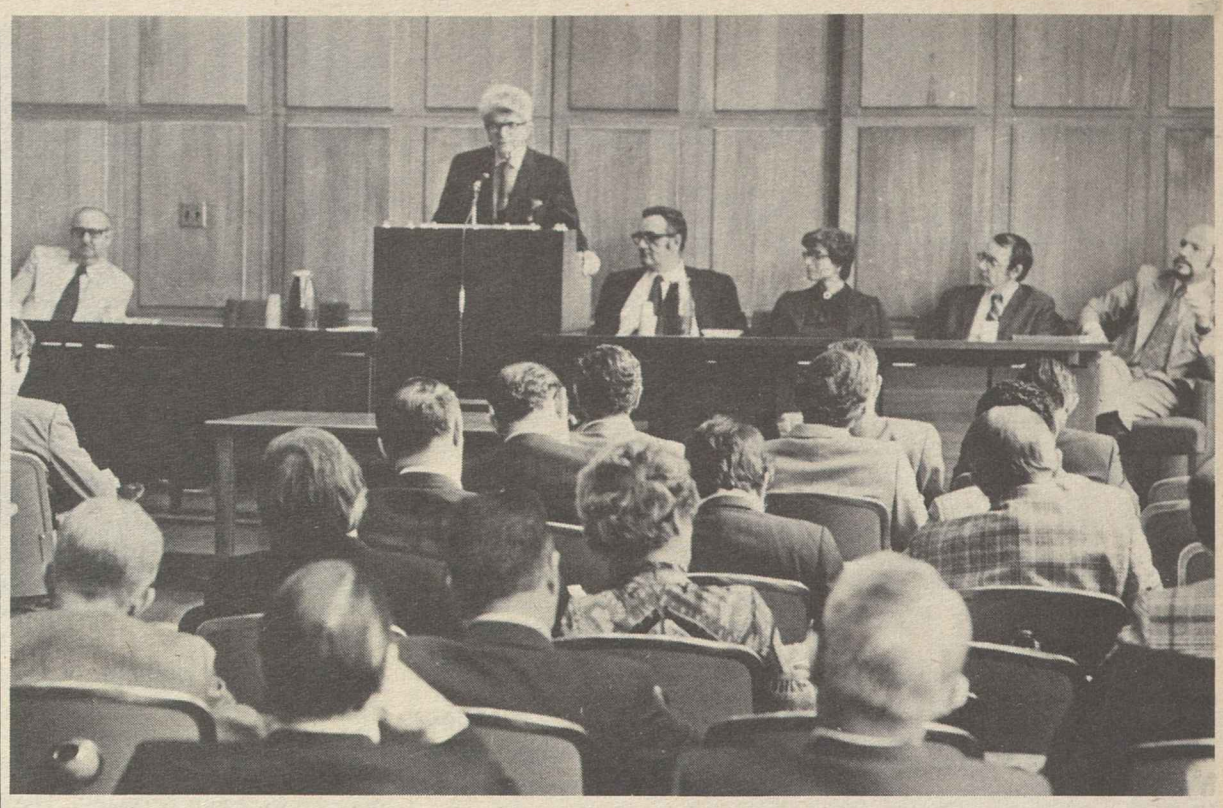


PROPOSED REGULATIONS affecting unions under provisions of the new pension reform legislation are discussed by representatives of AFL-CIO affiliates and Labor Dept. officials. The question-answer session, sponsored by the federation's Dept. of Social Security, focused on rules governing union death, sickness and benefit plans, special joint union-employer funds, and fiduciary reporting requirements. AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman addresses the group.

Changes in Pension Reform Law Asked for Multiemployer Plans

The National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans—a coalition of 30 unions—has asked Congress to amend the new pension reform law to correct and clarify certain sections, particularly those dealing with "prohibited transactions."

The committee represents some 7.5 million workers in the construction, maritime, needle and retail and service trades. Still being formed, the organization also is offering affiliation to national pension and welfare funds in appropriate cases.

The chairman of the new group, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., stressed that the committee "is not seeking any change in the intent or thrust of the act or in any of its basic reforms." What it does seek, he said, is correction of "a number of technical defects and dangerous ambiguities, and the unintentional or hitherto unrecognized implications of certain provisions."

Appearing before the House Labor Standards subcommittee, Georgine also charged there has been "maladministration" of the law since it took effect last September.

The new Employee Retirement Income Security Act is administered jointly by the Labor and Treasury Departments. This "fragmented administration" has resulted in a bureaucratic logjam which is hampering the effective application of the law, Georgine declared.

The pension reform law distinguishes between single-employer and multiemployer plans and contains provisions permitting portability of vested pension rights when a worker changes jobs. Multiemployer funds embrace at least one-third of all American workers covered by pension and welfare plans, Georgine noted.

He said the committee's greatest concern is with sections of the law that would prohibit the use of pension funds to promote housing.

"These provisions are a time-bomb ticking away under the trustees of thousands of multiemployer plans throughout the country," Georgine said. "Coming as it does at this time in an already depressed housing and construction industry, the practical effect has been disastrous in many parts of this country." He added:

"It seems maddening that, in the absence of an exemption, a multiemployer fund can loan monies directly or indirectly to a competing non-union employer, or invest its monies in construction outside the locality where its employers and participants are working, but that somehow public policy prohibits it from investing its monies in its own community to provide work for its contributing employers and its covered union members."

Georgine noted that the committee appealed last December for a blanket exemption for multiemployer funds to allow them to continue all practices that had been legal prior to Sept. 2, 1974, when the law was signed.

An exemption, permissible under the law, would allow the funds again to be able to invest in union construction mortgages and loans so that employment in the industry could receive a shot in the arm.

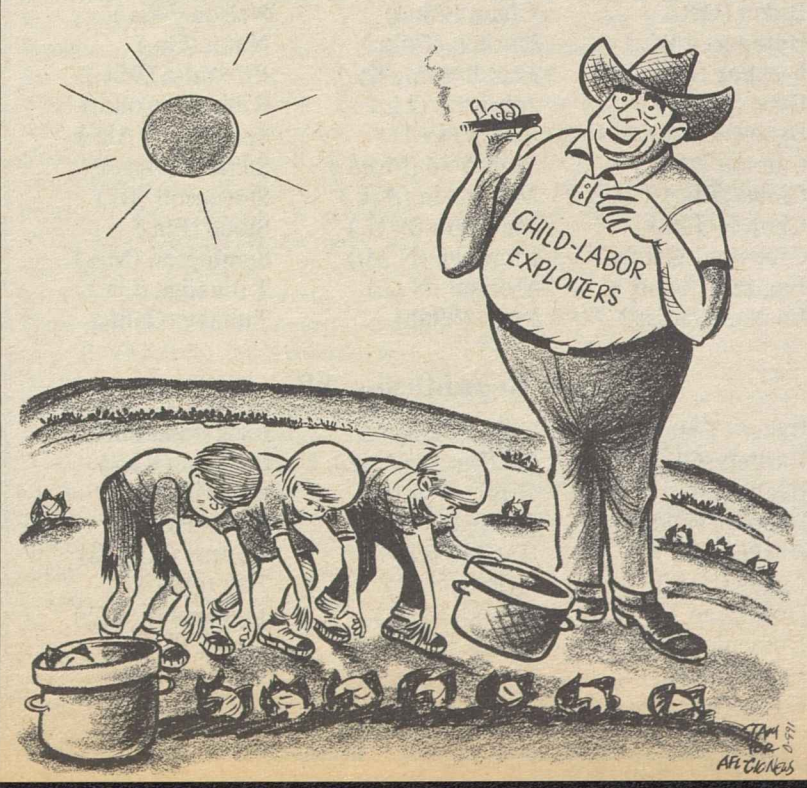
However, the Labor and Treasury Departments have failed to act on the committee's exemption application, Georgine noted.

"As a result," he said, "it is now illegal for pension funds in the building and construction trades to provide desperately needed mortgage money for construction loans if union contractors are participating in the construction."

The House panel, chaired by Rep. John Dent (D-Pa.), is holding oversight hearings on the pension reform law. Georgine told its members the split in jurisdiction between the Labor and Treasury Departments has proved extremely frustrating, time-consuming and cumbersome to plan administrators and other persons interested in insuring that the objectives of the law are carried out.

"This is unconsionable, and can only be cured by placing responsibility for enforcement of the law in one agency alone," he said.

'It's Really Humane—They Don't Have to Stoop So Far!'



Mediation Board Names Fredenberger Counsel

William E. Fredenberger, Jr., has been named general counsel of the National Mediation Board. Fredenberger, son of the late president of the Firemen & Oilers, has specialized in railroad labor law in private practice.

Council Hits Deficit Fears, Insists on Priority for Jobs

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Job Losses Mount, Rate Hits 8.9%

Unemployment rose from a rate of 8.7 to 8.9 percent in April, as the recession continued to take its toll of jobs, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The increase meant another 200,000 workers thrown out of work, and lifted the level of unemployment to 8.2 million, seasonally adjusted. The jobless rate was the highest since 1941 and nearly double the rate of October 1973, the pre-recession low.

Total employment rose by 240,000 in April to 84.1 million. This represented the first employment gain in seven months, BLS noted.

Since last August, when unemployment began to increase sharply, the jobless count has risen by 3.3 million persons. Most of the increase in unemployment has resulted directly from job layoffs.

"Since August, the number of job losers has risen by 2.7 million, accounting for more than four-fifths of the total increase," BLS said.

Most of the April increase in joblessness occurred among adult men. BLS noted their jobless rate rose from 6.8 percent in March to 7 percent last month, the highest level for this category since July 1958 when the nation was in another severe economic slump.

The April rise was also reflected in unemployment rate increases for married men and household heads. These are key groupings since workers in these categories are responsible for the economic well-being of one or more dependents.

(Continued on Page 4)

FULL EMPLOYMENT goals are stressed by AFL-CIO President George Meany at meeting of the federation's Executive Council. He is flanked by Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice President I. W. Abel, president of the Steelworkers.

'We Cannot Turn Our Backs':

Labor Bids Nation Welcome Refugees

Vietnamese refugees should be welcomed by the American people as equally as those from other nations who preceded them to the United States in quest of liberty, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

The nation has an inescapable moral responsibility to do all it can to assist the arriving Vietnamese, the council said in calling on Congress to provide adequate funds for their resettlement.

"We cannot turn our backs on those who have fought for freedom without making a mockery of the principles upon which our nation was founded and by which it has served for centuries as a haven for people of all nationalities who seek liberty," the council stressed in a statement.

That point was reinforced by Federation President George Meany during a press conference as he denounced those who would refuse entry to the refugees fleeing Communist oppression.

"We've been boasting for years that we are the leading country of the free world," Meany observed. "We talk about the great bastion of democracy, freedom. We are concerned about the welfare of all peoples of the world.

"We are a nation of immigrants. And to turn our backs on people who are fleeing oppression—fleeing for their lives—and say to them that 'we are going to dump them into the sea,' this to me is about as contrary to American tradition as anything I ever heard of."

Meany pointed out that the country took in 680,000 Cuban refugees a number of years ago without upsetting the nation's economy and said he felt that they have made a great contribution to the areas where they had settled.

He noted that of the more than 100,000 Vietnamese entering the

(Continued on Page 4)

Ford, Congress Scored on Stand

By Saul Miller

The AFL-CIO stepped up its campaign to put America back to work, charging that President Ford and Congress are placing fears of budget deficits ahead of the overriding need to restore full employment.

At its spring meeting in Washington, the federation's Executive Council adopted a series of statements dealing with the continuing recession and rising unemployment. But it singled out for sharp criticism the President's stand on the budget and votes in Congress on the size of the budget.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told a news conference that the President and the heads of the budget committees in Congress "have an absolute lack of confidence in the vitality of the U.S. economy when they set a limit on the budget deficit, and in effect say to the 8 or 9 million unemployed 'you are going to continue to be unemployed for the next three or four years'."

The country has to face up to the fact that "we can stand a $100 billion deficit, not $60 billion, in order to put America back to work. . . . I think in a situation like this the government of the United States must be the employer of last resort."

The council noted also that "there is no upturn in sight" in the economy and the tax-cut legislation is not enough by itself to reverse the deepest and most prolonged economic decline since the 1930's.

It called on Congress to speed housing programs now before it and provide funds for restoration of track and roadbeds of the nation's railroads, and it reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's program of job creation through fiscal and monetary stimulus.

In other areas, the Council called for a massive federal commitment to child care and development programs, legislation to correct the medical malpractice insurance mess, a bill of right for nursing home patients and protection for consumers on pricing methods.

An American welcome and aid for Vietnamese refugees, U.S. reaffirmation of support for Israel, a warning for free trade unions of the Communist takeover in Portugal, a call for an end to the one-way detente policy in light of the tragedy in Indochina and the need for a strong, viable national defense were highlighted in the council's action on international affairs.

The statement on the federal budget warned that ceilings voted by the Senate and House will keep unemployment "intolerably high."

There would be no budget deficit if America had full employment, the council stressed. And only a temporary deficit big enough to put America back to work can bring about significant economic recovery.

The council resolution voiced labor's sharp disappointment that only 29 senators voted for a budget amendment to add $9 billion for job-creating programs the AFL-CIO had termed "critical to economic recovery." And it noted that the House came close to eliminating even the "inadequate job-creating funds" proposed by its Budget Committee.

"Congress must stop ignoring the need to restore the nation to a full employment economy," the council said. Members of Congress "must be told, again and again, that putting America back to work and restoring a healthy economy must be their main goal."

(Continued on Page 3)

New System Backed In Malpractice Crisis

The AFL-CIO has called for federal legislation to set up a system of arbitration and no-fault insurance to deal with the increasingly serious problem of the costs of medical malpractice insurance.

Such a system, the federation's Executive Council said, would cost much less than the present malpractice insurance coverage that relies on tort law and "would serve the entire nation, not simply by relieving the anxiety of physicians, hospitals and insurance companies, but also by improving the quality and reducing the cost of medical care."

The council's statement pointed out that the costs of malpractice insurance are passed on to the consumer increasing "already excessively high doctor fees and hospital charges." Collectively bargained health benefit plans, Medicare and Medicaid all pay for malpractice insurance costs.

Two bills introduced by Senators Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) "are particularly worthy of consideration," the council said. One deals with arbitration of malpractice suits; the other would establish a federal program of no-fault for medical injuries resulting pri-

(Continued on Page 4)

AFL-CIO Fights Plans To Undermine Seniority

The AFL-CIO will support every valid effort to protect workers threatened by the recession but will oppose "any and all efforts to weaken or dilute the seniority system."

Voluntary agreements reached through collective bargaining on work sharing or other approaches are useful, the federation's Executive Council declared, but it affirmed its strong opposition to weakening and impairing seniority systems through legislative action, court decision or administrative fiat.

The council pointed out that heavy and rising unemployment has touched off attacks on the seniority system, that it is being blamed "for social conditions, particularly discrimination in hiring, that it did not cause."

The statement reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's long-held position that "full employment is the only solution to unemployment and to discrimination. And we will not stand idly by while a few would pit worker against worker for the right to be unemployed."

Defining the seniority system as "a cornerstone of the American

(Continued on Page 3)

AID TO REFUGEES from Vietnam is in the American tradition and has the AFL-CIO's full support, President George Meany tells a news conference after an Executive Council session.

Tragedy in Indochina Tied to Detente Failure

The "tragic events" in Indochina underscore the "bankruptcy of detente" and constitute a defeat of "unprecedented magnitude" for the United States, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

The council called on the Administration "to abandon its calamitous one-way detente with the Communist superpowers and to replace it with a standard of complete reciprocity in all of our dealings with Communist states."

This standard, the council asserted, "demands the immediate and substantial cessation of worldwide Communist subversion and aggression."

The North Vietnamese conquest of South Vietnam, the council pointed out, "provides fresh and irrefutable evidence that Communist powers cannot be trusted to live up to international agreements if those agreements stand in the way of their own expansionist designs. . . ."

Citing the "outrageous violation" of the Paris peace accords by the Soviet Union and China in resupplying and rearming North Vietnam, the council said the United States "did not honor its commitment to South Vietnam" and that the "strong sentiment in the Congress against aid to South Vietnam helped to demoralize our ally while giving the enemy a green light to go all the way."

There is no evidence, said the council, that the Russians or the Chinese "acted in the spirit of detente to restrain Hanoi or even to assist in an orderly transfer of power. Nothing short of conquest would satisfy the North Vietnamese and their patron states."

In the interest of world peace, the council concluded, one-way detente must be abandoned. In addition vigorous and intensive efforts by the United States are needed "to repair and reinvigorate our relations—economic, political and military—with the other democratic nations of the world. They must be convinced that henceforth the United States says what it means and means what it says."

Mayer, Gold Named To AFL-CIO Legal Posts

AFL-CIO President George Meany has announced the appointment of Robert C. Mayer as associate general counsel of the AFL-CIO and Laurence Gold as the federation's special counsel.

Mayer, who holds degrees from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Georgetown University and George Washington University Law School, has been associated with the law firm of Woll & Mayer for 20 years. He will continue as a partner in the firm. J. Albert Woll is the AFL-CIO general counsel.

Gold, a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, was associated with the Woll firm since 1964 prior to being named special counsel. He succeeds Thomas E. Harris who resigned to become a member of the Federal Election Commission.

Gold, 38, served earlier with the National Labor Relations Board in the general counsel's office. Since 1970 he has been a lecturer in law at the National Law Center of George Washington University. Born in New York, he is married and has two children.

Mayer, 51, a native Washingtonian, is active in the American and District Bar Associations. He is married and has five children.

Studies Center Slates Open House on May 11

The AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center will hold open house May 11 for the general public at its Silver Spring, Md., campus from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

The District of Columbia Federation of Musicians, in cooperation with the center, will stage band concerts at 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. Free refreshments will be served to the visitors. The Studies Center is located at 10000 New Hampshire Ave. in Silver Spring.

'Massive Commitment' Sought:

Federal Day Care Program Urged to Fill Growing Need

"A massive federal commitment to the provision of early childhood development and day care" throughout the country for all children who need these services has been called for by AFL-CIO.

The federation's Executive Council outlined a 10-point program for congressional enactment to meet the needs of the "large and growing numbers of women (who) have to work" and are being forced to leave their children without the care and attention they need.

The council declared that responsible elected officials should be the "prime sponsors" of child care programs and that "the AFL-CIO believes that there is great merit in giving the public school systems this prime sponsorship role."

It stressed that only public and non-profit groups should be permitted to participate in the program, that "there is no legitimate role for profit-making entrepreneurs in child care programs."

Citing the statistics on the marked rise in the number of working mothers and the added factors of rising unemployment and inflation, the council statement stressed that lack of adequate child care is a problem for the poor, the working poor, lower middle class and middle class women. Only a small percentage are able to get good licensed care for their children which meets federal standards.

The statement pointed out that some local efforts in the child care field have been undertaken over the years with some success. "Thousands of children have received beneficial, high-quality services from programs developed by labor unions, parent cooperatives and local community organizations and church groups."

Such programs fill an important need in the communities they serve, the council said, and "these programs, like the excellent centers operated by a number of AFL-CIO affiliates, should be encouraged and continued."

While noting that in most communities the school system would be "the appropriate prime sponsor of the child care and early childhood development program, with the responsibility for planning programs, distributing funds and monitoring programs," where the school system is unwilling or unable to undertake the responsibility some other appropriate public or non-profit community organization should be eligible.

It was noted also that not all services need be actually offered in public school facilities, allowing for in-home child care, group day care homes for young children and special services for the emotionally and physically handicapped.

The federation's program includes the following elements:

- Achievement as rapidly as possible of the goal of free, high-quality comprehensive early childhood education and child care services for all children who need them. Since the program will necessarily require a period of time to get fully underway, gradually increased funds should be provided toward earliest achievement of this goal.
- Coordination by the prime sponsor of a range of programs, including health, nutrition, counseling and other necessary support services and child care in a variety of settings including family and group care homes.
- Insistence that all services must meet federal requirements and standards as well as all local school and facility codes and laws.
- Denying profit-making operators eligibility to receive federal funds.
- Declaring existing public and private non-profit programs that meet federal requirements, eligible to receive funds.
- **Providing for effective parent involvement in these programs since they are programs parents voluntarily choose.**
- Requiring that all construction, renovation and repair undertaken under the program must conform to the prevailing wage standards of the Davis-Bacon Act.
- Providing for training, retraining and in-service training of professional and paraprofessional staff.
- Providing full protection of the job rights and employment conditions of workers in child care programs.

Congress Action Pushed To End Housing Slump

Labor called for "strong action" by Congress and the Administration to end a two-year depression in the housing industry so that America can provide "decent homes for its people and jobs for its workers."

An AFL-CIO Executive Council statement termed high interest rates the "major roadblock" to a housing revival. The high cost of money drives up builders' costs and puts monthly payments too high for the budget of most American families, the council said.

"We firmly believe the key to increasing home construction is 6 percent mortgage interest rates," it added.

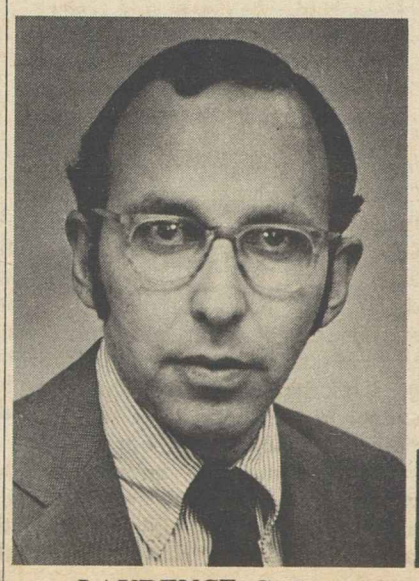
Neither the House nor the Senate version of a middle-income housing bill now in conference fully meets the AFL-CIO's objectives, but each version has some desirable features.

The Executive Council statement urged inclusion in the final bill of a House provision that would allow home buyers to obtain mortgages at a fixed 7 percent rate. It endorsed Senate provisions expanding housing assistance for the elderly and continuing a program of mortgage purchases by the government whenever housing starts drop below a specified level.

The council urged, however, that mortgages intended for government purchase carry interest rates no higher than 6 percent. Funds now available for mortgage purchases are going unused, the resolution noted, because prospective homebuyers can't afford the high interest costs.

Further, the council proposed, to avoid another sharp decline in homebuilding, "Congress must mandate the Federal Reserve Board to allocate credit so that interest rates will remain low and homebuilding can be sustained at a level required to meet the needs of American families."

The AFL-CIO position on the House and Senate versions of the emergency housing bill has been sent to all members of the conference committee by Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller.



LAURENCE GOLD

ROBERT C. MAYER

U.S. Called On To Stand Firm Behind Israel

The AFL-CIO strongly reaffirmed its full support of Israel and demanded that the Administration "cease sowing doubts as to our commitment to the only democratic state in the Middle East."

The federation's Executive Council said the pertinent and immediate question is "to reassert, not reassess America's commitment to democracy in the Middle East, to Israel."

The council pointed out the strong AFL-CIO support for Israel going back to the formation of the state in 1948 and the founding of Histadrut—the free trade union movement of Israel—50 years ago. The bonds with Histadrut "have become unbreakable," the statement said.

Israel's quest for survival for fair and secure boundaries, for peaceful relations with her Arab neighbors deserves the "unambiguous support of our government, not careless rhetoric that can only strengthen the hands of Israel's aggressive enemies," the council declared. The solution to the Palestinian problem, it added, will be found "in face-to-face negotiations between Israel and the Arab states, not in the inhumane actions of Arafat's terror squads or in the bombastic speechmaking that passes for discussion in the United Nations."

Council Presses Top Priority for Jobs

Ford, Congress Hit For Stand on Deficit

(Continued from Page 1)

The statement hit hard at President Ford's insistence that the deficit cannot exceed $60 billion "no matter how unemployment spirals upward."

The publicly held national debt is a much smaller percentage of America's total production of goods and services than in most of the period since World War II, the council noted. And if the jobless rate were at the same level as when Richard Nixon became President, "America would be enjoying a budget surplus."

Labor has confidence in the nation's ability to resume economic growth, but it will take "a much larger federal deficit" than Congress is contemplating "to create jobs and get Americans back to work."

Programs that are neglected or underfinanced in the budget ceilings set by the House and Senate include accelerated public works, public service employment, aid to the cities, housing, railbed repair and health insurance for the unemployed, the council said. It noted that the House and Senate will have an opportunity in September to update their budget resolutions, but warned that it might be "too late" at that time.

Because of the urgency, "the AFL-CIO will continue to call upon the budget committees to face their real responsibilities and report supplementary resolutions well before the summer recess."

Meanwhile, the council pledged, labor will continue to seek quick action by Congress on job-creating measures and aid for the unemployed. The AFL-CIO also will intensify efforts "for tax justice, statutory lowering of interest rates and legislation to stop the export of American jobs," the statement declared.

Meany told reporters that the recent Washington rally for jobs sponsored by the Industrial Union Dept. was a "very impressive demonstration" in terms of 60,000 people coming to the capital to "let their government know how they felt about the job situation."

He noted in reply to a query that the AFL-CIO is supporting the Farm Workers' lettuce and grape boycott and will continue to support the union in its fight against the Teamsters and growers.

There is a feeling, he said in reply to another query, that as time goes on smaller unions in the federation realize they can do a better job by merging with a larger union and the AFL-CIO is encouraging voluntary mergers.

The council voted contributions to the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the National Assembly of Health & Voluntary Agencies and approved the 1975-76 operating budget for the Labor Studies Center of $1,309,256.

The next council meeting was set for July 30-31 in Chicago.

MEMBERS OF THE AFL-CIO Executive Council meet in Washington to update labor's program in view of continuing high unemployment and an inadequate response by both the Administration and Congress.

Situs Picketing Rights Called Long Overdue

Passage of a construction site picketing bill is long overdue, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

A council resolution reaffirmed labor's united support for what is called "situs picketing"—the right of a union to picket a multiemployer construction site if it has a dispute with one of the subcontractors working at the site.

Four Presidents from both political parties have endorsed the concept of the legislation which, the Executive Council stressed, would bring about "equal treatment of craft and industrial unions."

Legislation to restore the on-site picketing rights that were sharply curtailed by a Supreme Court decision has been introduced by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.).

Labor Backs Bill to Require Price Marking

The AFL-CIO announced its strong support of legislation pending in Congress to require that any consumer product sold at retail have its price clearly marked on it.

"We urge our state and local central bodies to support similar legislation at the state and local level," the federation's Executive Council added in a statement.

"For consumers trying to make ends meet during a time of continued inflation, removing prices from products makes comparison shopping virtually impossible," the council said. Elimination of price marking also means lost jobs, the council noted.

Supermarkets recently have stepped up their efforts to install computerized checkout stands and thus do away with the need for marking prices on consumer commodities.

The council also urged immediate congressional action on legislation to repeal the antitrust exemption for so-called "fair trade" laws, statutes in 36 states which "are nothing more than legalized price-fixing costing consumers an estimated $2 billion a year."

AFL-CIO Fights Plans To Weaken Seniority

(Continued from Page 1)

labor movement" and the worker's answer to arbitrary decisions by management in determining employment rights and promotion priorities, the council termed it "a tangible asset for any worker," the most valued possession "next to the union card itself."

In an effort to limit the economic impact of rising unemployment some unions have negotiated provisions for early retirement, sharing of reduced work during a temporary emergency period and other voluntary agreements, it noted.

In contrast to this voluntary approach, however, "there have been calls for the destruction of the seniority system and creation of 'phantom seniority' or the imposition of forced work sharing," the council said. Some federal, state and local agencies have suggested their readiness to prescribe regulations for guidelines for such programs, the statement added.

The council stressed the importance of "leaving the decision as to work-sharing a voluntary one to be adopted when the parties most familiar with its potential impact on a particular workplace see it as the most rational solution."

Noting that forced work-sharing has been championed as a device to prevent "disproportionate layoff of minority employes," the council said that "in most American industries substantial numbers of minority employes have been employed and those employes thus have a substantial investment in the utilization of plant seniority as the determinant of who will remain at work during periods of economic downturn."

American workers, regardless of race, the council asserted, "do not think it inequitable that the more senior workers are protected in times of layoff." The principle is widely accepted that "the longer service employe has priority in job allocation." It added:

"Forced work sharing violates that principle. It is nothing more than 'poverty-sharing.' By forcing all workers to share the brunt of economic downturn, work-sharing inevitably would tear apart the solidarity necessary to achieve real economic gains for all workers."

Portugal Rule Hit as Threat To Freedom

The AFL-CIO called on all free trade unions and democratic governments to protest and condemn the Communist-military alliance in Portugal that threatens freedom, democracy and peace in that country.

The federation's Executive Council also called on the United States to grant economic assistance only to a democratic government in Portugal and to speak out against the "increasing evidence of basic violations of human and trade union rights," violations which should also "be the subject of inquiry at the United Nations."

Despite the results of the recent elections for a constituent assembly, which "clearly established the moderate Socialist and Popular Democratic parties in the majority," the Armed Forces Movement has declared itself above any elected forms of government, the council noted.

An entrenched minority of the military has taken over the regime and aligned itself with the Communist Party, the council charged, with the consequence that Intersindical has become the sole labor confederation controlled by the "Soviet-run, Prague-based, World Federation of Trade Unions."

The council declared that "we do not agree with some western commentators who argue that the Portuguese people are so conditioned by years of submission to a right-wing dictatorship that they will now accept yet another dictatorial regime, this time dominated by the Communist Party, lavishly financed by the Soviet Union."

U.S. Urged to Maintain Defenses To Deter Totalitarian Aggression

Until balanced and enforceable arms control and limitation agreements are reached, American military power must be sufficient to "effectively deter even the threat of attack," the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

That threat from the "military power of totalitarianism" must be met by the President and Congress who must do "what must be done to provide for the common defense," the council said, including greater costs if they are required.

"No burden we must bear is too heavy to endure if the alternative is to live under dictatorship, or the constant prospect of war," the statement said.

The council urged U.S. representatives to arms control and arms limitation talks "to continue to press for agreements that will end the arms race. But such agreements must clearly be mutual, not one-sided; they must be balanced, not ridden with subtle concessions on our part; and they must be enforceable, not ringing public-relations declarations of no practical consequence."

The statement noted that the defense budget proposed by Sec. James Schlesinger may not be large enough and additional funds may be needed to keep pace with inflation. "If fat can be found in the present budget, and if greater defense capacity can be achieved at no further cost, we will warmly approve. But if greater costs are required—so be it."

The council traced the "vast growth in the military might of the Soviet Union and its allies and the relative decline in the defense capability of the democratic world, especially the United States." Soviet might has "surged far beyond a mere defensive capability" with new missile systems and multiple warheads and large numbers of men under arms with conventional weapons and increasing supplies of tanks, artillery and mortars, the council pointed out.

It said the Soviet navy has as many surface combat ships as the U.S. and "more than three times our submarine strength. Their ships are newer and faster and have immense and sophisticated fire power."

In contrast, the council said, the U.S. "appears to be drifting toward unilateral disarmament. Current defense spending constitutes the lowest percentage of our GNP since our demobilization after World War II. In constant dollars, our defense spending has steadily declined, yet the proportion of our defense budget that goes for manpower and other personnel benefits has risen substantially. Our allies and our adversaries alike must now question our capability to effectively wage war and only that capability, clearly perceived, can effectively deter war."

Labor Who's Who Deadline May 30

AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis has urged trade unionists who have received biographical information forms for a forthcoming directory, "Who's Who in Labor," to return the completed forms by May 30.

The volume is being compiled by Arno Press, Inc., with the cooperation of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education. It is expected to include information on about 3,500 labor officials representing international and national unions, regional and local bodies, trade and industrial departments.

AFL-CIO President George Meany has urged union leaders to cooperate in the venture, noting that the volume will be of value to the labor movement and the academic community.

New System In Malpractice Crisis Backed

(Continued from Page 1)

marily from medical services rather than injury or disease.

The council recommended, however, federal legislation "providing for a single program including both arbitration and no-fault insurance. Under such a system, an impartial arbitration panel would make a determination as to whether medical treatment contributed to an unfavorable outcome.

"If the unfavorable outcome occurred in spite of the fact that the treatment conformed to acceptable standards of care, there would be no award. If, however, the panel determined that the medical treatment contributed to the unfavorable outcome, a no-fault award would be made."

Such an award would cover all necessary and reasonable expenses for treatment and rehabilitation, homemaker and other services and loss of current and future earnings.

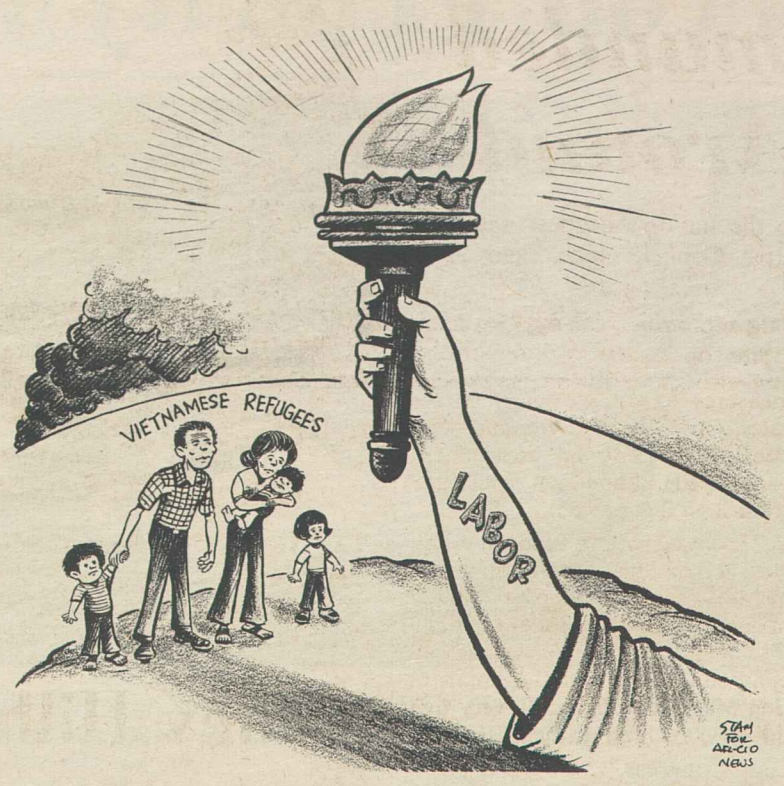
Under the proposal physicians would continue to pay premiums for malpractice insurance to obtain the no-fault coverage and recourse to impartial arbitration. They would be required to comply with state license requirements and meet minimum federal standards as well as take periodic re-examinations and accept review of their services by a professional review group.

The cost of malpractice insurance premiums is only one part of the cost to consumers, the council noted. Fear of suits causes doctors to practice defensive medicine providing for extra services not normally required. This involves a cost of from $6 to $8 billion over and above the premium payments to insurance companies.

The council ascribed the cause of skyrocketing escalation of direct and indirect cost for malpractice insurance to deterioration of the doctor-patient relationship, million dollar plus settlements, the contingency fee system of payments to trial lawyers, and the high cost of litigation under tort law.

A more adequate social insurance program, including national health insurance and income maintenance payments for temporary and permanent disability, would handle the malpractice problem more equitably and economically, the council said.

Welcome to Freedom



Recession Toll Sends Jobless Rate to 8.9%

(Continued from Page 1)

The rate for household heads rose over the month from 5.8 to 6 percent while the rate for married men went from 5.2 to 5.6 percent.

Both the level and the rate of unemployment for the three worker groups—married men, household heads and adult men—have doubled over the past year, BLS observed.

Besides the 8.2 million workers officially classified as unemployed in April, there were hundreds of thousands of "discouraged workers" not counted among the jobless. BLS compiles their number on a quarterly basis. In the March quarter, there were 1.1 million discouraged workers—men and women who have given up looking for work because they felt they could not get a job.

This is the highest number of "discouraged workers" since BLS began the count in 1967.

Another indication of the severity of the current recession was reflected in BLS statistics showing that the number of persons who were jobless for 15 weeks or more rose by 410,000 to a level of 2.4 million in April. More than half the increase was among workers unemployed six months or longer.

As a result of this lengthening in the jobless period for many workers, there was a marked jump in the average duration of unemployment, by 1.5 weeks to 12.9 weeks, BLS said. This was the highest level in more than 10 years.

Among the major industries, increases in joblessness were concentrated in construction, manufacturing, transportation and public utilities industries and among the blue-collar occupational grouping, BLS said. Jobless rates of 19.3 percent in construction and 12.2 percent in manufacturing were all-time recorded highs.

The rate for young Vietnam-era veterans—those 20-24 years—soared to 22.8 percent in April from 17.5 percent the month before. The rate for non-veterans in the same age group was 10.4 percent, about the same as in March.

The unemployment rate of workers covered by state unemployment insurance programs reached 6.8 percent last month, up from 6.4 percent in March. Fulltime workers had a jobless rate of 8.7 percent, an increase of four-tenths of 1 percent from March. The rates for other major demographic groups—adult women (8.6 percent), teenagers (20.4 percent), whites (8.1 percent), and blacks (14.6 percent)—were all about unchanged in April but remained at or near record-high levels, BLS said.

The average workweek—at 36 hours on a seasonally adjusted basis—was only one-tenth of an hour higher than in March. The slight increase followed an almost steady downward trend since last fall.

Average hourly earnings in April rose one cent to $4.44, seasonally adjusted.

Stimulus to Jobs Cited In Railbed Repair Plan

Legislation urged by the AFL-CIO to fund essential repairs to railroad roadbeds and facilities has been approved by the Senate Labor Committee despite Administration opposition.

An AFL-CIO Executive Council resolution termed it one of the "important programs" to stimulate the economy. In addition to the direct employment on the railroads, the council noted that it would also create jobs in the manufacture of steel rails and railroad equipment.

Earlier, President Harold C. Crotty of the Mantenance of Way Employees spoke for the 19 unions of the Railway Labor Executives' Association at joint hearings of the Senate's Commerce and Labor committees.

Crotty termed the condition of tracks and roadbeds "a menace to safety" and noted the rise in derailments and other accidents. The number of roadbed workers on the railroads dropped from 91,970 in October 1974 to 75,519 in March, he said.

The labor-endorsed bill, expected to create 40,000 jobs, would authorize $600 million for labor costs and $100 million for materials.

Railroad management officials testified that large numbers of workers could be employed immediately on roadbed repair if the money were available and urged approval of the legislation.

Transportation Sec. William T. Coleman testified that the Administration opposes the bill. "With respect to the unemployment problem," he said, "we believe we should await the impact of budgetary and other actions already taken by the Administration. These actions should help bring about an upturn in the economy which will provide more jobs."

Alaska Pipeline Arbitrator Named

D. Quinn Mills has been named to take over as the impartial arbitrator in jurisdictional disputes that may arise on the Trans-Alaska pipeline project.

His appointment was announced jointly by President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and William J. Curtin, representing the Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.

Mills succeeds John T. Dunlop, who resigned when he became Secretary of Labor. Like Dunlop, Mills is a former chairman of the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee.

'We Cannot Turn Our Backs':

Labor Bids Nation Welcome Refugees

(Continued from Page 1)

country only about 30,000 will be seeking jobs since the total includes children, grandparents and other relatives.

Even with 8.2 million officially unemployed, Meany said that "if this country can't absorb another 30-40,000 people and try to find some way for them to make a living, then I feel that in a sense we are denying our heritage."

To those who say that the nation cannot absorb the refugees, Meany asked:

"Why? Do we have a guilt complex?

"Whether we should have been in Vietnam or not, is not the question anymore. Maybe we should not have gone in, but we did go in. And we put these people to work on our side, working in our military establishment, and put them into positions where their lives were in jeopardy when the Communists moved in.

"To deny them the right, to deny them a welcome in this great country is something that is absolutely contrary to my concept of what the whole American nation is all about."

In its statement, the council urged Congress to immediately appropriate enough funds to ease the resettlement problems of the Vietnamese without burdening the hard-pressed resources of state and local governments.

It also called on union members to make the refugees welcome in their communities, suggesting that the problems the Vietnamese face can be overcome by good will and generosity.

In addition, the council directed the federation's Departments of Community Services and International Affairs and the Human Resources Development Institute to cooperate with government and voluntary programs to aid the refugees in finding jobs and housing and obtaining needed social services.

In response to a reporter's question, Meany said that the State Dept. has been able to evacuate about 70 Vietnamese trade union officials and their families—a group of about 250 in all.

He said it was his understanding that Tran Quoc Buu, president of the Vietnamese Confederation of Labor (CVT), was among the refugees going to Guam.

Meany said the AFL-CIO submitted a list of CVT officials who were marked for execution by the invading Communist forces to the State Dept. for evacuation, "and I have been told by the Secretary of State that they are out."

"Of course, this does not take care of the thousands of others who are marked because of the fact that they worked for the military establishment," he said.

Death of CVT

The following appeared as an editorial in the Wall Street Journal, May 6, 1975:

Officials of the AFL-CIO are finding that the Communist take-over in South Vietnam is following a familiar pattern. The non-Communist labor leaders are the first to go. The official radio of the new Saigon regime reported over the weekend that the headquarters of the South Vietnamese Confederation of Trade Unions (CVT) had been seized "by 3,000 workers," that its members were ordered to join a new "revolutionary labor organization," and that the president of the CVT, Tran Quoc Buu, had been branded a "traitor."

The AFL-CIO reports that Mr. Buu and possibly 60 colleagues and their families have been rescued. (The roster is incomplete since AFL-CIO sponsored refugees are still making their way over the Pacific escape route.) But the union knows that many local CVT leaders have not been as lucky.

According to mid-April accounts of CVT sources the advancing Communist forces were systematically rounding up CVT members. In Da Nang, CVT officers were arrested and required to turn over all records. At Ban Me Thuot, former union officials were put on a nonsubsistence ration. In Binh Long and Binh Dong, CVT officers were shot. In Quang Ngai, Quang Tin, Pleiku, Kontum, Hue, Dalat and Nahtrang, CVT provincial council leaders and members have been arrested and have not been seen or heard of since.

AFL-CIO leaders have seen this happen before. Communists bitterly resent competition in representing the proletariat, especially when their rivals are more concerned with improving the workers' lives than with installing a Communist view; the quickest way to remove such competitors is to shoot or arrest them. This experience has made American labor leaders among the strongest proponents of American asylum for South Vietnamese refugees. In a recent letter to congressional leaders, George Meany urged, "If we do not stand by these desperate people, how can we ever claim to conduct a credible foreign policy? . . .

"If the doctrine of 'detente' retains any meaning, then let it now be put to the test. Let us make it clear to the Soviet Union and China that we expect their cooperation in restraining Hanoi, and that detente will never survive the slaughter of our friends in South Vietnam."

Some congressmen, including erstwhile liberals, seem about to embark on a sordid campaign to save American workers from competition from South Vietnamese refugees. Before they begin, they would be well-advised to heed what American labor has to say.

Tax Cut Not Enough:

Bigger Stimulus Demanded To Turn Economy Around

The Tax Reduction Act of 1975 is not enough by itself to reverse the nation's deepest and most prolonged economic decline since the 1930s, the AFL-CIO Executive Council made clear at its spring meeting in Washington.

While the tax-cut legislation may help slow down the pace of falling economic activity, the council stressed that "the bottom has not yet been reached" and "despite optimistic Administration rhetoric, there is no upturn in sight."

"Substantial job-creating and income-generating measures by the federal government are needed immediately—in addition to the tax cut—to turn the economy around and put America back to work," the statement declared.

"The most pressing issue on the national economic agenda is to rapidly achieve a full-employment, prosperous economy—for social cohesion and progress, as well as for straightening out the government's recent fiscal problems, which have been created by its own utterly wrong-headed economic policies."

Those policies have resulted in a depressed economy featuring:

● The highest jobless rate in 34 years. At 8.9 percent last month, the nation's unemployment rate translated to 8.2 million workers out of jobs. But when 1.1 million "discouraged workers" are added to the total, "a more accurate unemployment rate would be 10 percent, or 9.3 million jobless," the council said.

● Depression-level, double-digit unemployment among some worker groups. Teenagers had a jobless rate of 20.4 percent; construction workers, 19.3 percent; unskilled workers, 17.2 percent; semiskilled, 14.9 percent; black workers, 14.6 percent; factory workers, 12.2 percent.

● A drop in consumer buying power "so great that the $24 billion tax cut will offset only a small part," the council said. The slide in the buying power of the average worker's weekly take-home pay has been so extensive that "it would now require an increase of $65 billion in after-tax personal income merely to bring the per-capita purchasing power of the American people back to where it was in the summer of 1973, before the recession started."

● A 60 percent decline in housing starts in the January-March quarter from the same period of 1973. Building permits over the two-year period were off by 68 percent.

● A 12.1 percent slide in industrial production from March 1974 to March 1975.

The council also cited lower retail sales in March, near-rock-bottom levels of consumer confidence, a sharp reduction in plant capacity, and higher interest payments and falling tax revenues at state and local governmental levels.

In the face of these conditions, the council noted, the Federal Reserve Board has failed to provide sufficient growth of the money supply for the much lower interest rates that are needed to spur the economy.

"Interest rates on short-term loans have moved, but rates on long-term loans for mortgages and business expansion remain close to last summer's record peak," the council pointed out. Only two weeks ago, instead of decisive measures to cut mortgage interest rates, the Ford Administration boosted the rate on government-backed FHA and VA mortgages from 8 to 8.5 percent.

"These appalling monetary policies, which threaten to prevent a healthy economic recovery and to maintain high employment through the remainder of this decade, are compounded by the Administration's drive to maintain a very tight lid on job-creating measures," the statement observed.

The President's budget report last February projected four successive years of the highest jobless levels since 1941, and "a totally unacceptable" 5.5 percent rate as late as 1980.

"Yet majorities of both houses of the Congress have decided on a tight ceiling that will curb needed measures to stimulate job-expansion," the council said. "If such a ceiling is maintained, the number of jobless will be between 7 and 8 million at the end of 1976."

An "anemic" economy, with high joblessness in the coming years, will perpetuate large federal budget deficits, "which the Administration and congressional majorities say must be eliminated," the council noted.

"The basic deficit in America is not in the federal budget, but in jobs and earnings," it said, adding:

"One clear lesson from the economic history of the years since World War II is the necessity of a balanced, full-employment, prosperous national economy. This is the simple, sure way to cut the deficit in the period immediately ahead."

Nursing Home Reform Bill Given Support

The AFL-CIO called on Congress to enact legislation that would guarantee the rights of nursing home patients and end the mistreatment of the elderly.

The Executive Council noted that recent investigations have revealed numerous abuses of the more than one million patients under nursing home care, including unsanitary and unsafe conditions, improper use of drugs, and profiteering and cheating by some operators of the facilities.

It urged Congress to further investigate "this appalling situation" and pass a Bill of Rights for the patients that would effectively monitor all nursing homes and raise the standard of care.

The council cited a Senate subcommittee report which concluded that life-threatening violations of state and federal regulations could be found at more than half of the nursing homes in the country.

"Since many nursing homes receive both state and federal funds," the council said, "legislation must be enacted which will guarantee the rights of patients and eliminate abuses."

TESTIFYING at House hearings in support of a job-creating, emergency public works program are Jack Curran, left, legislative director of the Laborers, and President Robert Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

Sidney Hillman Awards Mark 25th Anniversary

New York—The Sidney Hillman Foundation presented its 25th annual series of awards to reporters, writers and broadcasters for important achievements in mass communications.

Murray H. Finley, president of the Clothing Workers and of the foundation named for the union's first president, presented the $750 checks and scrolls at an awards luncheon.

Finley said the awards reflect the "social involvement" of Sidney Hillman until his death in 1946 and the labor movement's concern with public issues, communication, education and the free expression of opinions.

The list of award winners, he told the luncheon gathering, reflects "a panoramic view of 25 years of history."

From the earliest years of the Sidney Hillman awards, Finley said, "one gets a picture of America groping its way to a new role in the world, but disrupted by a massive threat to our civil liberties."

Then, "in the mid-50s begins a long series of awards for books and articles on racial issues and civil rights. . . . In the 1960s, awards are made in the area of poverty and the disadvantaged, our urban crisis, and the beginnings of national concern with the environment and conservation."

All of these issues, plus international affairs, are reflected in the awards of recent years, Finley said.

The awards went to:

● Richard J. Barnett and Ronald E. Muller for their book, "Global Reach," an in-depth study of multinationals and their adverse effect on workers.

● The Boston Globe for "forthright and sensitive" coverage of that city's school integration crisis.

● Seymour Hersh of the New York Times for articles dealing with illegal CIA activities in the United States.

● The Columbia Broadcasting System for its documentary film, "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman."

● Noel Mostert for his book, "Supership," on the giant oil tankers.

Also, a special award went to New York's educational television station, WNET, for the quality of its programs over the years.

Furniture Strike Fights Welfare-Level Wages

Sumter, S.C.—Nearly 1,000 Furniture Workers are striking the Georgia-Pacific plant here for a new contract to provide decent wages without forcing members to seek public assistance to meet living expenses.

The UFWA accused Georgia-Pacific of making taxpayers supplement its low wages through welfare payments.

UFWA's southern vice president, Leroy Clark, charged that wages are so low at the Georgia-Pacific furniture plant that many workers must apply for public welfare even though they work full time.

Hourly wages at the plant are just pennies above the minimum wage—ranging from $2.16 to $2.50—even for many workers who have been working there 10 years, the union pointed out.

The UFWA members went on strike Apr. 25 after eight collective bargaining sessions in which the company failed to improve its position despite the efforts of federal and state mediators.

Clark noted that although the cost of living rose 12 percent last year, the company's offer on wages was only 8 percent.

"That really was a wage cut," Clark stressed, "and the people here just couldn't afford to take it."

Shortly after the strike started, more than 175 members of UFWA Local 273 who had been picketing the facility were arrested on charges of "parading without a permit."

They were hauled off to Sumter County Jail and bond for each person was set at $300—$100 for parading without a permit and $200 for violating a local court injunction limiting the number of pickets to two.

A federal district court judge has since thrown out the charges and directed police to refrain from employing similar charges against the pickets in the future, UFWA President Carl Scarbrough reported.

But on the same day of the federal court's action, the company was back in the local court attempting to secure a new injunction limiting the picketing, Scarborough said. The local court has taken the company's plea under advisement.

Other key issues in the dispute involve working conditions and substandard benefits.

The UFWA said plant rules require workers to sign a book before they may use plant toilets and they must get a statement from a physician in case of illness. Although workers pay two-thirds of their medical insurance costs, they are not permitted to choose their own carrier, the union also pointed out.

Court Asked to Protect Aid Rights of Disabled

The AFL-CIO has asked the Supreme Court to give disabled workers and their dependents the same protection against loss of benefits that are accorded welfare recipients.

Under present social security rules, the government can disqualify a worker from disability benefits and end his monthly payments before allowing him to challenge the disqualification at a full hearing.

A brief filed by the AFL-CIO supports the position taken by the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals—that a disabled worker is entitled to a hearing before losing benefits, not just later.

The AFL-CIO brief suggested that the precedent to be applied was set in a 1969 Supreme Court decision that welfare recipients couldn't be dropped from the benefit rolls before having an opportunity for a hearing on the evidence.

Disabled workers and their families are certainly entitled to the same degree of protection, the AFL-CIO urged.

The brief pointed out also that the decision as to whether a person is totally and permanently disabled often rests on conflicting medical evidence that is best explored in full hearings.

Further, a majority of hearings requested and held for persons dropped from the disability rolls resulted in restoration of benefits.

The percentage of reinstated benefits over the five most recent years has ranged from 53.7 to 58.6 percent, the AFL-CIO brief noted.

Machinists Set Vote on Pact In Aerospace

St. Louis—Striking Machinists at McDonnell Douglas Corp. here were set to vote May 11 on a tentative agreement that would end their four-month walkout.

The agreement was reached following an 11-hour bargaining session at the offices of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service in Washington.

About 11,500 IAM members left their jobs Feb. 10 after the giant aerospace firm refused to meet union goals for a new contract. Terms of the proposed settlement were not disclosed pending the ratification vote.

About 7,000 other Machinists at the firm's plants in California and Florida accepted a new pact in mid-April, and concluded their strike.

McDonnell Douglas produces military and civilian aircraft and missiles, including the F-4 Phantom and the F-15 Air Force fighter.

Ignoring the Facts

THE AFL-CIO is appalled at the actions taken by the Senate and House on the first budget resolutions. Like the President, the Congress is focusing on the dollar deficit and ignoring the real cause of this deficit. Like the President, the Congress is ignoring the human needs of millions of Americans desperately seeking help.

Neither the President nor the Congress recognizes these two fundamental economic facts of life:

● During periods of severe economic recession and depression federal revenue drops drastically. A deficit can be avoided either by providing the stimulus necessary to revitalize the economy or by slashing vital human programs.

● For every 1 percent drop in unemployment, the Treasury gains $16 billion in tax revenues and reduced social costs. When Richard Nixon became President, unemployment was below 4 percent. If joblessness was at the same rate today, America would be enjoying a budget surplus.

Both the President and the Congress ignore these facts. The President has set as his goal a $60 billion deficit total, no matter how unemployment spirals upward. The Congress refuses to challenge the President.

The President's insistence on an arbitrary budget deficit ceiling of $60 billion indicates that he lacks essential faith in America's economy.

We in the trade union movement have absolute confidence in the ability of this nation's economy to recover from this current economic emergency, but only if it is given the opportunity to grow and expand. This will require a much larger federal deficit to create jobs and get Americans back to work.

THE PRESIDENT'S projected federal deficit of $60 billion, as a percentage of today's gross national product, is far too low for this recessionary period. In fact, this country supported a much higher deficit at a time when its economy was smaller and its gross national product much less.

The nation can—and must—revive the economy again. The Congress must ignore the President's goal and use facts, not myths, to determine what the economy needs to achieve full employment. If they don't there will be no recovery and unemployment will remain intolerably high.

The congressional budget process was created to establish national priorities. The action taken in the Senate and House last week demonstrates that priorities have been replaced by politics.

Both the Senate and House budget resolutions are totally inadequate. In terms of funding, they either reject or underfinance essential programs, such as: accelerated public works, public service employment, aid to the cities, housing, railbed repair, and health insurance for the unemployed.

Congress must stop ignoring the need to restore the nation to a full employment economy. Its members must be told, again and again, that putting America back to work and restoring a healthy economy must be their main goal.

—From a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council adopted May 6, 1975, Washington, D.C.

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On the Ropes

A Word Edgewise:

Portuguese Election Results Mask Dire Threat to Freedom

By John P. Roche

AGAINST THE BACKGROUND of chaos in the Far East, the results of the Portuguese elections were very cheering. With the Communists receiving only one-eighth of the vote, and the two democratic left parties— the Socialists and the Popular Democrats—getting almost two-thirds, it might seem as though our concern about Portugal was vastly exaggerated. The difficulty with this optimism is that the assembly elected is totally without power. Its task is to draw up a constitution providing for the election of a future government. In the meantime, as Premier Vasco Goncalves emphasized on the morning after, the Armed Forces Movement (AFM) is going to run the store.

The AFM appears to have learned one of the "lessons of Chile": it has been vigorously purging the officer corps of "non-progressive" elements. No serious commentator doubts that the attempted coup by "the Spinola clique"—which led to the flight and exile in Brazil of the former President and a number of his close associates—was a Communist-sponsored setup. Spinola, who led the revolution against the old dictatorship, was too dangerous a rallying point for anti-Communists in the military to be left on the loose. Goncalves, the real authority in the nation, has been working hand in glove with the veteran Communist Alvaro Cunhal, going so far as to ban the Christian Democratic Party and the Maoists from participating in the election and forcing the establishment of a single national trade union dominated by the Communists.

Despite the election returns, then, Portugal is run by a left-wing military junta. Indeed, Goncalves also made it clear that if the democratic majority in the constituent assembly decided it should take over the country from the AFM, they (that is, the two-thirds) would be suppressed. (As a sidenote, if this pronouncement had come from Greek Colonels or Chile's General Pinochet, we could anticipate demonstrations outside the White House. But apparently a pro-Communist military junta is by definition not a "brutal, repressive dictatorship.")

If what happened in post-World War II Hungary and Czechoslovakia is any precedent, what we can anticipate is the installation of the salami slicer. True, the Soviet army is not at hand to prevent unfortunate experiments in democracy such as the 1968 "Prague Spring," but that can be cancelled out if the Communists achieve total control of the Portuguese armed forces. The salami slicer (a term attributed to the Hungarian Communist Rakosi) is used to cut down, little by little, the cohesion of the democratic bloc. We have seen one instance already in the suppression of the Christian Democrats on the spurious ground that they were involved in the Spinola non-coup.

THE PRIME TARGET is the Socialist party, led by Mario Soares, which got over 37 percent of the votes. Soares, who has been walking a high wire, is now automatically caught in an enfilade: the democratic forces, both in his party and in the Popular Democrats, are bound to call for a diminishment of military power. If, however, he takes the lead in this demand, three things are likely to happen: First, the Communists will accuse the Socialists of deserting the working class to collaborate with the "bourgeois" Popular Democrats. Second, the Communist-dominated national workers' syndicate will call on the military to prevent a "sell-out to the western imperialists," that is, NATO. And third, the Communists will infiltrate the Socialist party and organize an anti-Soares split.

If, however, Soares refuses to take the leadership in the democratization of Portugal, his standing with the democratic majority will collapse. One can expect some remarkable statements from that poor man over the next few months as he tacks upwind. He has already let fly with an Aesopian attack on the AFM, disguised as an assault on the Communists for wanting to establish "centralization without democracy." Next week he will probably compensate by, say, calling for a total Portuguese disengagement from NATO.

In short, Portuguese democracy is in dire jeopardy, and the sad truth is we can do very little to help. There is, of course, no NATO equivalent of the Brezhnev Doctrine, and any American efforts to aid Portuguese democracy would, in the present climate of opinion, strengthen the hand of the AFM. This seems to be one of those occasions when the only thing on the shelf worth buying is time.

Protection for Workers:

Seniority Principles Affirmed As Basic to Labor Movement

Excerpts from the AFL-CIO Executive Council statement on Seniority and Layoffs, Washington, D.C., May 6, 1975.

THE SENIORITY SYSTEM is a cornerstone of the American labor movement. It is the worker's answer to arbitrary decisions by management in determining employment rights and promotion priorities.

Because seniority translates length of service into a vested right, it is a tangible asset for any worker. Next to the union card itself, seniority is a worker's most valued possession. Seniority is a contractual right, and, as such, is indivisible.

Today, with unemployment mounting daily, the seniority system is under attack, not for what it does but for what it does not do. The seniority system is being blamed for social conditions, particularly discrimination in hiring, that it did not cause.

In an effort to limit the economic consequences of the downturn, some unions have negotiated collective bargaining provisions providing incentives for senior employes who wish to do so to elect layoff or early retirement, thereby providing work opportunities for junior employes. Some unions, through voluntary agreements, reached through collective bargaining, have provided for the sharing of reduced work by all employes in the unit during a temporary emergency period, in preference to laying off any, when that course maximized the economic-yield to the group as a whole.

As contrasted with these voluntary solutions there have been calls for the destruction of the seniority system and the creation of "phantom seniority" or the imposition of forced work sharing. Some federal, state and local agencies have suggested their readiness to prescribe regulations for guidelines for such programs.

Those who tout "phantom seniority" for an unidentified class or group of workers or prospective workers would place upon other workers the full burden of correcting the effects of discrimination they did not cause.

Those who tout forced work-sharing without regard to seniority would visit the full cost of economic recession upon employes, with the result that workers as a group would receive a smaller share of the national product than they enjoy even under the less than adequate programs presently in force.

There may be particular situations in which work-sharing may maximize the economic yield to the workforce, but that fact simply highlights the importance of leaving the decision as to work-sharing a voluntary one, to be adopted when the parties most familiar with its potential impact on a particular workplace see it as the most rational solution.

In some quarters, work-sharing has been championed as a device to prevent the disproportionate layoff of minority employes. Those who make this contention obviously are not familiar with the patterns of minority employment in American industries. In most American industries substantial numbers of minority employes have been employed—and those employes thus have a substantial investment in the utilization of plant seniority as the determinant of who will remain at work during periods of economic downturn. According to Commissioner of Labor Statistics Julius Shiskin, the best evidence available is that white male workers and black male workers have been hit by layoffs about the same in the current recession, and that men have been hit harder by layoffs than women. Thus, work-sharing harms the interest of all workers equally.

THE AMERICAN WORKERS, regardless of race, do not think it inequitable that the more senior workers are protected in times of layoff, nor would they think it equitable that those workers be forced to surrender a portion of work to junior employes whose needs may be less, whose opportunities for securing other employment are greater, and whose investment of labor in the enterprise has been shorter.

Trade unions are made up of young and old, men and women, whites, blacks and other minorities. One of the principles which all these groups and indeed most Americans have accepted is that the longer service employe has priority in job allocation. Forced work-sharing violates that principle. It is nothing more than "poverty sharing." By forcing all workers to share the brunt of economic downturn, work-sharing inevitably would tear apart the solidarity necessary to achieve real economic gains for all workers.

In sum, unemployment is a social problem, just like discrimination. Both must be corrected; it is not an either-or proposition.

Therefore, we reject the spurious notion that the seniority system must be destroyed just when it is needed most to protect all workers, without regard to race or sex. The AFL-CIO will continue to support every valid effort to protect workers threatened by the current recession while opposing any and all efforts to weaken or dilute the seniority system —be it by legislative action, court decision or administrative fiat.

We repeat what we have often said: Full employment is the only solution to unemployment and to discrimination. And we will not stand idly by while a few would pit worker against worker for the right to be employed.

Violations Increase:

Stiffer Enforcement Pressed To Curb Cheating on Wages

VIOLATIONS of the federal Wage & Hour Law have mushroomed to a $100 million a year pace as the recession has deepened, Service Employees Economist Rudolph Oswald declared in a network radio interview.

Most often, he stressed, the victims are the nation's lowest-paid workers—those who are hurt most when "unscrupulous employers cut corners" on the minimum wage and overtime rates spelled out by law. He said that the sharp jump of violations in the past year, up more than 17 percent over a year ago, is largely due to a growing number of employers trying to hedge against the recession and business slump by shortchanging their employes on wages due.

The way to end this "robbery from workers," which has persisted since the Fair Labor Standards Act became law in 1938, is full enforcement and more than just slap-on-the-wrist fines and orders to simply pay the wages that should have been paid all along, Oswald said. Oswald, who is research director for the SEIU, was questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference.

Oswald said that while wage-cheating crops up in all types and sizes of industries and establishments, it is most common in unorganized job situations, where the workers have no union to represent them. He said that many non-union workers are afraid of being fired if they complain about not being paid the full wage due them, so they don't even report the shortages to the Labor Dept. But, he emphasized, the law provides that the names of complainants be held in confidence, and workers who have been shortchanged shouldn't hesitate to report those violations.

Oswald also scored the attempt by some agricultural interests to loosen the child labor law so that children under the age of 12 can be hired as farm workers. He warned that such relaxation could revive the exploitation of young children this country abolished generations ago. And, he added, the idea makes little sense when there is so much unemployment that older workers can't even find jobs.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE 13TH ANNUAL Manpower Report of the President may not provide the answers to the current economic crisis but it does set the record straight on the past.

The most recent Manpower Report of the President should be required reading for those who seek to downgrade the New Deal programs. It notes, for example, that "by far the most important public hiring program of the 1930s, in both numbers employed and impact on later programs, was the Work Progress (later Work Project) Administration (WPA)."

The WPA employed more than 3 million workers at its peak in 1936, at a time when more than 9 million were out of work, and averaged about $1.4 billion annually in wage payments from 1935 until its termination in 1943.

Another vital New Deal program was the Public Works Administration (PWA) which concentrated on accelerating federal spending for the construction of public facilities on the assumption that increased spending would generate jobs in the private sector. It placed an emphasis on capital-intensive construction to create the maximum number of jobs through direct employment.

It should be understood that WPA was enacted prior to unemployment insurance and most unemployed and their families survived through degrading relief rolls. WPA sought to give unemployed workers temporary jobs.

The Manpower Report continues:

"State, local and federal government agencies initiated and implemented projects which ran an imaginative gamut from bridge building to the writing of a famous series of state guidebooks.

"Although there were other aims, such as maintaining or developing employes' skills and accomplishing worthwhile public services, they were less important than income maintenance."

This led to charges of "leaf-raking" or "make work" but the Manpower Report lists what WPA workers actually accomplished over a span of eight years:

- Built 651,000 miles of roads.
- Built 16,000 water and sewer systems.
- Erected 2,300 stadiums.
- Renovated 85,000 public buildings.

"Although the efficiency of some of the project operations may be faulted," the report says, "there can be no doubt of the real and substantial accomplishments of WPA."

It noted that criticism has been heaped on WPA for the size of the program in relation to the numbers of unemployed. However, in the absence of an unemployment insurance program, the only other answer would be to provide a job for every family in need. As it was, no more than 25 to 35 percent of the unemployed held WPA jobs at one time.

THE WHOLE QUESTION of hiring priorities was also a controversial point in the WPA. In general, the program focused on previously-employed family heads certified as needy. A total of 97 percent of those hired in 1939 had previous private-sector jobs. Youths under 18 were not hired because they were eligible for other programs.

Another controversial issue in WPA was the wage scale. Since the program was intended as temporary work to replace relief payments, wages obviously had to be set above the dole. However, it was also set below the prevailing wage on the theory it would encourage workers to leave public payrolls for private sector jobs.

In summing up, the Manpower Report observed:

"Although WPA and the other New Deal job-creation efforts designed to combat massive unemployment lacked such 'modern' program components as affirmative action, human resource development, and job restructuring, they nevertheless raised the still-critical issues of scale, permanence, hiring priorities, wage levels and training emphasis."

WAGE CHISELING employers who cheat on the wage-hour law rob workers of more than $100 million a year, Service Employees Research Director Rudolph Oswald, center, charged on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO public affairs interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

How to Buy:

Inflation, Recession Combine To Boost Bankruptcy Rate

By Sidney Margolius

WITH MANY FAMILIES pressed by record living costs, big debts, inflation-caused higher tax brackets and sometimes work cutbacks, bankruptcies are headed this year for a new high.

For 1975, bankruptcies are expected to total 235,000, reports Robert Gibson, President of the National Foundation for Consumer Credit. This compares with 195,000 last year and 207,000 in the previous high year of 1967.

About 90 percent of all bankruptcies are personal bankruptcies and the rest are business.

The increase this year represents a startling jump of about 23 percent on top of the 8 percent jump in 1974. Nor does the bankruptcy figure include the many near-bankrupt situations such as wage garnishees. My own estimate is that there could be several million garnishees a year in the United States.

This spring many working families must thread a narrow path between high living costs and unemployment threats, taking care to avoid repossessions of valuable possessions and even loss of homes. If threatened by repossession, keep in mind that you may be liable for a deficiency judgment for the balance on the debt plus repossession costs, even though you also lose whatever you paid on the goods. You may be able to cut your loss if you can arrange a private sale of the merchandise.

At least some help in fighting the inflation in your own home is available from the more stable prices of food at this time, if you plan and shop knowledgeably. In general, note that prices of some fresh foods currently have subsided, but tags on many canned and processed foods are still high. The processed foods lagged behind on the way up but now are lagging on the way down. As one of many examples, fresh potatoes dropped from 18 cents a pound a year ago to 12 cents now. But frozen French fries went down only three cents for a 24-ounce package from 76 cents to 73 cents, according to one survey. Note that you pay for the frozen French fries at the rate of 50 cents a pound.

Clothing prices also have stabilized and some even have come down this spring, especially synthetics such as polyester and nylon. Shoes, however, remain a cost problem. For many families shoes actually are the largest part of the clothing expense, and usually purchases cannot be postponed, especially for children.

Many families now try to beat the price of kids' shoes by buying sneakers. Some of the highly-styled, brand-name sneakers can cost $8-$10 and even as much as $20, especially if they have a tieup with a famous basketball star. It's revealing to see that sneakers have gone up about twice as fast as shoes this year.

Undoubtedly, you've observed the wide difference in prices between national brands sold by specialty shoe shops and standard department stores and shoes sold by chains and mass-merchandising or discount stores. The mass stores often are a little cheaper than the chain stores even though some well-known chains themselves operate the shoe departments in the discount stores. Another source for reductions in shoes is outlet stores, sometimes located at factories. Such stores are not available in all areas, but usually most large towns have one or two.

THE MAIN REASON for the difference is cost between the specialty shops and department stores on one hand, and the chains and discount stores on the other, is not only the quality of materials and construction, but also the care in fitting. The more expensive stores take more care and also carry a wide range of sizes and lasts (shapes). The cut-rate chain stores do not always have as experienced fitters or take as much time, and in the discount stores you may have to do the fitting mainly yourself or with only a little guidance from the few salespersons available.

But beware of cheap imported shoes often found in discount stores and some chain stores. These sometimes are made without a last, consisting simply of an upper stitched to a flat synthetic sole. As well as lacking durability, such shoes can be harmful to feet. The best-fitting last often is the so-called "combination last" with snug-fitting heel and broad toe.

Food buying calendar: Relatively low prices of beef have helped keep down prices of chicken and pork. We suggest these best buys in order of descending value: ground beef, smoked pork shoulder, broilers, turkey and chuck roast.

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From Soup to Nonsense:

Sometimes Simple Directions Don't Lead from Here to There

By Jane Goodsell

AFFIX KNURLED knob (c) to pinion shaft (K), leaving ⅜" exposed (see Fig. 4, Section III). Insert two strips (F1 and F2) into slots (cd & ef) at right angles to points M & M2, fastening securely with No. 3 staples (chisel pointed) and . . . .

"Oh, don't you know how to play? Well, it's very simple. Deuces, tens and one-eyed jacks are all wild. If you get the queen of hearts you have to open, and the queen of spades counts ten points against you unless you also have the ace of spades, in which case . . . ."

"Now, do you have it straight? Order five hamburgers, one with everything, one with everything except onions, one absolutely plain, and two cheeseburgers, one with mayonnaise, relish, onions and catsup but no tomatoes, and one with no butter, just relish and lettuce and mustard and . . . .

"A small smile lifted one corner of Grayson's mouth. 'But it's perfectly simple, Inspector,' he said. 'It was clear that we had our murderer when he didn't ring the bell when his key didn't fit into the lock. You see, he thought that Claggett had given him back the key to his own apartment, whereas Claggett actually got that key mixed up with the key to Mrs. Autrey's apartment. So when Burns tried the key and found it didn't fit, he realized Claggett's mistake, and he knew that Mrs. Autrey had his key, and that it was only a matter of time before she'd realize what had happened, so naturally he had to kill her before . . . ."

"He and I are related by marriage. You see, his mother's brother's oldest son married my aunt on my father's side. She was my grandfather's oldest sister's daughter . . . ."

"It's so sweet of you to take care of them while we'll be away, and I'm sure I needn't tell you what to do. Just remember to water the African violet from beneath, and don't forget to remove any brown leaves. Keep the geranium in a sunny spot, but don't put the cyclamen in direct sunlight and remember to water it every day, but don't overwater the philodendron, and just give the cactus an occasional light sprinkling. And oh yes, give them all a little fertilizer, about four drops in a quart of warm water once a week, except for the jade plants . . . ."

"If you have a net capital loss on line 14, go to line 16. The instruction for line 16 will guide you to completing line 16 or omitting line 16 and going to Part IV. Use Part IV if you have pre-1970 long-term capital loss carryovers in the net capital loss on line 14 . . . ."

Drug Chain Learns Title Doesn't Make Executive

It takes more than a job title to exempt an "executive" from the overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, a drug store chain discovered.

A Labor Dept. investigation resulted in a consent court order obligating the Walgreen Co. to pay a total of $425,000 in back wages to 420 workers in six southern states.

The bulk of the violations occurred at stores in Florida, where 249 workers will collect a total of $294,194, and in Tennessee, where payments of $120,302 will go to 150 workers. Payments were also due at stores in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky and Mississippi.

In most cases, the company had not paid overtime rates to persons with such titles as assistant managers or management trainees.

It's the job and its pay scale that determines whether a person is exempt from the overtime pay requirement, not the title. The payments ordered by the court cover wages due since Apr. 1, 1971.

'Society's Outcasts':

Union Study Details Mental Care Scandal

MENTAL PATIENTS by the thousands are being thrown out of institutions and onto the streets to become "society's outcasts," according to a study prepared for the State, County & Municipal Employees.

It paints a "scandalous" picture of a once-accepted policy of "deinstitutionalization" of mental patients being perverted into "a marriage of convenience between state officials who want to cut their budgets and private operators who want to turn a quick buck."

The study, "Deinstitutionalization—Out of Their Beds and Into the Streets" was made for AFSCME by Henry Santiestevan, a former newsman, UAW public relations director and a consultant on social issues for labor, Mexican-American and anti-poverty groups. His report is based on interviews with health care professionals, social workers, investigative reporters and patients themselves.

While the union represents 200,000 health care workers and employes of institutions, its leaders emphasize that protecting patients, not jobs, is the major concern. In fact, AFSCME says it has been relatively successful in protecting jobs in institutions.

In the early 1960s it was found that many of the state-run mental hospitals lacked the facilities and care for patients. President Kennedy proposed a program of community mental health care centers. In 1963, Congress passed a bill with the goal of establishing 2,500 such centers.

But only 626 of the planned 2,500 centers have been funded over the past 11 years. And President Ford last year vetoed a bill calling for more funds for such centers.

Santiestevan in a tour of five states found that hundreds of mental hospitals meanwhile are emptying their beds, turning their patients out into the streets, or "dealing" them off to private nursing homes "which have become one of the greatest scandals of our nation."

His report cites examples in which nursing home owners actually "bid" on patients, coming to hospitals and picking out those they want—usually the least disturbed. The homes then collect federal money for patients. He cites one instance in which a hospital official was discovered to be the owner of a nursing home.

Former California Gov. Ronald Reagan comes in for a scathing attack in the report for a "cynical effort" to close all of his state's mental hospitals. Santiestevan notes that he was thwarted by the legislature after it uncovered widespread exploitation, suicides and crime among released mental patients.

Santiestevan proposes three steps towards "a workable program of decent mental health care"—an end to governmental "bankrolling" of racket nursing homes and board-and-care facilities; a temporary moratorium on discharging mental patients from institutions until plans can be carefully worked out with representatives of health professionals, community groups and unions; and meaningful development of community health centers.

Too many people have "come to view mental patients as bodies with money attached," Santiestevan concludes. "But there is a coalition of conscience that knows that a society is judged by how it treats the most helpless."

Individual copies of "Out of Their Beds and Into the Streets," may be ordered for $2.25 from the State, County & Municipal Employees, Publications Dept., 1625 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. **(PAI)**

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

At 75th Anniversary Convention:

Legislative, Contract Goals Set by Rail, Airline Clerks

By James M. Shevis

The Railway & Airline Clerks, at their 75th anniversary convention in the nation's capital, tackled a heavy agenda of internal business and set key legislative and collective bargaining goals for the next four years.

The 900 delegates to the union's weeklong convention also re-elected President C. L. Dennis to another four-year term. Dennis was chosen over his only opponent, J. C. Fletcher, by a vote of 878 to 632. The total votes cast were larger than the number of delegates because of a weighted system of voting.

Dennis's election followed early convention action revoking a union rule that had established a 65-year age limit for presidential candidates. Dennis is 66. The weighted vote favoring the rule's repeal was 866 to 675.

D. A. Bobo defeated R. M. Curran for the post of secretary-treasurer. The vote was 868 to 642. Bobo was elected to the office by the union's executive council last January upon the death of D. J. Sullivan.

Delegates also elected 11 vice presidents, three assistant vice presidents and nine members of the board of trustees.

In his keynote address to the delegates, Dennis declared that the union "can be proud of what we have accomplished in the 75 years since a group of courageous men met in that cigar store in Sedalia, Missouri, where BRAC was founded. Just the act of surviving was a great accomplishment in those long hard years.

"Many unions have faltered and died in that period, but BRAC has lived and grown from a dozen men in Sedalia to a family of some 300,000 women and men, working united under the banner of BRAC."

Dennis cautioned, however, that the union still faces many challenges requiring "the same sense of unity that has guided us and shaped our victories in the past."

Boosting benefits to jobless railroaders is one such challenge, he observed. BRAC and other rail unions are seeking quick congressional approval of legislation increasing benefits under the Railroad Unemployment & Sickness Insurance Act.

Under that law, unemployed railroad employes today receive the "ridiculously low" figure of $12.70 a day, or $63.50 per week, he noted. Historically, railroad unemployment compensation has been about 60 percent of the average daily rate, he observed.

"Therefore, based on today's average daily rate," he said, "unemployment compensation should be $30 a day, or $150 a week."

Dennis urged delegates to contact their congressional delegations during their stay in Washington, and ask them to support the pending legislation to improve railroad jobless benefits.

"We must return railroad unemployment compensation to its historic 60-percent relationship, and move benefits up to the $30-a-day range," he declared.

On the collective bargaining front, Dennis expressed determination to update and improve the union's agreement with the nation's major railroads. He insisted that in BRAC's current dispute with the carriers, the union "will not sign a contract that does not adequately protect our members."

Dennis said the railroads so far have offered nothing on job stabilization even though workers currently must have 13 years of seniority to be "protected" employes on some railroads. He said the union would insist on job stabilization agreements that will apply on all carriers.

Any settlement, he said, must also include adequate wage increases, better dental and vacation plans and a cost-of-living escalator clause.

If the union does not like the recommendations of a special presidential board investigating the dispute, Dennis said, "we either can negotiate with management to change them or we can turn them down and then, if we can't reach a settlement, we can strike."

BRAC negotiators plan to meet the three-member presidential panel May 12 to offer rebuttal arguments to management proposals, he reported.

In his remarks to the delegates, Dennis blamed government mismanagement since the union's last quadrennial convention for the "scandalous" joblessness that besets the nation today.

"It was the product of experts and politicians more concerned with profits than with people," he declared. "Its architects were high officials and economists in our government whose eyes are focused on Wall Street, not on Main Street."

Dennis reported that other key legislative goals in the months ahead include enactment of National Health Security and congressional action to outlaw the airline industry's so-called mutual aid pact, under which a struck carrier's costs are underwritten by other airlines.

On the opening day of the convention, the delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada voted overwhelmingly to reaffirm a $5.50 monthly dues increase approved at the union's 1971 convention.

Several members of BRAC Lodge 2151 had challenged the increase, alleging it did not have adequate approval. A settlement was reached in U.S. District Court in Chicago in which both sides agreed that the dues increase would be valid if delegates at the 1975 convention approved it by a two-thirds margin.

The vote to validate the 1971 action was by a ratio of 11 to 1, and brought an end to the lengthy litigation.

Among the speakers at the convention, Senators Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) and Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.) both pledged support for federal aid to rebuild the deteriorating railroad industry.

Hartke is chairman of the Senate Surface Transportation subcommittee. Schweiker is a member of the Senate Transportation subcommittee and of the Labor & Public Welfare Committee.

Hartke also declared his support for the elimination of the mutual aid pact which, he said, "destroys all incentive for an airline company to bargain in good faith with employes, and consequently weakens the industry and eventually the national economy."

"We have to stop MAP by law and I'm going to help you lead that fight," he pledged.

Other speakers on the opening days of the convention included Rep. Barbara Jordan (D-Texas), Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), Rep. Harley O. Staggers (D-W. Va.), Rep. Harold T. Johnson (D-Calif.) and Al Barkan, director of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education.

CONVENTION DELEGATES attending the 75th anniversary convention of the Railway & Airline Clerks hear President C. L. Dennis tell of the problems and challenges facing the membership. Dennis, who was re-elected to a fourth four-year term, said the most immediate problem was gaining congressional enactment of a bill to increase benefits for jobless railroad workers.

PARTICIPANTS in the 26th annual Legislative and COPE Institute of the Textile Workers Union of America are shown with Senate Labor Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), one of many key legislators they met during a full week of activities in Washington.

NLRB Remedies Weak When Employers Balk

The increasing number of employers who simply go through the motions of collective bargaining without making an honest effort to reach agreement underscores the need to amend federal labor law to provide stronger enforcement powers and more adequate remedies.

This kind of "surface" bargaining not only denies workers their basic rights under the National Labor Relations Act, but impedes industrial peace, Benjamin M. Shieber declares in the American Federationist magazine.

The disputes and strikes that resulted from the refusal of employers to bargain with their workers led to the enactment of the law in 1935, Shieber notes.

"Today, 40 years after the enactment of the Wagner Act, strikes often follow an employer's use of surface bargaining tactics as employes seek to attain through strikes the right to collective bargaining that is guaranteed them by the act," he observes.

Shieber, a law professor at Louisiana State University, cites a dramatic increase in the number of employers attempting to evade meaningful collective bargaining as disclosed by charges filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

"In 1958, 1,039 such charges were filed with the board, constituting 17.1 percent of all charges filed against employers. By 1972, the number of such charges had risen to 6,023 and constituted 34 percent of all charges against employers.

"Also the number of charges under this section of the law which the board found to have merit rose from 34 percent in 1963 to 42.8 percent in 1974, while the merit factor for all unfair labor practice charges remained in the 31 to 36 percent range."

Surface bargaining has been held an unfair labor practice under section 8(a)(5) of the act which requires employers to bargain in good faith with employe representatives.

Shieber notes that in its first annual report, the NLRB stated that "collective bargaining is something more than the mere meeting of an employer with the representatives of his employes; the essential thing is rather the serious intent to adjust differences and to reach an acceptable common ground."

Through the years, the courts have upheld the NLRB's interpretation that surface bargaining is a violation of the law. But Shieber points out that it is easy for employers to mask surface bargaining because the legal requirements of good faith bargaining are easy to satisfy.

"The NLRB itself has acknowledged that it is difficult to prove that surface bargaining occurred," the author asserts.

"However, the ineffectiveness of present law does not stem merely from the ease with which employers can evade the obligation to bargain in good faith. Even if an employer is held to have engaged in surface bargaining, the remedies now available to the board are inadequate."

Shieber describes that action as ineffective, "because the remedy orders the employer to do nothing more than comply with the legal requirement of good faith bargaining after the employer has intentionally refused to comply with the law for two or more years."

When an employer flagrantly uses the bargaining process to frustrate any agreement, the NLRB orders him to give the union access to the company bulletin board and submit an updated list of workers and their addresses to the union.

The employer also is ordered to reimburse the board and the union for all reasonable expenses in the preparation, presentation and conduct of the NLRB case.

But through all the delays, the employer gains time and saves the additional labor costs that an agreement may entail, Shieber observes.

"What is needed is a remedy that will make collective bargaining effective when bargaining begins, even if that is after an extended delay."

He calls for amendments to section 8(d) of the labor law based on policies developed by the War Labor Board during World War II. This would require, if so requested by either party, the inclusion in any agreement of three key points:

- No employe shall be discharged or otherwise disciplined without just cause.
- Any dispute over the application or interpretation of the agreement shall be settled through arbitration.
- There shall be no strikes or lockouts over disputes involving the application or interpretation of the agreement.

Such amendments would greatly reduce employer surface bargaining and provide improved protection fro workers, he suggests.

Key House Vote on Budget Ceilings

The House on May 1 supported the AFL-CIO position that persons on the social security rolls should receive their full cost-of living increase this summer and federal employes should get the pay adjustment needed to maintain comparability with private industry next fall.

It voted 234-171 for an amendment sponsored by Rep. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-Mass.) to the budget resolution which eliminated a proposed 5 percent ceiling on pay and a 7 percent ceiling on social security improvements.

Right votes (R) for the amendment were cast by 217 Democrats and 17 Republecans. Voting wrong (W) were 118 Republicans and 53 Democrats.

Numerals shows districts; AL—at large; A—absent.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) R
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) A

ALASKA
AL Young (R) R

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) A
2. Udall (D) R
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Mills (D) A
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) W
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) W
28. Burke (D) A
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Vacancy
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) A
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) R
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) A
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) W
5. Sarasin (R) W
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) R
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) A
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Haley (D) R
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) A
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) W
9. Landrum (D) W
10. Stephens (D) W

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) A
2. Hansen (R) A

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Vacancy
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) A
23. Price (D) A
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) W
3. Grassley (R) R
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) W
6. Bedell (D) W

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) A
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
5. Carr (D) W
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1, Whitten (D) A
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Hungate (D) A
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) R

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) A
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) A
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) W
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) R
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) W
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) A
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) A
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) A
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) A
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) R
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) W
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) W
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) W
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) W
19. Goodling (R) R
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) R
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) A
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) A
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) W
4. Evins (D) R
5. Fulton (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) A

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) A
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Young (D) R
15. de la Garza (D) R
16. White (D) W
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) A
21. Krueger (D) R
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) R
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) W

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) R
2. Whitehurst (R) R
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) W
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) A
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Unions Warn Trade Panel:

More Job Losses Foreseen In New Wave of Tariff Cuts

Efforts to revitalize the nation's economy and get the millions of jobless back to work will be further undermined if imports are increased through a new round of tariff reductions being considered by President Ford, organized labor told the International Trade Commission.

Representatives of AFL-CIO affiliates testified at continuing hearings throughout the country that any easing of duties on imports would in effect subsidize foreign competition that erodes jobs and destroys entire industries.

When workers lose their jobs because of imports, the unions observed in their testimony, unemployment rolls increase, less taxes are paid on earned wages, the government must subsidize more food stamps and the nation's imbalance of payments worsens.

The Trade Commission, formerly the U.S. Tariff Commission, is holding the hearings to determine the impact of tariff reductions through trade agreement negotiations under the Trade Act of 1974.

In January, Ford gave the commission a list of 6,800 articles on which he will consider granting concessions in international trade negotiations. This was followed in March by a list of 3,100 items on which the President will consider eliminating duties on imports from so-called developing countries.

The severe economic impact of imports is affecting a wide range of occupations, the union pointed out. Although jobs in manufacturing in the United States have been hit the hardest, the toll in unemployment and underemployment has reached even into the performing arts and entertainment industries.

Among the most adversely affected by U.S. foreign trade policies of the past decade have been the workers in the shoe, textile, auto, apparel and electronics industries.

At hearings conducted in Boston, Presidents George O. Fecteau of the United Shoe Workers and John E. Mara of the Boot & Shoe Workers told the commission that the policy of unchecked and unregulated imports has contributed to the frightening decline of the American shoe industry.

"Tariff reductions, tied in with a struggling economy and runaway inflation, could kill it," Mara warned in urging the commission to support no further reductions in U.S. tariffs on imported shoes.

Fecteau said that while there is a definite need for international trade and the elimination of trade barriers, such labor-intensive industries as shoemaking must be protected from the extremely low wages paid abroad.

Sec.-Treas. Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers told the hearing panel in Washington that it is a paradox to even consider a reduction in duties on imported women's and children apparel when the government's official statistics showed that one of every five experienced garment workers in the country was unemployed in March—normally the pre-Easter peak of the spring production season.

Chaikin went on to trace the demise of the U.S. silk scarf industry in the early 1950s because of low-wage imports from Japan. Many domestic scarf makers turned to importing and got rid of their workers. But he noted that as often is the case with fashion merchandise when price debasement kills consumer interest, the market evaporated for the Japanese imports.

Intense domestic competition in the garment industry, coupled with the influx of low-wage imports have also held down earnings of apparel workers, he pointed out. Their wages generally lag behind those of other industrial workers.

Imports have also taken their toll in jobs in the service and entertainment industries, John C. Hall of the Theatrical Stage Employes testified in Washington. He noted that while there has been a severe drop in domestic production of video tape programs and feature films over the past 25 years, imports have increased sharply.

"At present, during a typical week, 40 percent of my union of 70,000 men and women are out of work," Hall reported. "And the same dismal picture prevails for our sister unions engaged in film and tape production."

Hall, an international representative for IATSE, pointed out that the decline in jobs came while there has been a major increase in demand for film which is being filled by foreign production, not domestic producers.

He said the same countries that are restricting entry of U.S.-made films into their markets are bolstering their production, often with American capital, to flood the lucrative and open U.S. market.

Hall noted that video tape imports tripled in the 1967-73 period while film imports rose 10 percent over the past ten years. A portion of the film imports are runaways—productions made abroad by American companies with American capital.

Hall also expressed concern about the impact of foreign-made productions on the nation's culture, stressing that "we are rapidly becoming a 'client' state culturally as well as economically."

"As good clients, we will buy our entertainment, our information, in sum, our culture from others," Hall observed.

At hearings in New York, Sec.-Treas. Lowell Daily of the Furniture Workers submitted a long list of piano plant closings and layoffs of piano craftsmen caused by imports.

He noted that the failure of many domestic piano manufacturers coincided with reductions in tariffs during the 1950s and '60s.

When further tariff cuts were halted on imports of upright pianos for a three-year period in 1970, Daily said the action did give the surviving companies "breathing room," but the remedy came too late for the companies that had failed and workers who lost their highly skilled jobs.

"We feel that the help we received in 1970, and which was successful, did permit the high quality shops to run at a more decent pace and remain in business as competitors to the foreign market—and for this assistance, the government has our gratitude," Daily said.

He pointed out, however, that the assistance was not sufficient for low-cost pianos, and serious layoffs resulted in most piano factories last year. The halt in tariff cuts did not apply to grand pianos, either, he pointed out.

Daily testified on behalf of the seven-union National Piano, Organ & Musical Instruments Council, of which he is director.

DUTY REDUCTIONS on imported apparel would cause additional layoffs in the depressed domestic clothing industry, Sec.-Treas. Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers tells the International Trade Commission. Chaikin was joined at the hearing by ILGWU Research Director Lazare Teper, right.

Jobless Aid 'Triggers' Called Dismal Failure

The Administration and the AFL-CIO differed on whether a complex system of "triggers" keyed to national and local unemployment rates is needed to continue an emergency program of jobless benefits beyond the maximum provided under permanent legislation.

AFL-CIO Social Security Directory Bert Seidman noted that the various off-and-on triggers that Congress had written into extended benefits programs have had to be revised 10 times in the past five years.

He described the concept as "a dismal failure" in testimony before the unemployment compensation subcommittee of the House Ways & Means Committee.

Earlier, Assistant Sec. of Labor William Kolberg had proposed to replace expiring temporary legislation with a revised program that would enable persons whose last job had been covered by state unemployment compensation programs to draw up to 65 weeks of benefits through 1976 and those whose last jobs had not been covered to collect up to 39 weeks of payments.

The duration of extended benefits would be cut back or eliminated if the rate of insured unemployment fell below specified national or local levels.

Seidman saw no need for an elaborate system of statistical triggers in view of the expected long duration of the unemployment crisis.

He urged simple legislation that would provide every wage and salary worker with entitlement to at least 65 weeks of unemployment compensation—with benefits beyond the regular jobless compensation program federally financed.

"The 65-week entitlement should remain in effect until the nation is no longer plagued by large-scale unemployment," Seidman said.

He reiterated also the AFL-CIO's testimony two weeks ago before the same subcommittee urging a permanent overhaul of the nation's "outmoded and fragmented" unemployment compensation system.

Bricklayers Get New Training Pact

The Bricklayers received a new Labor Dept. contract to provide pre-apprenticeship training for 300 disadvantaged workers and to upgrade the skills of 75 qualified craftsmen in 20 states.

Fifteen training opportunities will go to each of the 20 states under the one-year, $561,742 contract. The states are Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Fire Fighters Present News Media Awards

Thirty-three prizes and awards were presented to reporters, photographers and newscasters among the more than 350 entries in the Fire Fighters' 1975 media contest.

The IAFF competition is held annually to recognize members of the news media who depict the professionalism and hazards of fire fighting in the United States and Canada through their stories, pictures and commentary.

First prize winners in each of six categories received $500 and plaques, while second place winners received $250 and certificates. Twenty other entrants were given citations of honorable mention and one special citation award also was made.

IAFF President W. Howard McClennan said in commenting on the awards he was highly gratified at the news media awareness of the difficulties and complexities of fire fighting.

"The fact that we had a record number of entries—more than 350—in this year's contest shows that we are getting our message across to the press and the electronic media, and through them, to the public we protect from disaster by fire," he noted.

The entries were submitted by IAFF affiliated locals. This year's judges were Albert J. Zack, AFL-CIO director of public relations; Alan Adams, a Washington writer, and James Weber, a union magazine editor with Merkle Press, Inc.

The top prize winners in the six major categories are:

- Brian Kates, Jennie Tritten and Dave Hartley of the Yonkers (N.Y.) Herald Statesman for a series of news and feature stories and editorials that explained and supported building code improvements fostered by Yonkers fire fighters. The entry was submitted by IAFF Local 628 for newspapers of less than 100,000 circulation.
- Jerry Belcher of the Los Angeles Times for what the judges describe as one of the best-written accounts of the problems and dangers fire fighters face on the job. Local 288 submitted the entry for newspapers of more than 100,000 circulation.
- Gary L. Fait of the Flint (Mich.) Suburban News for a news photo showing fire fighters scrambling for safety as a fiery wall collapses. Local 352 submitted the entry for newspapers of less than 100,000.
- James P. Feso of the St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press for a photo of a fire fighter administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to an infant atop a ladder during an apartment fire. The entry was submitted by Local 21 for newspapers of more than 100,000 circulation.
- Roy Sova and Beverly Oxley of television station WBNG in Binghamton, N.Y., for a series of programs on the complex problems of fire prevention and fire fighting in urban areas. Local 729 submitted the entry.
- Jim Miller of radio station WEST in Easton, Pa., for a graphic account of how political pressure can interfere with the proper operation of a fire department. Local 713 submitted the entry.

The judges also awarded a special citation to Tom Kelly of the Associated Press for outstanding comprehensive journalistic coverage of a night club fire in Port Chester, N.Y.

Council Issues Disputes Plan Interpretation

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has adopted the following interpretation of the federation's Internal Disputes Plan as it pertains to the finding of violations by the impartial umpire:

"It is the opinion of the Executive Council that where the conduct of the offending union is found to have constituted a substantive violation of Article XX, a mere offer to discontinue that conduct or to rectify the past wrong is not sufficient to avoid a formal determination of the violation by the impartial umpire.

"In the absence of such a formal finding that the offending party had violated Article XX, the complaining union is left without any ability to require compliance with the principles of Article XX. Consequently, where there is sufficient evidence of a substantive violation to enable the impartial umpire to make a finding of a formal violation, he is required to do so."

The interpretation grew out of a case involving two AFL-CIO affiliates seeking to represent public sector workers in Ohio.

Filibuster Odds Shift:

Senate Takes Up Consumer Voice Bill

A labor-supported bill establishing an independent federal agency to represent consumer interests advanced to the Senate floor, and opponents appeared to be running out of ways to block it.

During the past two Congresses—last year and in 1972—similar bills were talked to death. The Senate was unable to muster the two-thirds vote then needed to break a filibuster.

This year, new Senate rules make it somewhat easier to limit debate and several diehard opponents of the past are no longer in Congress. If the rule allowing 60 senators to end debate had been in effect last year, the filibuster would have been broken. An early cloture vote is planned to head off a filibuster this year.

Opponents are expected to try a tactic that came within one vote of winning in the Senate Commerce Committee—adding an amendment that would drain support from the bill by threatening to disrupt the whole machinery of union-management relations.

The Senate bill would allow the consumer advocacy agency to intervene before most government regulatory bodies on a broad range of issues. But labor-management issues would be excluded, and the agency would have no authority to intervene in actions of the National Labor Relations Board, the National Mediation Board or in proceedings affecting wages or working conditions.

Consumer groups are allied with the AFL-CIO in opposing the anti-labor maneuver. But the battle is expected to be re-fought on the Senate floor.

The margin of Senate passage is likely to determine the eventual fate of the legislation. President Ford, like President Nixon before him, has indicated he will veto the bill in its present form—or in virtually any shape that still has teeth in it.

In other congressional developments:

- The House prepared to act on a labor-supported bill that would bar federal savings and loan associations from offering home mortgage loans at variable interest rates that would rise or fall with fluctuations in the market price.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller wrote House members that variable rates would aggravate inflation by requiring increases in mortagage payments at the time when a homeowner's income is being eroded by other price hikes.

- There appeared to be growing bipartisan support for President Ford's request for some $500 million in resettlement aid for the Vietnamese refugees. House Speaker Carl Albert's comment was that "we've spent billions on the war and I think we can spend a little more on humanitarian aid."
- The Senate Commerce Committee approved a bill that would partially remove controls on natural gas—thus sending prices substantially higher—but stop short of the full decontrol sought by big producers and the Administration. A major floor fight over the legislation is likely next month, when it is expected to reach the Senate floor.
- The Senate voted to continue the Council on Wage & Price Stability, a token remnant of the era of controls, until June 30, 1976. It approved an amendment giving the council authority to subpoena price data from business firms. The legislation does not authorize any resumption of wage-price controls.
- The House voted final approval of federal strip-mining legislation similar to a bill President Ford vetoed last December. The 293-115 vote is more than the two-thirds margin that would be needed to override a new veto.

WINNERS OF THE 1975 "Ability Counts" essay contest, sponsored by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, are shown with AFL-CIO Vice President Hunter Wharton, left, and Harold Russell, committe chairman. The three high-school students, center to right, are Ned Garry, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Barbara Pellowski, Grand Forks, N.D.; and Stacy McKissack, Little Rock, Ark. They wrote on the theme, "Full Employment Opportunity: Does It Exist for the Handicapped?"

Handicapped Workers Hard Hit By Nation's Economic Downturn

Handicapped Americans face difficulty enough finding work in good times but in the current recession the obstacles are almost overwhelming, the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped declared.

"National priorities tend to affect the handicapped adversely," the committee notes in a new study, The Impact of Unemployment on Handicapped People. "Simply, handicapped people are not a national priority, particularly not in a time of economic crisis."

The study was prepared by an advisory committee that included Lawrence Smedley, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, and Frank Fernbach, assistant to Steelworkers President I.W. Abel.

The study quotes a Los Angeles vocational rehabilitation official who observes that handicapped workers are being hit hard by employers "consolidating bodies."

"In a good economy, the employer is willing to break a job up. He'll give out parts that can be done, say, standing up, parts that can be done sitting down—more people fall heir to more segments of a job.

"When a recession hits, they stop doing that. They don't parcel out. They don't use workshop people they've used before. They won't use mentally retarded people because they won't use anybody who may not be able to stand up under pressure."

Another California vocational rehabilitation official sums it up this way:

"Today's employer wants the best labor he can get for the least money. It's practically a begging situation for a handicapped person to find a job in a labor market like this."

Handicapped workers are suffering in other ways in today's shrinking labor market. Because funds for sheltered workshops and vocational training programs are running dry, handicapped persons are being turned away from training in basic job skills.

"Handicapped people are slipping out of the job market permanently," the study concludes. "Still other handicapped people who have acquired some skills will be unable to use them because of the lack of entry-level jobs."

In a tight job market, disabled people need more than one skill to hold onto their jobs, the study notes. As a rehabilitation official in Detroit observed, "only those handicapped can hang on that can do at least two or three different jobs."

Among its recommendations, the committee urged that sheltered workshops, small and large, should receive guaranteed contracts from the government sufficient to insure a minimal level of operation.

Another recommendation noted that any government effort to assist the unemployed should designate handicapped people as a specific priority.

The study was released during the 28th annual meeting of the presidential committee in Washington. Theme of the meeting, attended by 3,500 delegates from across the nation, was "affirmative action for disabled people."

AFL-CIO Vice President Hunter P. Wharton, a member of the President's committee, noted that programs for the handicapped and the disadvantaged are an important part of the federation's program to meet the current emergency and restore stability to the economy.

"Job-creation programs are the most important part of all," he declared. "Unless there are jobs for everyone who is able and willing to work, the problems of rehabilitation will never be fully solved, and there will be only partial solutions to the problems of the handicapped."

The meeting was highlighted by presentation of awards to the winners of the 1975 "Ability Counts" high school essay contest sponsored each year by the committee. State winners in the competition were guests of the AFL-CIO at a luncheon and their trip to Washington was underwritten by AFL-CIO central bodies in their states.

The five top essayists shared a total of $3,750 in prizes donated by the Disabled American Veterans. Ned Garry of Brooklyn, N.Y., won first prize of $1,500. Other winners were Barbara, Pellowski, Grand Forks, N.D., $900; Stacy McKissack, Little Rock, Ark.; Anna Maria Ochoa, Yuma, Ariz., $450, and Catherine Mary Andronik, New Britain, Conn., $300.

House Vote Opposes Ford's Ceiling On Social Security, Federal Pay Rise

The House went on record for tax reform and against arbitrary ceilings on cost-of-living adjustments for persons drawing social security benefits and on comparability pay raises for government workers.

A 234-171 vote incorporated these expressions into a resolution setting spending and revenue targets for the coming fiscal year.

The final shape of the resolution proved even more controversial and was adopted by a narrow 200-196 margin. Most who voted against it considered the spending ceilings too high, but they were joined by a sprinkling of liberals who denounced the budget target as too low, even though it was a bit above the Senate-passed resolution.

In drawing up its revenue and spending projections, the House Budget Committee went along with President Ford's request that the pay raise government workers are due next October be limited to 5 percent — even though a higher amount would be required to comply with the law pegging their pay to comparable jobs in private industry.

Ford also has asked a 5 percent "cap" on the cost-of-living adjustment due social security beneficiaries in July—a figure that will be 8 percent unless Congress votes to curtail it.

The Budget Committee had adopted a compromise 7 percent figure for the social security increase in its spending assumptions, but the amendment sponsored by House Majority Leader Thomas P. O'Neill (Mass.) wiped out any curtailment.

To reinforce the point, the Senate several days later as an amendment to an unrelated bill expressed its opposition to any ceiling on social security cost-of-living increases.

The two actions virtually assure that Congress will not curtail the social security adjustment.

The issue of government pay probably won't be faced until next fall. Then, if the President proposes to change or disregard the comparability salary raise a panel determines is due federal employes, either the House or Senate can block the President by a resolution of disapproval.

As for tax reform, the amendment adopted by the House set a target of $3 billion in added revenue to be achieved by closing tax loopholes. The provision, sponsored by Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), was added to the O'Neill amendment by a 277-128 vote.

It had the effect of reducing the estimated budget deficit in the House-passed bill to $70 billion.

In spending totals, a House-Senate conference committee will have the job of reconciling the Senate-passed target of $365 billion in outlays and the House-passed figure of $368.2 billion.

Inflation Pushes Up Poverty Guideline

The official government poverty-level guideline has been adjusted upwards from $4,550 to $5,050 for a four-person family living in a non-farm area in the continental United States, the Labor Dept. announced.

The $550 increase reflects the rise in the consumer price index over the past year. The guideline is used by the government in determining eligibility for jobs and training opportunities for persons classified as economically disadvantaged, unemployed or underemployed.

A "single-person" family would qualify as poor under the revised guidelines if income were below $2,590. That ceiling is $260 higher than a year ago.

5-10-75

Labor Carries Fight for Jobs to Public

AFL-CIO News

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Bills to Bolster Economy Clear Key Hurdles on Hill

Meany Calls Deficit Fear 'Appalling'

The AFL-CIO sought to add the weight of public opinion to its efforts to turn Congress and the Ford Administration away from an economic path leading to at least four more years of high unemployment.

Labor's message—expressed in hard-hitting congressional testimony by AFL-CIO President George Meany and in newspaper advertisements in eight cities—was that jobs represent "the only solution" to America's economic ailments.

Meany told a panel of the Joint Economic Committee that current levels of unemployment "tear at the fabric" of American society. He said the nation cannot and "will not tolerate" its continuance.

The newspaper advertisement called on Americans to write their senators and representatives that it is time to put America back to work and job-stimulating programs are the only answer. **(Text on Page 6.)**

It deplored the 64-29 vote in the Senate on Apr. 30 against raising the budget ceiling to finance even a segment of the needed programs.

Meany termed it "appalling" that so many members of Congress seem to have been "hypnotized or scared" by the Administration's focus on the alleged horrors of letting the budget deficit rise above an arbitrary ceiling.

That's "foolish thinking," he contended. Spending to create jobs means increased spending power, reduced unemployment payments and welfare costs, higher sales and investment for business, increased tax receipts—"all the bench marks of an economy rapidly moving to full employment and prosperity."

By contrast, he warned, continued high unemployment "will mean continuing large budget deficits, continued hardship for workers and their families, continued recession."

The budget guideline set by Congress established a spending ceiling of $367 billion, a compromise between the higher House and lower Senate versions. It estimates a $68.8 billion deficit, above the $60 billion "line" that President Ford sought to draw. The deficit estimate assumes that Congress will enact tax reforms that will bring in an additional $1 billion in revenue.

Both Meany's testimony and the newspaper advertisement stressed the key relationship of the publicly-held national debt to the nation's

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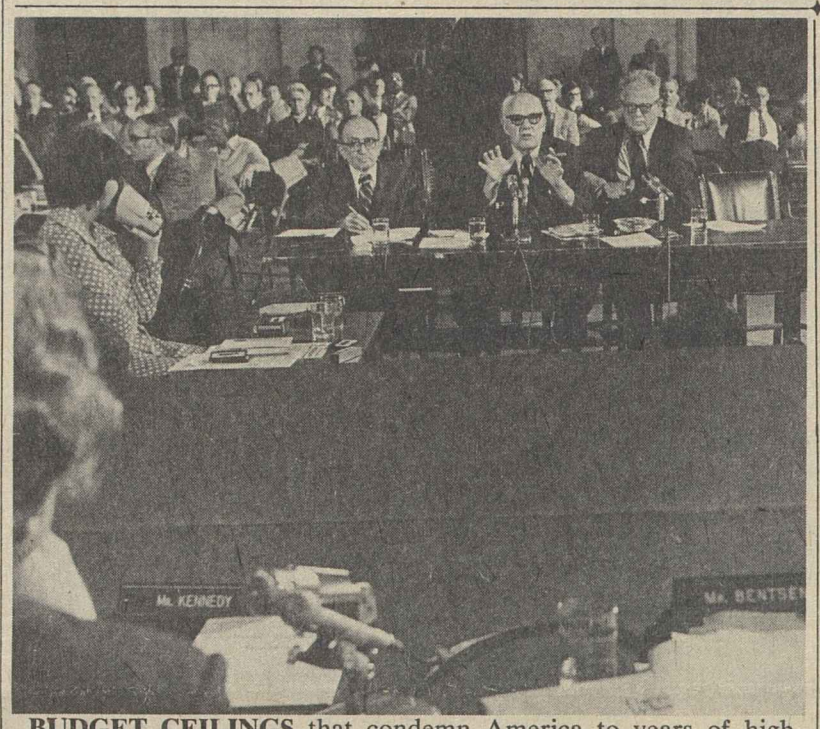


BUDGET CEILINGS that condemn America to years of high unemployment were challenged by AFL-CIO President George Meany at hearings held by a Joint Economic Committee panel. With him are AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger, left, and Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller.

Emergency Funds, Housing Aid Advance

Significant elements of the AFL-CIO's action program for economic recovery were included in bills that moved closer to enactment on a crowded congressional agenda.

The House voted final approval to an emergency $5.3 billion appropriation intended to be spent quickly on job-creating programs.

As cleared by a House-Senate conference committee, the Emergency Employment Appropriations Act carries $1.6 billion for additional funding of public service jobs, $458 million for summer jobs for youth programs and large sums for public works programs and an assortment of federal construction and repair projects.

Senate approval is expected quickly, sending the measure to the White House where it may face a presidential veto. The House passed the fund bill by a 293-109 vote, more than the two-thirds that would be needed to override a veto.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman George H. Mahon (D-Tex.), regarded as a fiscal conservative, spoke for the bill as a needed job-creating measure. In a single year, he noted, the unemployment rate has soared from 5 percent to 8.9 percent.

The Senate had added to the bill a $700 million appropriation for repair of railway roadbeds and track. The House conferees had balked at this because the required authorizing legislation had not yet cleared Congress. On the House floor, Rep. Silvio O. Conte (R-Mass.) sought to add $200 million for roadbeds on a contingency basis—to be available as soon as authorizing legislation was passed.

(Continued on Page 8)

NLRB Sets Health Unit Guidelines

The National Labor Relations Board has issued landmark guidelines for organizing workers in the private health-care field.

In eight split decisions, the NLRB defined what it considers to be proper bargaining units in nonprofit and private health-care institutions.

The board's decisions, a number of which were reached upon review of regional NLRB rulings, followed arguments early this year on the types of employes who may appropriately be grouped for collective bargaining in private health-care institutions.

The cases stem from the 1974 amendments to the National Labor Relations Act which extended its coverage and protection to workers at nonprofit hospitals and placed all private health care institutions under NLRB's statutory jurisdiction. Public health-care facilities continue to remain outside the

(Continued on Page 2)

Filibuster Crushed:

Consumer Agency Approved by Senate

By David L. Perlman

The Senate crushed a filibuster and passed a labor-supported bill to establish an independent agency that would speak up for consumers before most of the federal government's regulatory agencies.

Before limiting debate, the Senate rejected an amendment that could have injected the new Agency for Consumer Advocacy into the full range of labor-management relations, including proceedings before the NLRB.

Over the past four years, the Senate had tried seven times without success to muster the two-thirds vote then required to close debate. This year, under new Senate rules, only 60 votes were needed—three-fifths of the full membership of the Senate. The actual count was big enough to carry easily even under the old rules—71 votes for cloture to 27 opposed.

It came in response to this question:

"Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on S. 200, a bill to establish an independent consumer agency to protect and serve the interests of consumers, shall be brought to a close?"

The Senate's answer was a resounding "yes."

Final passage, by a 61-28 vote, came two days later.

Sen. Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (R-Conn.) sought to eliminate completely the section of the bill that bars the agency from intervening in the labor relations field.

His amendment, strongly opposed by the AFL-CIO, was beaten on a 52-36 vote. **(Rollcall on Page 7)**

Weicker's argument in effect was

(Continued on Page 8)

Unions Attack Rules To Cut Pay Standard

The Labor Dept. was put on notice that it will be subverting the intent of Congress if it puts into effect regulations that would give firms paying substandard wages and benefits a competitive edge in bidding on government service contracts.

Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), chairman of a House Labor subcommittee that has been holding oversight hearings on the Service Contracts Act, expressed outrage that "over-zealous cost-cutters" were trying to chip away at a law intended to protect labor standards.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller and representatives of unions representing workers employed by private firms that furnish services to government agencies sharply challenged the attempt to weaken wage standards.

The unions and the House subcommittee consider the proposed new regulations a violation of of 1972 amendment which was intended to prevent prevailing wage standards from becoming a perpetual wage freeze.

(Continued on Page 2)

Trade Hearings Push Need for Safeguards

Development of a fair and responsible foreign trade policy that safeguards American workers' jobs from eradication by imports is essential to the nation's economy, AFL-CIO affiliates told the International Trade Commission in a series of hearings across the country.

Labor representatives said that trade adjustment assistance for workers who lose their jobs to low-wage imports is no more a solution to faulty trade policy than unemployment compensation is to those who lose their jobs in the recession because of ill-advised domestic economic programs.

Neither does the export of American technology and vital resources solve the deficit in the nation's balance of payments, they stressed.

The commission, a government agency, has been conducting the hearings since February to determine the economic impact of additional tariff cuts that are being considered by the Ford Administration in coming trade agreement negotiations.

At hearings in Pittsburgh, President I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers declared that the USWA is flatly opposed to any tariff reductions authorized under the Trade Act of 1974.

Abel said that each ton of foreign steel unloaded in the United States represents lost job opportu-

(Continued on Page 8)

SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL opens in New York under sponsorship of the labor-management Educational & Cultural Fund of the Electrical Industry featuring works of union artists. From left are John Shea and Joseph Bono of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3; Anthony Rocco, Jr., director of the fund; Nina Felshin of the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center; and Dr. Rene Shapshak, director of the festival.

House Panel, Unions Denounce Move to Undercut Pay Standard

(Continued from Page 1)

The original law, passed in 1965 at labor's urging, was regarded as equivalent to the Davis-Bacon Act in federally-financed construction —and assurance that firms would not get contracts on the basis of paying workers less than the going rate.

In 1972, after unions made a strong case at congressional hearings, the law was amended so that prevailing rates used as a basis for bids on contracts would reflect future increases due under collective bargaining agreements with the firm currently holding the contract. Otherwise, a new firm would win the contract by bidding at the old wage rate—and the workers doing the work would either be out of a job or forced to pass up a pay raise.

The proposed changes in regulations that touched off the current hearings were developed by an all-management inter-agency task force.

Biemiller, accompanied by Legislative Rep. Kenneth Meiklejohn, stressed the "secrecy" with which the inter-agency group had developed its proposals.

"Organized labor did not participate in any of the study papers produced by this inter-agency group," he said. "We were not given any opportunity to comment on the finished papers the group produced, nor were we given any opportunity to consider or comment on the proposed regulations prior to their publication in the Federal Register."

Among the unions that testified in opposition to the proposed regulations were the Laborers, Service Employees, AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, National Maritime Union, Transport Workers and Teamsters.

A report from the House subcommittee staff revealed that both the Solicitor of Labor, William J. Kilberg, and the executive assistant to the Secretary of Labor, Thomas M. Phelan, had written memos declaring that portions of the proposed regulations are "contrary to the express terms of the act and its legislative history."

The department's defense has been that the proposals to change regulations were merely an effort to invite comment on the issues.

Thompson told the Labor Dept. witnesses that he was "genuinely angry" and "absolutely determined that this course of action will not prevail."

He said the inter-agency group that drew up the regulations had focused entirely on cost-cutting "and no attention that I can see was paid to the business of protecting labor standards, which is what the Service Contract Act is all about."

The subcommittee's ranking Republican member, Rep. John M. Ashbrook (Ohio), said he was in "100 percent agreement" with Thompson.

Rep. James G. O'Hara (D-Mich.), who sponsored the original law, termed the proposed changes "a damned outrage."

Other members concurred and Thompson sent word back to the Labor Dept. that "there is an obvious consensus of this subcommittee and I am certain it would be reflected virtually unanimously in the full committee" that the proposed regulations should be withdrawn.

The proposed regulations would apply wage standards embodied in collective bargaining agreements only to work performed at the same locality. They would not be binding if the contractor performed the work elsewhere. They would allow a firm with a collective bargaining agreement lower than the area prevailing rate to underbid the firm holding the contract and paying a higher rate. And they would set time limits that would in many cases prohibit recently-negotiated collective bargaining agreements from being used in determining wage standards.

All of these proposed changes, Biemiller testified, are "very serious and dangerous abridgements of the rights of service employes." He said the AFL-CIO "feels very strongly that the Dept. of Labor should withdraw these regulations."

Major Gains Set in National Airlines Pact

The Air Line Employees Association, an affiliate of the Air Line Pilots, ratified a new 26-month contract with National Airlines that provides pay increases averaging 24 percent for some 3,200 ground-service personnel.

The agreement, approved by a 3,114 to 117 vote, also provides marked improvement in fringe benefits, particularly in the area of pensions, ALEA President Victor J. Herbert said. Under the pact, the retirement age was lowered to 62 and a change in vesting nearly triples pensions of employes retiring during the next five years.

Other gains include more liberal medical and dental benefits, an increase in the amount of company-paid life insurance coverage, lowered service requirements for a month's vacation, permission for workers to take their birthday holiday at any time they choose, and extended maternity leave.

A cost-of-living escalator clause also is included in the new contract —a first on National, Herbert noted. The agreement covers sales agents, station employes, computer operators, secretaries, key punch operators, accountants, production control clerks, catering and cabin expediters, porters and others.

Herbert described the contract as "unquestionably the finest in the 20 years we've represented National empolyes." ALEA's membership extends to eight major carriers nationwide.

Endless Detail:

Lobbying Bill Called Tangle of Red Tape

Labor's lobbyists would be spending most of their time keeping records and filling out reports under a bill being considered by the Senate Government Operations Committee, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller testified.

Biemiller, a former member of Congress and for many years head of the AFL-CIO's team of full-time legislative representatives, spoke with pride of the labor movement's role as "the people's lobby."

He cited its support over the years for "fair wages and working standards, a decent standard of living for all, a job, pensions for old age, decent homes, a system of national health insurance, and fairness in all things without discrimination on account of race, creed, color, age, sex or national origin."

Its legislative staff files the required quarterly reports of salary and expenses and the federation would have no objection to closing any loopholes, Biemiller said.

But he objected strongly to the voluminous reports of virtually every congressional contact that would be required and to a proposed broadened definition of lobbying that could engulf in red tape people and organizations with only fringe relationship to the legislative process.

"The detail is endless; the records will be voluminous," Biemiller testified. But "whether Congress or the public will know any more about the manner in which lobbyists carry on their work and accomplish their objectives is at the very best conjectural."

Portions of the proposed bill represent needless invasions of privacy, Biemiller said. Other sections could infringe on constitutional rights, he contended.

One reference in the bill to publications of voluntary membership organizations, he said, raises a question: "Would the AFL-CIO News have to drop all references to the progress of legislation of interest to union members or refrain from comment on developments in Congress in order to exclude itself from the bill's requirements?"

A partial list of the type of reports and record-keeping required by the bill, Biemiller noted, includes "each aspect of the policy-making process the lobbyist sought to influence, including bill, docket or other identifying number . . . an identification of each federal officer or employe with whom the lobbyist communicated . . . the subject matter of each oral or written communications which expresses an opinion . . . a copy of any written communications used by the lobbyist during the period to solicit other persons to lobby, an estimate of the number of such persons solicited, an estimate of the number of such persons who are engaged in lobbying, etc."

With such requirements, Biemiller suggested, there wouldn't be any time left to lobby. Further, "the information they seek to have reported is unnecessary and irrelevant."

If the purpose was to prohibit certain types of lobbying, the detailed reporting might have some relevance, Biemiller said. "But in a bill which seeks to reveal, not to regulate, the activities these provisions seek to have made public are meaningless and silly."

NLRB Issues Landmark Guidelines For Organizing Health Care Units

(Continued from Page 1)

jurisdiction of the NLRB.

Since the amendments were enacted last summer, several AFL-CIO affiliates have actively moved to organize the private sector of the industry—estimated to embrace 1.5 million workers.

Summaries of NLRB's recent decisions follow:

● Registered nurses, "if they are sought and so desire, are entitled to be represented for purposes of collective bargaining in a separate unit," the majority found.

"We have concluded that registered nurses possess, among themselves, interests evidencing a greater degree of separateness than those possessed by most other professional employes in the health-care industry."

The decision, based on a petition brought against Mercy Hospitals of Sacramento, Inc., by the Service Employees, directed elections in separate units of nurses, service and maintenance employes and business office clerical employes.

Concerning the clerical unit, the board noted:

"We shall continue to recognize a distinction between business office clerical employes, who perform mainly business type functions, and other types of clerical employes whose work is more closely related to the function performed by personnel in the service and maintenance unit who have, in the past, been traditionally excluded by the board from bargaining units of business office clerical employes."

● Technical employes are appropriately represented in units separate from those of other nonprofessionals, such as service and maintenance workers.

The board directed representation elections in two employe units, one of service and maintenance workers, and the other of technical employes, sought by District 1199, National Union of Hospital & Health Care Employees, in a case against Barnert Memorial Hospital in Paterson, N.J. The union is an affiliate of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

The NLRB defined technical employes as "those whose specialized training, skills, education and job requirements establish a community of interest not shared by other service and maintenance employes." These include licensed practical nurses and technicians in the fields of X-ray, respiratory care, infant care, laboratories, psychiatric care, operating rooms and orthopedics.

● The board refused to set up a separate unit of direct "patient care" employes at Mount Airy Psychiatric Center in Denver, as requested by a Retail Clerks local, but directed an election of service and maintenance employes.

The hospital is administratively organized into two major departments — patient care and support services.

In finding a unit of patient-care employes "inappropriate," the NLRB majority held that the dichotomy between "direct" and "indirect" patient care is not "sufficiently definable" to "provide, in part, a sound and manageable basis upon which the board could fashion appropriate units. . . . If any particular fact is evident, it is the fact that all employes in the health-care industry, sharing as they must a genuine concern for the well-being of patients, are involved in 'patient care.'"

● The board rejected a petition by the Operating Engineers for an election among the 22 switchboard operators at Duke University's Medical Center in Durham, N.C., concluding that a unit limited to switchboard operators would result in "a severe fragmentation of bargaining units."

● A separate unit of stationary engineers sought by the Operating Engineers at the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in San Francisco was rejected.

"We are not persuaded that the stationary engineers possess a community of interest sufficiently separate and distinct from the broader community of interest which they share with other service and maintenance employes, except for business office clericals, to warrant their inclusion in a separate unit," the majority said.

In most of the rulings, NLRB Chairman Betty Southard Murphy lined up in the majority with Members John H. Fanning and Howard Jenkins, while Ralph E. Kennedy and John A. Penello were in the minority.

Dues Increase Voted:

Clerks Gear for Expansion Of Airline Organizing Drive

By James M. Shevis

The Railway & Airline Clerks wound up their 75th anniversary convention resolved to step up organizing activities, particularly in the growing airline industry.

The 900 delegates to the quadrennial meeting voted unanimously to establish an air transport division within the brotherhood and, in a separate move, urged the AFL-CIO to consider establishing an airline employes department similar to the federation's seven trade and industrial departments.

During discussion, it was brought out that there are about 125,000 unorganized clerical and related workers in the airline industry. BRAC's current membership includes some 10,000 workers in the industry.

In his report to the delegates, President C. L. Dennis noted that the union increased its organizing efforts in the past four years — notably in those areas where there is "a mutuality of involvement and interest," such as airlines and freight forwarders, railroad-created bureaus and associations and other transport-related companies.

"Organizing offers BRAC the dual opportunity of expanding our ranks and, at the same time, strengthening them," Dennis said.

Partly to underwrite its organizing efforts as well as to meet "the fantastic increases in costs" of operation since the 1971 convention, the union approved a new dues structure to boost revenue.

As approved by the delegates, monthly dues will increase in two steps. The first increase of $2.50 will become effective either in the month following the month in which BRAC negotiates its new contract with the carriers, or on July 1, whichever is later.

The increase would be allocated as follows: $1 to the grand lodge, $1 to the system boards, and 50 cents to the local lodges. The increases thus would raise national dues from the present $4.20 a month to $5.20. System board dues would rise to the same level while local dues would go from $2.60 to $3.10.

The second step of the increase, a $2 monthly rise, is scheduled to take effect on July 1, 1977. It would be distributed to raise national dues to $6.10, system dues to $5.90, and local dues to $3.50.

Other resolutions approved by delegates endorsed ratification of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment and the goals and guiding principles of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

In addition, the delegates went on record favoring private ownership of railroads and opposing nationalization of the industry. They also opposed any Ford Administration attempts to amend the Railway Labor Act to abolish the right of workers to strike. And they endorsed the Kennedy-Corman Health Security bill pending in Congress.

Earlier, delegates re-elected C. L. Dennis to his fourth straight term as BRAC president. D. A. Bobo was elected to his first full term as secretary-treasurer, a position he has held since last January when the union's executive council chose him to succeed the late D. J. Sullivan.

Also, 11 vice presidents were elected—eight of them incumbents. The three new ones are W. E. Granlund, Thomas Fitzgibbon and F. T. Lynch. Re-elected were C. S. Coleman, R. J. Devlin, R. I. Kilroy, F. J. Kroll, W. C. Y. McGregor, E. J. Neal, J. F. Otero and Gerald Toppen.

The convention was highlighted by an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany who joined delegates in deploring the present condition of American railroads.

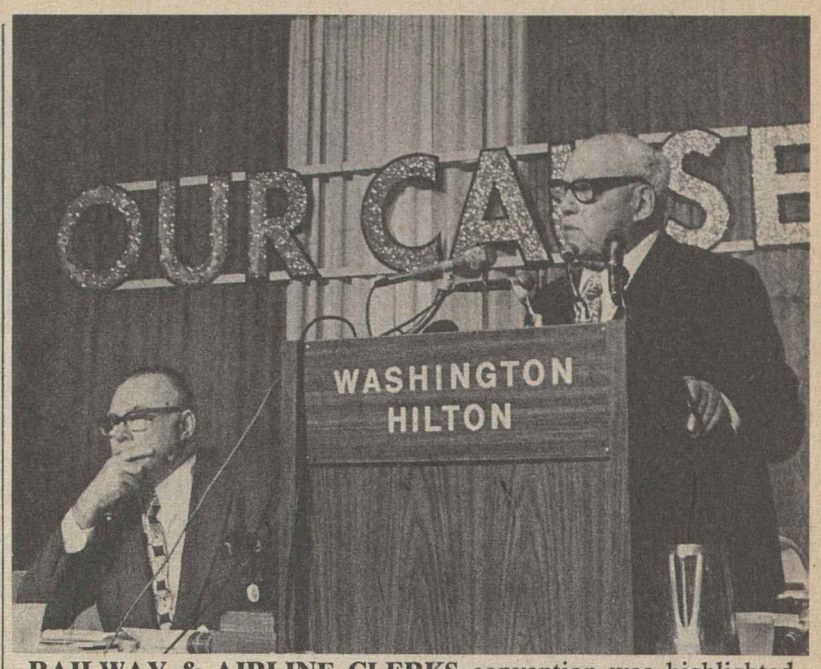
"What about spending a couple billion dollars to rebuild the roadbeds of America's railways?" Meany asked. "Why not try to get America's railway system, if not into the number one spot, at least on a par with the Germans and the French and the Japanese and some of the other nations of the world?

"I happen to be an old railroad buff," Meany said. "I still like to ride trains, but let me tell you what I see in America today means that as far as railroads are concerned, America is no longer in the top rank with the rest of the world."

Meany said roadbed repairs were sorely needed "so that we can get our high-speed trains that we can now manufacture and put into operation but dare not run over certain roadbeds, because there's no possibility that they'll stay on the rails."

Noting Administration opposition to the railbed repair bill, Meany cited this as another example of governmental indifference to the safety and well-being of the people.

He said the Ford Administration and Congress must do more to provide jobs for the millions of unemployed, and pay less attention to misguided attempts to hold down the budget deficit.



RAILWAY & AIRLINE CLERKS convention was highlighted by an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany who scored the Ford Administration for its callousness toward the nation's 8.2 million unemployed workers. Meany, shown with BRAC President C. L. Dennis, urged a large-scale works program, such as rebuilding the roadbeds of America's railways.

New Machinists' Pact Ends Aerospace Strike

St. Louis—About 12,000 Machinists returned to work at McDonnell Douglas Corp. here May 13 after ratifying a new three-year contract ending a 13-week strike at the huge aerospace company.

Members of District 837 of the Machinists voted 4,609 to 2,796 to accept the settlement that had been hammered out in a marathon bargaining session in Washington with the aid of federal mediators.

The new contract calls for a 31 cent hourly wage increase the first year and 3 percent increases in each of the second and third years. The average hourly wage at the plant will be increased from $5.82 to $6.13.

Under the agreement, which expires in May 1978, the company agreed to pay 41 weeks of backpay at 17 cents per hour. A person who worked 40 hours a week for the 41 weeks would get $278.80. This settled a long-standing dispute over the 17-cent raise which had been disapproved by the Pay Board.

The settlement also rolls into base rates a total of 78 cents per hour in past cost of living increases.

Shift premiums, a serious issue with many workers, remain the same, despite the company's efforts to put a lid on them.

The hospital room and board allowance, $54 a day under the old insurance plan, will go to a maximum of $81 in the third year of the agreement.

Weekly disability insurance payments were increased to a top of $155, based on the hourly wage of the employe. Pensions basically will be increased by $1 this year and another $1 next year, making them $9 and then $10 times the number of years of service.

Cost of living adjustments will be made quarterly, with the first due next Aug. 4. A one-cent hourly adjustment will be made for each three-tenths of 1 percent change in the three-month average of the consumer price index, rather than each four-tenths of 1 percent under the old formula.

McDonnell also agreed to reinstate about 100 employes laid off during the strike.

When District 837 walked out Feb. 10, so did 7,000 members of IAM District 720 on the West Coast and several hundred members in Florida. However, District 720 members ratified a settlement by a 2-1 margin Apr. 12 after talks has been moyed to Washington.

TOP AWARDS of the League for Industrial Democracy are presented to Sec.-Treas. Sol C. Chaikin, left, of the Ladies' Garment Workers, and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman, right, of the Clothing Workers. Making the presentations at a luncheon in New York are Judy Bardacke, executive director of LID, and Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP, a past recipient.

Garment Union Leaders Presented LID Awards

New York—Two leaders of garment industry unions—Sec.-Treas. Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman of the Clothing Workers—were honored with the League for Industrial Democracy's annual award.

They were cited for their "dedication to the workers they represent," support of full employment, commitment to minority rights, advocacy of trade policies that safeguard American jobs, and efforts on behalf of freedom and democracy abroad.

The awards luncheon climaxed a two-day conference on the political, economic, and foreign policy crises confronting America. Among the participants were Representatives, James G. O'Hara (D-Mich.) and Donald M. Fraser (D-Minn.) who spoke on the future of political parties; retired Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, on defense spending; author Michael Novak, on ethnicity in society; and Carl Gershman, executive secretary of Social Democrats, U.S.A.

A theme common to many of the speeches was the need to combat the twin evils of economic deterioration and a spreading isolationist mood.

Tom Kahn, chairman of the LID executive board, declared that the two problems are interconnected. "The spread of an isolationist mood towards the outside world will most certainly be accompanied by a mean, narrow mood towards problems here at home," he observed.

Roy Wilkins, a previous LID recipient, presented the awards to Chaikin and Sheinkman, stating that "no two men have demonstrated greater vision and commitment to the advancement of social justice." Wilkins strongly criticized the lack of government initiative to curb the steadily mounting rate of unemployment.

"The black community is suffering the most serious stresses and strains," he said. "For we know that there is no job as difficult as the job of getting along without a paycheck."

Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP, added that the "time for talking about ending the recession is over. Every scheme that doesn't put people back to work is secondary."

In their acceptance speeches, Chaikin and Sheinkman concentrated on the plight of unemployed workers and the need for vigorous government action to stimulate the economy.

Sheinkman criticized both President Ford and Congress for their inability to stem high joblessness. He described the Administration's efforts as "hapless," while asserting that Congress had "succumbed to the Administration's propaganda."

He added: "I do not believe that the American people find a high rate of unemployment acceptable. No level of joblessness is acceptable."

Chaikin denounced the "callous indifference" of the Ford Administration toward working people.

He added that labor, as the "most powerful force for a progressive America," would play the pivotal role in the struggle to redirect the economy so that it served human needs and not profits.

The LID, which marked its 70th anniversary at the awards luncheon maintains an extensive educational program to acquaint young people with the values, history and traditions of the labor movement. Previous award recipients, in addition to Wilkins, have been George Meany, A. Philip Randolph, Frederick O'Neal, former Rep. Martha Griffiths, and Senators Henry Jackson and Hubert Humphrey.

Bishops Back Acceptance Of Refugees

A statement by the president of the Catholic bishops' conference, urging Americans to accept Southeast Asian refugees, has been sent to President Ford by the conference's general secretary. The statement also went to every member of Congress.

In a letter to Ford which accompanied the statement by Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati, Bishop James S. Rausch wrote:

"I assure you, Mr. President, that the Catholic hierarchy of the United States will continue to support prompt and generous assistance (to the refugees); we recognize in the present situation an opportunity to serve, and we are prepared to do so."

Archbishop Bernardin's statement called it "inconceivable" that Americans should not respond generously to the refugees. He dismissed as "exaggerated and unfounded" fears that they would have a damaging impact on the economy and reiterated the commitment of church agencies to participate in their resettlement.

Full Employment

THIRTY YEARS AGO, as World War II was ending, the Congress began hearings on the issue of full employment. A bipartisan majority adopted the Employment Act of 1946 and on Feb. 20, 1946, President Truman signed that statute. It committed the U.S. government to a continuing policy of creating and maintaining "conditions under which there will be afforded useful employment opportunities, including self-employment, for those able, willing and seeking work, and to promote maximum employment, production and purchasing power." In 1946, those were brave words. Let's look at what has happened since.

There was a general consensus that full employment in the American economy was an unemployment rate no higher than 3 percent. During the past 30 years the goal of full employment has been neglected more often than met by the Congress, as well as the Executive Branch. In addition, there has been a slow, but rather steady erosion of the goal itself, especially in the past few years.

Government officials and their academic supporters have been busy redefining the goal. It went from a 3 percent unemployment rate to 4 percent, then to 4½ percent and now to 5 percent or 5½ percent. It's an old game, if you can get away with it—if you don't make the grade, change the rules. That's fakery, regardless of whether the trickster is a college professor or a government official.

This country is further away from the maximum employment goal of the Employment Act of 1946 than ever. Even worse, both the Administration and the majority in the Congress are much further away from the government's commitment to full employment than ever before.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES represent people. They represent families. At present, every percentage increase in the unemployment rate is more than 920,000 additional jobless workers. Every one-tenth of a percent rise is over 92,000 more unemployed.

Yet, the Administration seems determined to achieve its intolerably high unemployment projections. There's no other way to interpret the Administration's all-out campaign to maintain a tight lid on job-creating programs.

The Administration has clearly opted for high unemployment —in the sacred name of holding down the budget deficit.

Majorities of both houses of the Congress have also decided on a tight ceiling—not too much different from the Administration's—that will curb needed government measures to create jobs and economic expansion. If such a ceiling is maintained, the number of unemployed will be between 6.7 and 7.1 million at the end of 1976 and the budget deficit will still remain large. Many members of the Congress, unfortunately, seem to have become hypnotized or scared by the Administration's concentrated drive on the budget issue.

The basic deficit is not in the federal government's budget, but in jobs and earnings. High unemployment in the coming years will mean continuing large budget deficits, continued hardships for workers and their families, continued recession.

Such conditions must not be permitted to continue in a free society. That is particularly true of American society, where a job is much more than just the major source of family income. It is also a key measure of a person's place in society—whether he or she is a full-fledged member or on the outside, looking in.

—From testimony by AFL-CIO President George Meany before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress.

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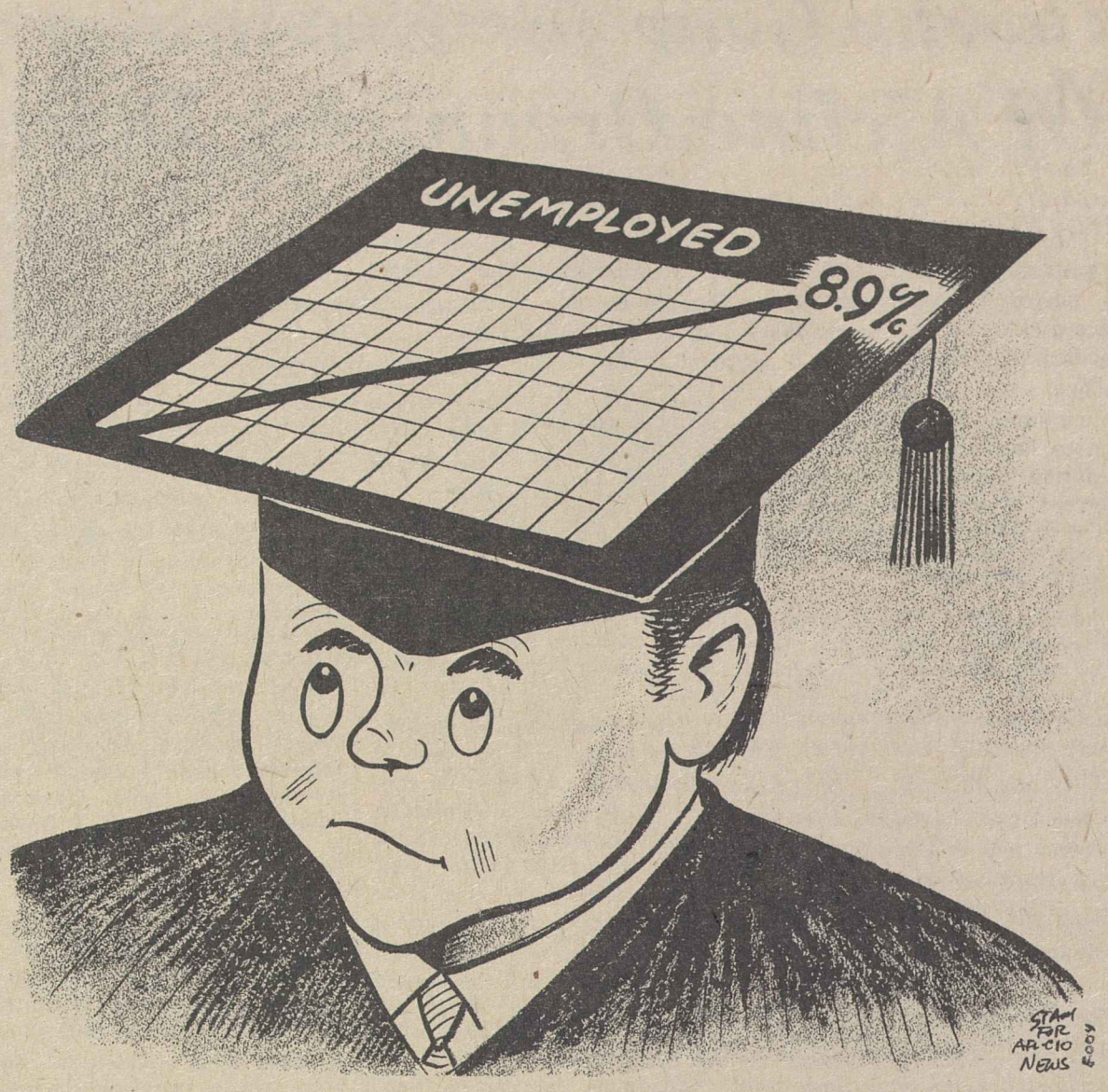


A Word Edgewise:

Stifling of Opposition Creates Police State Climate in India

By John P. Roche

THE SOVIETS RECENTLY used their launching facilities to put an Indian satellite into orbit. The way things are developing internally in India, one begins to suspect they are also providing Prime Minister Indira Gandhi with some technical assistance on how to organize a police state. I don't want to exaggerate the present situation—India is still basically a democracy—but there are some very ominous portents of rocky waters ahead.

For starters, Mrs. Gandhi has maintained a state of emergency throughout the nation. This is a British inheritance (originating in the first World War's "DORA: Defense of the Realm Act") which many former British possessions cherish and employ with a vigor unprecedented in the homeland. It conveys, among other things, the right to ship subversives, however defined, off to the slammer for months (usually three) without any judicial process. In the Republic of Ireland such detention of an Irish Republican Army suspect can be based on a police officer's belief that he is a gunman.

At any rate, Mrs. Gandhi has put a number of dissidents of various sorts (including trade unionists who objected to her use of the army to break a railroad strike) on ice and apparently has no intention of relaxing her hold. However, you must have some justification so she has emerged with a novel version of the "Reichstag Fire Gambit"; the emergency must continue in force because India is "facing a threat from the sea."

What is this threat? Who has its fleet massed and landing craft loaded off the Indian coast? Would you believe the United States of America? Well, that's what Mrs. Gandhi is telling folks. Its only factual foundation (if that is the word) is that the U.S. has been negotiating with the British for the expansion of the airfield at Diego Garcia which, a hasty computation in my atlas indicates, is roughly 1,000 miles off the shores of India.

Moreover, there have been a number of objections raised in Congress to the Diego Garcia project—which, by the way, is simply to provide a base for anti-submarine aircraft sweeps—so as yet nothing has happened. In short, Mrs. Gandhi's rationale for keeping the shackles on under the emergency powers act is utterly spurious. She must just want them out of the way: Like her father, former Prime Minister Nehru, she is very sensitive to criticism. Unlike her father, she has taken to tossing her critics in jail.

IN ANOTHER AREA, freedom of the press, Mrs. Gandhi's government has been engaged in an endless series of harassment designed to undermine the standing and very existence of independent journals. The details of this campaign were set out in an article in the March-April "Freedom at Issue," published by Freedom House in New York. The author, C. R. Irani, has been the managing director since 1968 of "The Statesman," one of the most distinguished Indian papers, and he documents with chapter and verse the various lines of assault that the government has followed —ranging from the election of editors by working journalists (most of whom belong to a Communist-dominated union), to an attack on the papers as "monopolies" to imposing a 10-page ceiling on all papers, thus diminishing the power of the great dailies, to leaning on the owners to get them to keep their editors in line, to . . .

"The list of pressures on the press," Irani concludes, "is endless and the combinations and permutations could be described as fascinating if the consequences were not so serious. It is a tribute to the ingenuity of our politicians that the methods (described in the article) are only a few of the many that are being used. . . . That this game has not succeeded so far speaks volumes for the resilience of the Indian press."

If there is one consistent thread in Mrs. Gandhi's policy it is anti-Americanism. Hanoi's success in Indochina was, for example, hailed by her as "a gratifying vindication of the consistent position maintained by us on this question over the year." Considering the fact that when the Chinese Communist armies came tumbling down from the Himalayas in 1962, her father practically invited the U.S. to make India an American protectorate, this is a gratuitous slap in the face. And this is to ignore the grain we have shipped, virtually for nothing, to forestall famine. The Indians are free, of course, to be anti-American, but we should surely drop them from our Christmas list.

Skyrocketing Premiums:

Federal Action Needed to Solve Malpractice Insurance Crisis

The following is excerpted from a statement on medical malpractice insurance adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on May 5, 1975.

PATIENTS, HEALTH and welfare plans, doctors, hospitals and insurance companies face a crisis because of the skyrocketing costs of medical malpractice insurance.

In the last year, doctors have experienced premium increases for malpractice insurance amounting to as high as 600 percent. Hospitals have reported premium increases of as much as 1,000 percent. Malpractice insurance premiums have risen from $61 million in 1960 to an estimated $1 billion in 1975. Yet, only 16 to 17 percent of this billion dollars is actually paid to the medically injured patients or their survivors. The rest goes for court costs, legal fees and administrative costs associated with selling malpractice insurance.

Doctors, hospitals and other providers do not pay these high costs out of their own pockets. They pass them on to the consumer and these costs are added on to already excessively high doctor fees and hospital charges. Collectively bargained health benefit plans, Medicare and Medicaid all pay for medical malpractice insurance costs. In one way or another, workers and their families pay the cost of malpractice insurance premiums. Recently, because of rapidly escalating costs, many insurance companies have stated that they can no longer offer malpractice insurance coverage at all.

The causes of the skyrocketing escalation of direct and indirect cost for medical malpractice insurance include:

- Deterioration of the doctor-patient relationship.
- Million dollar-plus settlements.
- The contingency fee system of payments to trial lawyers.
- The high cost of litigation under tort law.

The law of torts is an inefficient and costly method of resolving medical malpractice claims and highly inequitable. It is true that a few patients have been awarded a million dollars or more in damages, but the great majority of patients suffering medical injury receive no compensation at all. Moreover, patients who do eventually win their claims may have to wait as long as 10 years to receive an award for medical injury.

Most of the problems associated with medical malpractice insurance would be more equitably and economically resolved if America had a more adequate social insurance program. A comprehensive national health insurance program, such as Health Security, would pay for almost all personal health care costs of persons that resulted from medical injuries regardless of cause.

In advance of enactment of national health insurance, a number of bills have been introduced in Congress and the state legislatures to resolve the immediate medical malpractice issue. Some only propose to study the problem. Others, including most state legislative proposals, would only provide a costly program of reinsurance to enable the malpractice insurance companies to stay in business. They would do nothing about the expensive and inequitable tort law system of adjudicating malpractice claims nor would they discourage costly defensive medicine resulting from the threat of such claims.

The problem of medical malpractice insurance has traditionally been handled at the state level, but the states have not been effective. The time is long overdue for the federal government to take a more active role.

Two bills introduced in the Congress are particularly worthy of consideration. S. 482, introduced by Senators Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Inouye (D-Hawaii), provides for a federal-state program with federal standards. Under this bill, arbitration of malpractice claims would be authorized under state law. Only injuries resulting from medical malpractice would be insured. Medical injuries resulting from treatment that did not involve actual malpractice would not be compensable.

S. 215, which has also been introduced by Senators Kennedy and Inouye, establishes a federal program of no-fault insurance for medical injuries resulting primarily from the medical services rather than the injury or disease. This is less restrictive than S. 482 which covers only actual malpractice.

Both of these bills would allow claimants to appeal to the courts under tort law if they are dissatisfied with the award.

WHAT IS NEEDED is federal legislation providing for a single program including both arbitration and no-fault insurance. Under such a system, an impartial arbitration panel would make a determination as to whether medical treatment contributed to an unfavorable outcome. If the unfavorable outcome occurred in spite of the fact that the treatment conformed to acceptable standards of care, there would be no award. If, however, the panel determined that the medical treatment contributed to the unfavorable outcome, a no-fault award would be made. The award should cover all necessary and reasonable expenses for medical treatment and rehabilitation; obtaining homemaker and other services needed to replace those ordinarily provided by the injured family member; and loss of current and future earnings.

Physicians would continue to pay premiums for malpractice insurance to obtain the no-fault coverage and recourse to impartial arbitration. Physicians should be required to comply with state license requirements that meet minimum standards established by the Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare. In order that patients can get the benefits of new medical knowledge, states should require doctors to take periodic reexaminations in order to be relicensed.

Shortage Threatened:

Solid Waste Recovery System Vital in Preserving Resources

PUBLIC COMMITMENT to an effective national system for recovery of reusable materials from the nation's solid waste would be a big step in heading off a resource shortage that could force widespread production cutbacks and layoffs, Steelworkers Legislative Director John J. Sheehan declared on Labor News Conference.

Stressing that a huge quantity of scarce materials is now lost through the nation's solid waste system, Sheehan urged incentives to encourage development of collection, recovery and recycling system. But, he said, unless there is wider public demand for conservation of scarce and finite resources, the growing problems will be shoved aside until crisis shortages develop.

Sheehan predicted that once the nation has established a solid policy of recovery and reuse of materials in the solid waste system, a market for those materials will develop.

Sheehan said it is unfortunate that debate over the issue of whether or not throwaway beverage containers should be banned has diverted the national attention from the more critical problem of resources lost in the solid waste system.

He said that banning one-way bottles and cans would cut 60,000 jobs from the container industry, and reduce already short tax revenues by more than $800 million. He said that litter along the nation's highways does detract from the scenic roadside beauty, but it does not create the kind of threats to public health and welfare that other environmental hazards pose.

The USWA lobbyist said that so much of the "environmental muscle" is being used on the ban-the-can issue that there may be little left to be effective in the longer-range and "very substantial areas involving public health and welfare," where it is badly needed.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

PRESIDENT FORD'S PROPOSED SLASH in the federal budget for health programs during fiscal 1976 would impose "inhumane" burdens on consumers, is entirely unrealistic, represents buck-passing and could—if blindly accepted by Congress—add to the fiscal crisis that Ford constantly frets over.

Accusations similar to those have been made by leaders of unions, deeply disturbed at the Administration's lack of concern with health care even while it is steadily deteriorating. But in this case, the charges come from the American Public Health Association.

The highly respected APHA is a non-profit organization composed of experts in the health field, including doctors and nurses. It has been dedicated to advancing and protecting health in this country since 1872.

The association recently completed a detailed program-by-program analysis of Ford's budget for health which ought to be carefully examined by the Administration and Congress even though it has not gone through any official approval process of APHA membership. These are some of its salient points:

The analysis finds it "interesting to note" that while the President justifies an increase in the Defense Dept.'s budget on the basis of a high rate of inflation, "little or no mention was made of this pervasive factor in determining health expenditures."

Granting that no one can accurately project future inflation, the APHA uses what it terms a "conservative" 10 percent factor in calculating constant dollars for health for the coming year.

The analysis points out that Ford's budgeting of just over $4.5 billion for health next year would amount to a slash of nearly 30 percent in constant dollar expenditures.

In tracing the proposed cutbacks in support of a wide range of categorical health programs, APHA finds that this is done on the basis of placing greater reliance on Medicare, Medicaid and other means of health support. But at the same time, the analysis finds Ford "trying to curtail expenditures under Medicare and Medicaid."

In another area the President is sharply criticized for trying to force states to increase their matching share on health programs while at the same time eliminating health revenue-sharing and requiring states with the greatest per-capita to up their share on Medicaid payments from 50 to 60 percent.

THE SPEAR-CARRIER for slashing social and health programs as head of the Office of Management & Budget under President Nixon and now as Ford's Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare is Caspar Weinberger.

Noting that his rationale for increasing the state and local burden for health programs is that these governments operate at a lower deficit than the federal government, the APHA says this argument conveniently omits the fact that most state and local governments are legally forbidden to operate at a deficit.

What these governments do, the analysis emphasizes, is "balance" their budgets by cutting jobs or services or both. With increasing unemployment and a lower tax base, state and local governments already are having to spend more money just to maintain the status quo on expenditures for health programs.

As for Ford's thinking that the consumer "somehow will be able to increase his share of the burden for health care," the APHA classifies as an apparent inability to recognize that the health programs mainly are for those on fixed incomes and those who are too poor to afford private health insurance plans.

Asking such persons and others who are now part of the mounting toll of the unemployed to pay a greater share of health care "appears to be, at best, impractical, or, at worst, inhumane," the APHA concludes.

NATIONAL COMMITMENT to a system of recovery and recycling of scarce materials now lost in solid waste disposal is the key to stemming production cutbacks and layoffs forced by resource shortages. Steelworkers Legislative Director John J. Sheehan, center, said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The AFL-CIO produced program is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

A Question for the President and the Congress:

Have You Lost Confidence In America?

We certainly hope not. But their actions cause us to wonder.

The President and the Congress are putting dollars ahead of people. Instead of putting America back to work, they want to hold the line on the budget deficit.

They are ignoring the fact that for every 900,000 unemployed workers put back to work, the federal treasury gains about $16 billion in revenue.

They are forgetting that America has gone into debt before—an even higher debt—to keep this country strong.

America's economic problem today is not budget deficits. It is jobs.

★ More than nine million Americans are unemployed—a million of them so discouraged they have even stopped looking for work.

★ Nearly four million more are forced to work part-time because there aren't enough full-time jobs.

★ 25 million Americans will be unemployed at some time this year.

Instead of action to put these Americans back to work, the President and a majority of the Congress say: Creating jobs is secondary to holding down the budget deficit.

The President says $60 billion, and no more. The Senate says $67 billion, and no more. The House says $70 billion, and no more.

That means: No more for jobs.

Jobs will have to wait, they say. Three years, maybe four. Because the President and a majority of the Congress think the dollar deficit is more important than people.

The immediate problem is not the deficit. It is jobs.

* * *

What is the deficit? Simply, it is borrowed money.

Borrowing money is part of the American way of life.

When families need a new car or money for college tuition, they borrow.

When big corporations need millions to build new plants, they borrow.

When communities need new schools or firehouses, they borrow.

These are investments in the future. Instead of waiting several years to save the money—families, businesses and communities borrow the money now. They buy the car, build the plant, educate the children. In other words, while the debt is being paid off, the money they borrowed is put to good use.

We think the government should do the same thing. Its investment should be in the people of the United States.

That means: Invest in jobs now to build America for the future.

You see, there's more to be considered than dollars. There is a deficit in human lives . . . lives wasted by unemployment.

Holding the deficit to $60 billion or $70 billion would mean a human deficit of seven million workers unemployed for four more years.

The choice is dollars or people. We choose people.

It makes sense to make people America's first priority. Put them back to work, so they can take care of their families and pay taxes.

American workers want to work. They don't want a dole.

There is only one solution to unemployment, and that is jobs.

When today's unemployed get jobs, they will pay taxes and the budget deficit will come down. It is as simple as that.

* * *

How much deficit is too much?

In 1947, right after World War II, the publicly-held federal debt was 103 percent of this country's Gross National Product—the total value of the goods and services produced in one year.

Today, that debt is less than 26 percent of our Gross National Product. This means America is worth four times more than it owes.

It also means that America can afford to borrow even more today to put her people back to work.

America borrowed during World War II because we were fighting to preserve our way of life.

America is in another war today. This time, we are also fighting for our way of life—for the economic survival of millions of Americans.

In this war, President Ford and a majority of the Congress are fighting the wrong battle. They are fighting to hold down the dollar deficit.

They should be fighting to put America back to work. They should be fighting the human deficit of unemployment.

Instead of being idle, unemployed workers could be building homes, libraries, highways, recreation facilities, mass transit systems, sewage treatment plants and repairing the railroads.

All across America, cities need teachers, fire fighters, police officers, sanitation workers, librarians. But they are having to lay off these workers because the cities don't have money to pay them.

Workers want productive jobs that add to the value of America.

Put every unemployed worker back to work, and America will have a budget surplus.

Jobs *are* the only solution. The only real solution to unemployment. The only real solution to budget deficits.

But when it came to a vote in the U.S. Senate on April 30, only 29 Senators voted for jobs. 64 voted to keep millions unemployed for four more years.

If you too believe that it is time to put America back to work, write your Senators and Representative. Tell them you have confidence in America.

Tell them jobs are the *only* solution.

AFL-CIO

GEORGE MEANY
PRESIDENT
•
LANE KIRKLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER
•
815 16TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

On behalf of 14,000,000 members of the AFL-CIO

JOBS-The *Only* Solution

'Time for Action':

Jobs Issue Pressed To Congress, Public

(Continued from Page 1)

gross national product — the total value of goods and services produced during the year.

In the 1947 fiscal year, as a result of the big budget deficits incurred to fight and win World War II, the federal debt was close to 103 percent of the gross national product. By 1974, even though the dollar amount of the debt had increased, it represented a vastly smaller 25.7 percent of the GNP.

The lesson, Meany stressed, is that "a massive investment in America today of public funds would not bankrupt this nation" but instead "would restore it to economic health."

During questioning by the subcommittee, which is chaired by Sen. Lloyd M. Bentsen (D-Tex.), Meany said he is "proposing" a $100 billion budget deficit if that is what is needed to get people back to work and turn the economy around quickly.

Meany said he wasn't concerned about "overheating" the economy with too big a stimulus.

"I wish it were even lukewarm today," he told a questioner.

When Congress established full employment as a national goal in 1946, Meany noted, "there was a general consensus that full employment in the American economy was an unemployment rate no higher than 3 percent."

In the years since then, the goal has been "neglected more often than met" by both Congress and the Executive Branch and its definition has been rewritten by "government officials and their academic supporters."

The definition of full employment "went from a 3 percent unemployment rate to 4 percent, then to 4.5 percent and now to 5 percent or 5.5 percent," Meany noted.

"To me that's fakery, regardless of whether the trickster is a college professor or a government official," Meany added.

He reminded the panel that "unemployment rates represent people . . . they represent families . . . every percentage increase in the unemployment rate is more than 920,000 additional jobless workers."

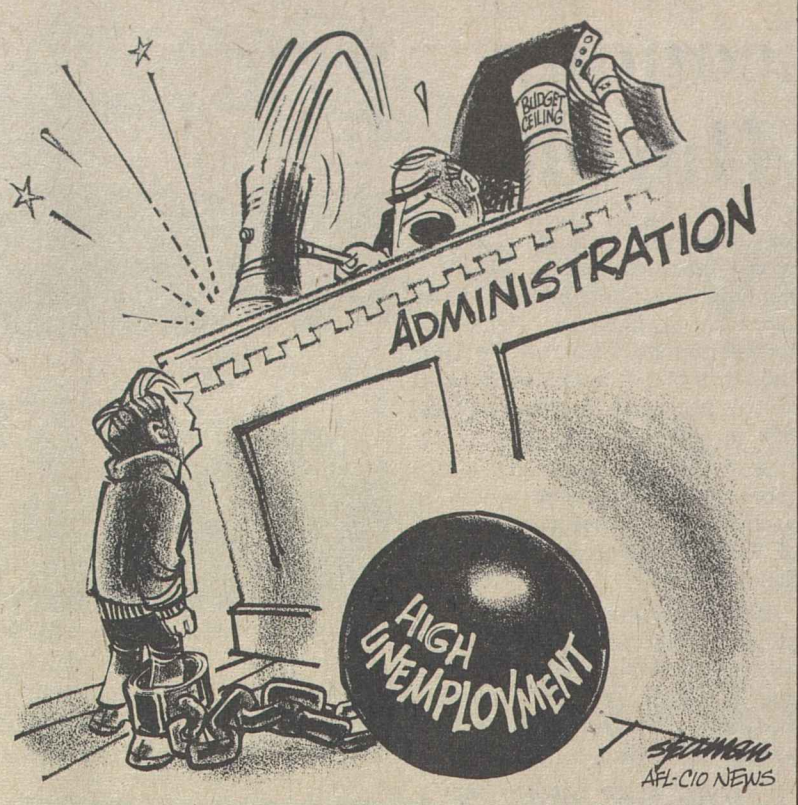
After completing his formal testimony, Meany spoke of watching President Ford on television draw the line marking the maximum budget deficit the country could afford. But, Meany regretted, Ford "didn't put his hand across a chart and say, 'No more suffering, no greater unemployment.' "

He spoke of the tragedy of young people coming out of school with no job prospects and the impact on older workers of the words, "you are laid off," that "burn themselves not only into a man's pocketbook but also into his very soul."

Meany spelled out labor's program goals—accelerated public works and public service jobs, more aid to the cities, interest-rate ceilings, funds to restore railroad roadbeds and tracks, housing stimulants, a halt to the export of jobs and other measures, concluding:

"The time for talk is past. The time for action is now. For Congress to delay, to demonstrate timidity, to sell America short would be sheer tragedy."

'Four More Years!'



Housing Needs Survey Sent to Union Families

A nationwide survey of union families' housing needs is being conducted by the AFL-CIO as part of its campaign to continue and intensify labor's fight for better housing and increased job opportunities.

In a letter accompanying a questionnaire sent to a selected sample of members of AFL-CIO unions, Federation President George Meany declared that "none of us today remains untouched by the pressures of providing adequate housing for our families and having jobs at decent wages. Thousands of our union members will not be able to meet these needs if housing construction is allowed to remain at depressed levels."

"Enactment of programs which meet the housing needs of union members, and all other American workers, would help to achieve a higher level of home-building and employment, which in turn would create additional purchasing power and support jobs throughout the economy," Meany pointed out.

Requesting the "prompt cooperation" of the persons selected for the survey—one out of every 500 union members—Meany said the information will be kept confidential and will "improve the efficiency with which we can work with Congress to meet our members' housing needs."

The survey was authorized by the 1973 AFL-CIO convention. Results of the survey and recommendations for implementing a new housing strategy will be presented to the 1975 convention which opens Oct. 2 in San Francisco.

The AFL-CIO pointed out that since the convention action in 1973:

- Conventional mortgage interest rates climbed above 9 percent and in May 1975 were still between 8.5 and 9 percent.
- The median sales price of new single family homes increased from $33,300 to $38,100 as of February 1975.
- Construction unemployment jumped from 9.1 percent to 19.3 percent in April 1975.
- Annual housing starts, seasonally adjusted, declined from 1.7 million to 980,000 units in March 1975.
- Apartment rents are rising at an annual rate of more than 7 percent.

The federation's Dept. of Urban Affairs is conducting the survey with the cooperation of AFL-CIO affiliates.

Victor Canzano Dies, Former TWUA Official

Warwick, R.I. — Victor J. Canzano, a former vice president of the Textile Workers Union of America, died May 9 following a heart attack. He was 63.

Canzano had been an arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association and was a hearing officer with the consumer division of the Rhode Island attorney general's office when he died. He retired from the staff of the TWUA in 1967.

Romanian Trade Pact Attacked as One-Way

The AFL-CIO called on Congress to reject the Ford Administration's trade agreement with Romania, warning that giving the Communist country "most favored nation" low-tariff treatment on imports would result in more U.S. production cutbacks and job layoffs.

Legislative Rep. Ray Denison told a House Ways & Means subcommittee that the one-way trade pact with Romania "makes a mockery of fair international trade."

He noted that not only has Romania's industrial growth rate outpaced that of the United States in recent years, but in 1974 it continued to climb while the real U.S. growth declined.

The tariff cuts proposed under the agreement will have a wide impact on jobs, factories and payrolls in communities, Denison said. He noted that congressional approval of the agreement would mean that the duty on numerous imported consumer and industrial products would be slashed: television parts from 60 percent to 15 percent; some electrical motors from 90 to 25 percent; tires from 10 to 4 percent and clothing from 45 to 21 percent.

Denison charged that the Romanian trade pact totally ignores or fails to consider some key parts of the Trade Act of 1974, including the purposes spelled out by Congress "to foster the economic growth of and full employment in the United States" and "to provide adequate procedures to safeguard American industry and labor against unfair and injurious import competition."

He conceded that producing technology for export could create some jobs, "but the insistence by multinational firms that they create jobs by locating abroad is invalid, because they do not factor the eventual job loss."

He cited the potential impact of a General Tire Co. venture for the building of a $75 million radial tire manufacturing plant in Floresti, Romania. The exported U.S. technology will now be used to produce goods in competition with those made in the United States, he pointed out.

Denison noted that the costs of such ventures "are being paid by U.S. taxpayers in 6 percent Eximbank money, in tax credits charged against federal taxes, and in lost jobs of American workers whose 'productivity' has been exported to a Communist state."

He also stressed that the agreement fails to guarantee the human rights of emigration as spelled out by Title IV of the act.

HRDI Urges Plan to Aid Apprentices

Seattle — Machinists were urged to help revitalize the industry's apprenticeship programs, which have declined sharply in recent years.

Speaking to the IAM Tool & Die Conference here, Charles E. Bradford, acting executive director of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, noted that federal funds can be made available to the union to help reverse the drop in apprenticeships.

He pointed out that the number of registered apprentices in the machinist trade declined from 17,774 in 1969 to 13,115 in 1973—a decrease of 25 percent.

The situation with tool and die apprentices is even worse, Bradford said. During the same four-year span, the drop was 45 percent as the number of apprentices declined from 21,602 to 11,781.

Bradford said the situations could be turned around through affirmative action programs, improved minority hiring and cooperation of employers. He said HRDI was readily available to assist through a variety of programs.

Bradford, who is an IAM member, warned that an effective apprenticeship program is needed to maintain high standards in the trade.

Rollcall Vote in Senate On Consumer Agency

The bill to establish an independent agency to represent consumer interests would have been mutilated if the Senate had adopted an amendment involving the agency in labor-management relations, including proceedings before the NLRB and the National Mediation Board.

The amendment, by Sen. Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (R-Conn.), was defeated, 52-36. The 41 Democrats and 11 Republicans who voted against the amendment supported the AFL-CIO's position.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 41

Abourezk (S.D.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Muskie (Me.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Humphrey (Minn.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Pastore (R.I.)
Byrd (W.Va.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Pell (R.I.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Church (Ida.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Clark (Iowa)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	McGee (Wyo.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Ford (Ky.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	Symington (Mo.)
Glenn (Ohio)	Metcalf (Mont.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Gravel (Alaska)	Mondale (Minn.)	Tunney (Calif.)
Hart (Colo.)	Montoya (N.M.)	Williams (N.J.)
Hart (Mich.)	Moss (Utah)	

Republicans 11

Baker (Tenn.)	Mathias (Md.)	Scott (Pa.)
Brooke (Mass.)	Pearson (Kan.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Case (N.J.)	Percy (Ill.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Javits (N.Y.)	Schweiker (Pa.)	

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 12

Allen (Ala.)	Haskell (Colo.)	Morgan (N.C.)
Byrd (Va.)	Hathaway (Me.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Sparkman (Ala.)
Eastland (Miss.)	McClellan (Ark.)	Stone (Fla.)

Republicans 24

Bartlett (Okla.)	Fong (Hawaii)	McClure (Ida.)
Beall (Md.)	Garn (Utah)	Roth (Del.)
Brock (Tenn.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Scott (Va.)
Buckley (N.Y.)	Griffin (Mich.)	Taft (Ohio)
Curtis (Neb.)	Hansen (Wyo.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Dole (Kan.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Tower (Tex.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Helms (N.C.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Fannin (Ariz.)	Hruska (Neb.)	Young (N.D.)

Absent but announced for labor's position: Johnston (D-La.), Bayh (D-Ind.), Packwood (R-Ore.).

Absent and not announced: Bellmon (R-Okla.), Biden (D-Del.), Bumpers (D-Ark.), Culver (D-Iowa), Hartke (D-Ind.), Laxalt (R-Nev.), Long (D-La.), McGovern (D-S.D.).

Emergency Aid:

Spurs to Economy Clear Key Hurdles

(Continued from Page 1)

But the House rejected the motion.

Another major bill cleared by a House-Senate conference committee is designed to spur construction of new homes, help middle-income families buy them, and protect homeowners who lose their jobs from losing their homes because they can't meet mortgage payments.

It, too, has been threatened with a veto.

If it becomes law, persons whose income is not more than 120 percent of the median for their community could receive one of three forms of subsidies in purchasing new homes or condominiums whose price is within specified limits.

They could be given either a temporary 6 percent mortgage rate that would start phasing back to the market level after three years or a 7 percent rate for the life of the mortgage. Alternatively, there would be the option of a $1,000 payment to be applied to the down payment on a home.

The price of the houses or condominiums could not exceed $38,000 in most areas, $42,000 in high-cost areas, and $48,000 in Alaska or Hawaii.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. termed the legislation "urgently needed." He said it could result in 150,000 new housing starts this year and 250,000 next year while added funds in the bill for low-income housing units could finance construction of 75,000 to 100,000 such units.

The bill also has a provision that would authorize— but not compel—the Secretary of Housing & Urban Development to initiate a mortgage purchase policy that would result in an 8 percent ceiling on new mortgages when housing starts fall below an annual level of 1.6 million for four consecutive months.

The bill authorizes up to $1.5 billion over two years. Funds to prevent foreclosures of homes would be loans that would eventually be repaid.

In other developments:

● The House voted 291-104 for a labor-supported bill that would prohibit the Federal Home Loan Bank Board from allowing federal savings and loan associations to issue mortgages carrying varying interest rates. Under such mortgages, the interest cost would rise or fall with changes in the market rate. Consumer groups have generally opposed this system as inflationary and the AFL-CIO noted that it would hit homeowners with higher mortgage costs at the time when other expenses were rising also.

● The House failed to override President Ford's veto of a compromise, labor-supported bill that would strengthen farm price supports. Seventy-one Democrats backed the President on the issue and the 245-182 vote was 40 short of the two-thirds needed to override the bill.

● A House Ways & Means subcommittee approved a bill to continue the emergency program of long-term unemployment benefits.

Persons covered by state unemployment insurance would be entitled to up to 65 weeks of benefits through June 30, 1976, and a maximum of 52 weeks for the balance of that year.

Persons whose last jobs hadn't been covered by unemployment compensation would be eligible for up to 39 weeks of special federal benefits through mid-1976. That would be an improvement on the present program of 26 weeks.

The subcommittee, headed by Rep. James Corman (D-Calif.), rejected the Labor Dept.'s proposal to tie the emergency benefits to unemployment rates in various metropolitan areas instead of using state and national triggers.

● As the AFL-CIO News went to press, the House and Senate were working towards agreement on emergency funds to assist Vietnamese refugees arriving in the United States.

● A House-Senate agreement was expected on similar bills providing subsidies for construction of merchant ships in U.S. shipyards to fly the American flag. The legislation authorizes $240 million for ship construction subsidies and close to $316 million for operating subsidies.

● A Senate Judiciary subcommittee approved a bill to ban state "fair trade" laws that allow manufacturers to set minimum retail prices for their products.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE of the Newspaper Guild and the Graphic Arts International Union drew 125 delegates to Washington for the three-day session. Guild President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., addresses one of the meetings. Others from left are GAIU Vice Pres. Donald W. Stone, Lyle Denniston of the Washington Star, GAIU President Edward V. Donahue, and Barney Peterson, the Guild's international chairperson.

Labor Presses for Safeguards Against Job-Destroying Imports

(Continued from Page 1)

nities unless the American steel industry is utilizing fully its facilities.

"In 1971," he said, "an all-time record of 18.3 million tons of steel were imported, representing the export of at least 108,000 job opportunities in the steel industry."

Abel pointed out that America had a $3 billion trade deficit in steel trade alone last year, declaring that "the United States is an 'international Santa Claus' when it comes to steel."

He said that this country has the freest and most open markets of any nation in the world and that government owned or government controlled steel firms of other countries—which have set up trade barriers to U.S.-made products—take full advantage of the trade conditions to the detriment of American workers.

This year, Abel said, the American basic steel industry could produce 15 million more tons than it will, but this tonnage will go instead to imports—costing the country 90,000 job opportunities.

At hearings in Boston, President John J. Driscoll of the Connecticut AFL-CIO said that workers in his state have long suffered job cutbacks as almost entire industries abandoned the state, first for states with lower wages, and later for countries that pay still lower wages.

Driscoll charged that powerful multinational corporations had successfully demanded one set of trade laws in the United States and another abroad.

"Their motives never reflected any concern for the standard of living of the American family," he stressed, "They were ony interested in profits."

That point was expanded on by President Joseph A. Sullivan and Sec.-Treas. James P. Loughlin of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO.

"Some of America's oldest and largest corporations have been using cheap labor abroad and crawling through loopholes in the various international trade agreements to increase profits at the expense of the American workers," they charged.

At hearings in New York, Sec.-Treas. John J. Brown of the New Jersey AFL-CIO said his state has lost 100,000 permanent jobs as American companies have shut down facilities to operate overseas, and urged the commission to halt further jobs erosion.

"Our textile industry in New Jersey is no longer an industry employing thousands of workers," he noted. "Our loss in industrial jobs caused by the plant closings of General Instrument, Emerson, Westinghouse, RCA, Raybestos-Manhattan to facilities overseas is incalculable."

At hearings in Washington Vice Pres. Gerald A. Coleman of the Hatters suggested that the import competition from low-wage countries should be dealt with by a Fair Labor Standards provision which would require countries shipping goods to the United States to pay a predetermined minimum wage.

The Stone, Glass & Clay Coordinating Committee of seven AFL-CIO affiliates warned at hearings in Washington that for President Ford to give duty-free treatment to scores of countries shipping products to the United States would spell disaster for the U.S. industrial base and its workers.

Howard P. Chester, executive secretary of the committee, said that increased imports have forced thousands of workers to face plant shutdowns and unemployment in many industries, including ceramic tile, sheet glass, earthenware and chinaware and glassware. He also cited the impact on aluminum and asbestos industries.

Chester noted that organized labor's objectives for fair foreign trade were spelled out in the AFL-CIO action program to put the nation back to work.

The federation urged immediate action by President Ford to:

● Use his power under the Trade Act to establish quotas on imports of industrial goods in areas where U.S. production has declined.

● Impose import restrictions against countries whose trade practices have placed unfair and unreasonable burdens on U.S. commerce.

● Impose export controls on raw materials and other products in short supply, including oil and coal, through a system of monitoring and licensing.

The AFL-CIO also called on Congress to:

● Revoke provisions for the deferral of tax payments on foreign-earned profits.

● Eliminate foreign tax credit.

● Repeal sections of the Tariff Code that encourage foreign production for shipment back to U.S. markets.

● Regulate export of American capital and technology that results in the export of U.S. jobs.

Consumer Agency Bill Approved by Senate

(Continued from Page 1)

that since it was quite unlikely that the consumer advocacy staff would have occasion to so intervene, why give an extra talking point against the bill to foes of a consumer agency?

Weicker's Connecticut colleague, Democratic Sen. Abraham A. Ribicoff, gave him a reasoned answer but the most convincing case for the labor relations exemption came from a supporter of the Weicker amendment and a foe of the bill.

Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) explained why he was "pleased to cosponsor" the Weicker amendment.

"Industrywide bargaining is a good example of how labor-management relations directly affect the consumer," Thurmond said. If manufacturers pay the same wage rates, "a major competitive factor is removed." The Agency for Consumer Advocacy should "fully explore the antitrust implications" of industrywide bargaining.

Thurmond also spoke of "inflationary" wage negotiations, union work rules and allowing needy strikers to receive food stamps.

Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.), who led the filibuster and legislative fight against passage of the bill, was quite frank as to his reasons for supporting the Weicker amendment. If it passed, Allen said, "this bill is dead."

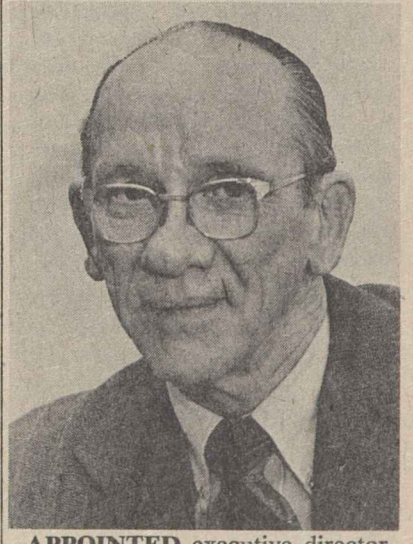
The Senate later defeated an amendment by Sen. Robert Taft (R-Ohio) to allow intervention in matters dealing with secondary boycotts or jurisdictional disputes.

It did approve an amendment by Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) that consumer and union groups had opposed. The amendment would exempt agriculture at the farm level, thus barring intervention in matters such as health standards for insecticides.

Under the Senate bill, the Agency for Consumer Advocacy would have the dual function of intervening on behalf of consumer interests before other federal agencies and in the courts, and acting as a clearinghouse for consumer complaints. To ensure its independence within the executive branch, the agency's budget requests would go directly to Congress rather than be channeled through the White House Office of Management & Budget.

A companion bill is awaiting House committee action.

The Ford Administration has opposed a new agency, but the President has stopped just short of actually saying he would veto such legislation.



APPOINTED executive director of the Public Employee Dept. of the AFL-CIO is John A. McCart, who has been acting director since the formation of the new department. He had previously been director of the former Government Employees Council, whose affiliates represent federal and postal workers.

5-17-75

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Real Wages Down 4.1% Over Year

American workers lost more ground in their struggle to keep even last month, as purchasing power fell again and consumer prices rose.

Real spendable weekly earnings — take-home pay expressed in 1967 dollars — dropped to $87.46 in April, and were down 4.1 percent over the year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

April earnings were 13 cents below their March level, $3.70 off the year-earlier pace and stood at their lowest level in 11 years, BLS said. The figures are calculated for workers with three dependents, and are seasonally adjusted.

The decline of one-tenth of 1 percent in real spendable earnings last month was the result of an increase of six-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index which overcame a slight rise in average weekly hours worked.

Real spendable earnings have been below their year-earlier levels for 26 months in a row, BLS reported.

The April climb in prices was a reversal of two previous months of slowdowns in the increase in the CPI. The index rose by three-tenths of 1 percent in March and by five-tenths of 1 percent in February.

At 158.6 percent of its 1967 base, the CPI last month was 10.2 percent above its year-earlier level. The further increase meant that a typical range of consumer goods and services costing $100 eight years ago cost $158.60 in April.

Food prices in April were 7.9 percent higher than a year earlier, while nonfood commodity prices and service charges were both 11 percent above their April 1974 levels, BLS said.

BLS attributed last month's CPI increase to price rises for many items, including used cars, furniture, houses, gasoline, magazines, auto insurance, natural gas and food, notably fresh fruits, eggs and beef.

The jump in fresh fruit prices was especially large, and beef prices rose for the first time in seven months. Sugar prices, however, fell substantially but still were more than 80 percent above their year-earlier level. The cost of food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose at the annual rate of 6 percent, the same as in March.

Nonfood commodity prices, which usually show no change in April, increased eight-tenths of 1 percent over the month. BLS reported large increases in prices of furniture, gasoline, houses, home

(Continued on Page 3)

$5 Billion Public Works Plan Clears House 312-86

'OUT OF THE SWEATSHOP' is the theme of the 75th anniversary observance of the Ladies' Garment Workers, which was launched in New York with a Rockefeller Center photo exhibit, on-the-job demonstrations, fashion shows, daily entertainment and a congressional reception. Here, New York Mayor Abraham Beame gets a lesson on embroidery from ILGWU Sec.-Treas. Sol C. Chaikin. With them are Executive Vice President Wilbur Daniels, left, and 1st Vice President Howard Molisani. The mayor proclaimed June 3, the date the ILGWU was founded, as Garment Workers' Day and the special programs will continue through July 7.

Meets Goal Of Action Program

The House voted 312-86 approval of an accelerated public works bill that is high on the AFL-CIO's action program to put America back to work.

The bill, which now goes to the Senate, authorizes up to $5 billion in federal grants to cities and states for construction projects that can be started quickly. Most of the money would be spent in areas of highest unemployment. And if Congress appropriated the full amount, it would finance an estimated 125,000 construction site jobs and an equal number of off-site jobs.

Another job-creating stimulant —a $5.3 billion Emergency Employment Appropriations Act —cleared Congress and was awaiting a presidential decision on whether to sign or veto it. This bill increases funds for existing programs, including public service jobs and summer jobs for youth.

A substantial number of Republicans joined nearly all House Democrats in defying an Administration veto threat and voting for the accelerated public works bill.

At House hearings last month, AFL-CIO President George Meany and James T. Lynn, director of the Office of Management & Budget, took opposite views.

Meany said the legislation, along with other economic stimulants, could point the nation back to economic health.

Lynn termed the bill inflationary and said he would recommend that President Ford veto it if it passed Congress.

At Senate hearings the day after the House passed the bill, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger stressed labor's position

(Continued on Page 2)

Cites Crisis in Cities:

Labor Asks Million Public Service Jobs

The AFL-CIO urged a public service employment program that would more than triple the 310,000 jobs currently being funded through the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act.

"We need programs to put America back to work, now," Assistant Legislative Director Kenneth Young testified at Senate hearings.

A bill sponsored by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.) to authorize $5 billion to finance 500,000 jobs while unemployment stays high is "a step in the right direction" but not enough, Young said. He urged a million-job goal and a $10 billion authorization and funding.

Young, accompanied by Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten, noted that the bill being considered had only a one-way trigger. It would reduce funds available when unemployment drops below specified rates. Young suggested that if the panel is proposing "countercyclical" leigslation, it would have to provide as well for increases in budget authority when unemployment rises.

"Long lines of desperate workers applying for all too few jobs in city after city clearly demonstrates that jobless Americans want work, not welfare," Young said. "Perhaps, once and for all, the pictures of these long lines in Atlanta, Detroit, Cleveland, San Francisco and other cities will convince the nation that America's unemployed are not loafers and bums."

Young noted that the recession-inflation combination has forced

(Continued on Page 2)

Meany Named To Panel on Refugee Aid

President Ford has appointed AFL-CIO President George Meany to a 17-member committee that will advise the White House and federal agencies on the resettlement of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. John Eisenhower, son of the late President, is chairman of the panel.

The AFL-CIO has pledged its full cooperation with the government's efforts to ease the problems facing the incoming refugees from

(Continued on Page 8)

New Figures Reveal Recession Bit Deeper

Revised government figures revealed the economic recession in the first three months of 1975 was even deeper than preliminary reports showed.

Real gross national product fell over the January-March period at a record seasonally adjusted annual rate of 11.3 percent, the Commerce Dept. reported. A month earlier, the government had estimated the slide at the rate of 10.4 percent.

Real GNP—the value of the nation's output of goods and services stripped of the effects of inflation—has declined in each of the past five quarters. It is expected to drop again in the current quarter.

The Commerce Dept. also issued revised statistics showing inflation in the first three months of 1975 ran at the adjusted annual rate of 8.5 percent, instead of the 8 percent rate originally estimated.

The first-quarter 1975 real GNP decline was the steepest since 1947 when the government began recording this measure of economic performance.

Most economists view the mea-

(Continued on Page 3)

Jobless Aid Extended, Set for Senate Action

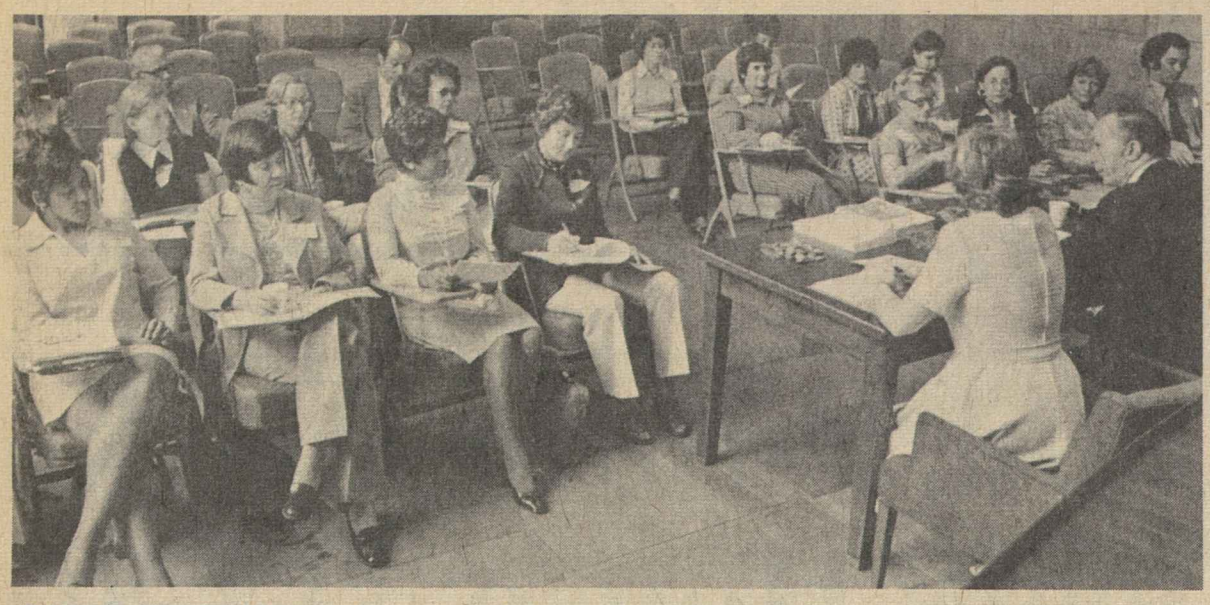
A labor-supported bill continuing two emergency programs of federally-funded unemployment benefits passed the House, 381-8, and is expected to win early Senate approval.

It would enable workers covered by state unemployment insurance programs to continue to receive a maximum of 65 weeks of payments through June 30, 1976. The maximum would drop to 52 weeks between July 1, 1976 and Dec. 31, 1976.

Thereafter, unless Congress enacts permanent changes in the unemployment insurance system as the AFL-CIO has urged, the maximum would drop to 39 weeks—26 weeks of normal state benefits plus 13 weeks of state-federal payments during periods of high unemployment.

The House-passed bill also would improve the Special Unemployment Assistance (SUA) program which has given up to 26 weeks of federally-funded payments to experienced workers not entitled to state benefits

(Continued on Page 3)



LABOR PROGRAMS in observance of International Women's Year are discussed by representatives of AFL-CIO affiliates during a planning session at the federation headquarters. Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, and Dorothy Shields of the Dept. of Education welcome the representatives to the meeting.

Arizona Delegates Focus on Job Needs

Tucson, Ariz.—A warning to employers not to use high joblessness to lower the standards of their workers was sounded by Gov. Raul Castro (D) at the annual convention of the Arizona AFL-CIO here.

Delegates gave him what he described as one of the warmest welcomes of his career and renewed their cheers when he urged both employers and unions to bargain their agreements in good faith, despite difficulties posed by unemployment and inflation.

He expressed grave concern at the swelling ranks of Arizona's jobless, now approaching 10 percent, and voiced hope that the central Arizona project to channel Colorado River water to the state's desert areas will create as many as 5,000 jobs.

Ford Administration policies to combat the recession, joblessness and inflation came under heavy fire. Don Slaiman, deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, declared the present approach "is what got us into this mess." He outlined the AFL-CIO General Board's recovery program and warned that unless the administration develops more effective programs "the demogogues, will be back."

In a resolution on the economy, the convention called for "massive federal efforts to create jobs, urged immediate action to protect existing jobs from unfair foreign competition, and asked implementation of labor-management advisory committee recommendations "to stimulate the economy through added purchasing power."

Among other speakers were Lamar Gulbransen, Area VII COPE director; William L. Gilbert, AFL-CIO regional director; Margaret Thornburgh, COPE Women's Activities Division western area director; James Whitten, State AFL-CIO COPE director; Herbert L. Ely, Phoenix attorney, and State Rep. R. E. (Danny) Pena.

In other resolutions the delegates asked Congress to fix the amount of oil imports and to work on a crash program to find alternative energy sources; endorsed the Equal Rights Amendment and a state program of temporary disability insurance, and voted support for the United Farm Workers and the state of Israel.

William D. Shafer of the Communications Workers, the immediate past vice president, was elected president to succeed Richard H. Lower. Incumbent presidents cannot be re-elected.

Sec.-Treas. Darwin Aycock was re-elected to his fifth two-year term. He was challenged by Richard Baehre of the Sheet Metal Workers.

Delegates also elected the first woman to the state federation's executive board, which was expanded from 12 to 15 members. She is Grace Carroll, secretary-treasurer of the Southern Arizona Labor Council and president of Office & Professional Employees Local 319 in Tucson.

Labor Presses Public Service Jobs Increase

(Continued from Page 1)

many cities to lay off regular workers.

Without adequate funds, he said, public officials "face impossible choices." Who should be hired with limited federal funds when the job applicants include "a well qualified but laid-off city employe, a veteran, a long-term unemployed worker from the private sector and a member of a minority group?"

Young said the problem would be solved only by a complete turnaround in the economy, but it would be lessened through more adequate federal funding.

The AFL-CIO's position, he said, is that laid-off city employes should neither get preference nor face discrimination in competing for federally-funded jobs. Further, "state and local governments must not be permitted to fire permanent employes in order to hire federally-financed replacements."

Young asked that the current $10,000 ceiling on salaries be lifted so that cities in high-cost areas can hire persons with needed job skills.

Past experience, he said, has demonstrated that "public service jobs can be filled quickly and can fill genuine community needs that are far removed from leaf-raking."

Ruben Levin Cited For Debs Award

Terre Haute, Ind.—The Eugene V. Debs Foundation will present its 1975 award to Ruben Levin, editor of Labor.

Levin has edited the newspaper of the railroad unions for nearly 25 years and has been a newspaperman for more than half a century.

The Debs award honors the memory of the early Socialist Party presidential candidate who also is remembered as a railroad union leader and editor of a union newspaper.

This will be the ninth year the award has been presented.

Multinationals Pay Officials Outside U.S.

The far-reaching tentacles of U.S.-based multinational corporations, particularly those in the oil industry, were clearly exposed in Senate testimony and regulatory commission actions.

The most revealing developments came in admissions by Gulf Oil chairman Bob R. Dorsey that his company paid nearly $5 million in political contributions over the past decade to government officials in South Korea, Bolivia and other countries.

Dorsey told a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on multinational corporations that Gulf turned over $4 million to the ruling party of President Park Chung Hee prior to South Korea's 1971 national elections. Park's party won by a thin majority.

In addition, Dorsey admitted the giant oil firm gave cash and gifts to the late President Rene Barrientos of Bolivia. Barrientos's party in turn contributed $350,000 of the cash donations through a Beirut bank for a "public education program" to finance Arab propaganda in the United States.

Dorsey told the subcommittee the contributions were part of the cost of doing business in those foreign countries. Furthermore, he said, it was his impression that other companies made similar contributions.

The Gulf contributions were made in secret without the knowledge of the company's stockholders, Dorsey testified. He said he had been informed that they violated the laws of both South Korea and Bolivia.

Other oil companies, including Exxon, Mobil, Standard of Indiana and Standard of California, disclosed they too had made political contributions outside the United States. Mobil, Exxon and Indiana Standard said they made contributions in Canada and Italy. California Standard did not identify the nations involved.

The foreign activities of other business firms also emerged in charges filed by the Securities & Exchange Commission.

The SEC charged that United Brands Co. violated agency reporting provisions by failing to disclose the payment of $1.25 million to win a reduction of the Honduran export tax on bananas. It was also brought out the company had paid $750,000 to officials of the Italian government.

The SEC also charged the Northrop Corp., a major defense contractor, with disbursing $30 million abroad in fees and sales commissions without adequate records.

Action Program Gains:

Job Funds Measure Sent to President

(Continued from Page 1)

that job programs, financed through temporary budget deficits, represent "an investment in America."

Increasing employment will cut the deficit, he testified, "and full employment will produce a budget surplus."

The House-passed bill would provide 100 percent federal financing for public works projects that could be under way within 90 days after approval of the grant. Money could be used for construction, renovation, repair or demolition of public facilities, but not for such purposes as land acquisition.

Seventy percent of the available funds would be earmarked for areas where unemployment exceeded the national jobless rate for three consecutive months. No state could receive more than 10 percent of the funds and the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law would apply to all construction.

House Public Works Committee Chairman Robert E. Jones (D-Ala.), chief sponsor of the bill along with Rep. Robert A. Roe (D-N.J.), stressed the twin goals of the legislation.

Its intent, he told the House, is "to provide jobs for unemployed workers in construction and related industries and help state and local governments provide badly needed but unfunded public facilities."

At the Senate hearings the following day, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. said joblessness in the building industry has reached "scandalous levels" because of Administration high-interest, tight-money policies, coupled with impoundments and cutbacks of federal funds.

The House committee report noted that the budget target resolution recently adopted by Congress includes the $5 billion authorization for the accelerated public works bill and assumes actual expenditures during the fiscal year starting July 1 of about $2.1 billion "either for this public works program or some other appropriate stimulative program that Congress may decide to enact."

The emergency appropriations bill was one of the first economic recovery measures sponsored by the House Democratic leadership. Committee chairmen were asked what programs in their jurisdictions that could provide jobs for the unemployed were being funded at less than their authorized level. A number of these were then meshed into an appropriations package, part of which will be spent in the current fiscal year and part in the year starting July 1.

It includes $1.6 billion for public service jobs, $456 million for more than 800,000 summer youth jobs, substantial sums for an assortment of construction programs, regional economic development, purchase of vehicles, loan programs and college work-study grants.

The House voted final passage by a 293-109 vote; the Senate concurred by voice vote.

John Murphy Dies, Headed Bricklayers

Fort Lauderdale, Fla.—John J. Murphy, who retired as president of the Bricklayers in 1966, died here at the age of 72 of a heart ailment.

He joined Local 6 in Worcester, Mass., as an apprentice in 1926 and became president of the local. In 1938, he was appointed an AFL organizer, later became New England regional director and in 1947 director of organization.

The following year, Murphy became secretary of the Bricklayers and in 1960 was appointed president at the retirement of Harry Bates. He retired for health reasons in September 1966 and was succeeded by Thomas F. Murphy, who is no relation.

A telegram of condolences sent by AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to his widow, Helen, lauded him for his service to "the entire labor movement with diligence and distinction."

Joint Efforts Stressed In Drug Abuse Curbs

More cooperation between unions and management is an essential step in curbing drug abuse in industry and filling the rehabilitation needs of users, AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis declared.

Speaking at the National Conference on Drug Abuse in Industry, Perlis said that neither labor nor management could correct the problem alone.

He called for the development of more joint labor-management programs across the country to provide the data needed to determine exactly what must be done to meet the drug abuse challenge.

The federation's Dept. of Community Services has been cooperating in a labor-management drug abuse demonstration project for the past two years with the American Social Health Association (ASHA).

The project, funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, involved an in-depth study of 389 workers in industrial plants in New York and New Jersey reflecting a cross-section of U.S. industry in age, sex, income, education and occupations.

The project's findings showed that few of the men and women in industry who have experimented with drugs continue to use them. Of the 389 workers interviewed, about one in five—or 21 percent—reported taking an illegal drug at some time. However, only 5 percent said they were using at the time of the survey.

The project also was used to train 106 counsellors in drug education and prevention to undertake outreach efforts in companies, unions and communities.

Perlis noted that in recent years attitudes toward drug users have changed because of efforts in plants and unions to deal with the problem and work for the rehabilitation of those who need it.

The conference was sponsored by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services and ASHA.

At Randolph Institute Conference:

Biracial Workers' Alliance Seen Instrument of Change

Baltimore—Trade union leaders, civil rights veterans and educators denounced the economic policies of the Ford Administration and called for a biracial movement of working people committed to far-reaching economic change at the A. Philip Randolph Institute's national conference here.

More than 850 black trade union activists voiced their approval as speaker after speaker criticized the Administration, on the one hand, for placing the burden of economic sacrifice on the backs of working people and the poor, and Congress on the other hand for its failure to take vigorous action in opposition to the President's policies.

The delegates represented some 150 institute chapters from 35 states. They were members of more than 50 national and international unions.

In the keynote address, Norman Hill, the institute's executive director, noted that the current economic climate contains an "enormous" potential for the exacerbation of racial divisions, a theme taken up by a number of other conference speakers.

Hill pointed to 10 recent incidents in Detroit and New York City in which black and white workers engaged in pitched battles over scarce jobs as evidence of an accelerating tension pitting "black against white, worker against worker." He said the failure of efforts to ameliorate the plight of poor and working people would jeopardize "every goal and value the civil rights and labor movements have struggled for and believed in."

Hill expressed disappointment in Congress for having placed an "appallingly low" ceiling on the federal budget.

He said the action represented a "clear issue of priorities, fighting inflation as against creating jobs. And when push came to shove, many on the liberal Democratic side abandoned labor and minorities to support a position quite compatible with the philosophy of the Ford Administration."

Hill was also critical of the proponents of slow or no economic growth, declaring that the implementation of such policies would impede or prevent the movement of minority workers into the mainstream of the work force, since they would generate long-term, high unemployment.

"What good is it if blacks are 10 or twenty percent of an industry where one of every four workers is unemployed?" Hill asked.

Institute President Bayard Rustin told the conference that the institute opposed proposals to weaken or abrogate seniority provisions in union contracts as a means of achieving racial balance in the working force. He said such proposals were "gimmicks being advanced to divide blacks and whites, young and old, and men and women."

The conference heard two international union presidents, Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers and Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers, deplore the consequences of high unemployment on the workers their unions represent. Carlough acknowledged the potential for racial polarization under conditions of economic scarcity and urged the delegates "not to let a shrinking economy put us at each other's throats."

Finley struck a similar theme, asserting that "until we put Americans back to work we will not solve the problems of blacks, women, teenagers, or old people."

Another speaker, Clark College President Vivian Henderson, emphasized that while blacks are disproportionately affected by the jobs crisis, the resolution of the dilemma lies in policies addressed to the needs of all working people, and not to blacks alone.

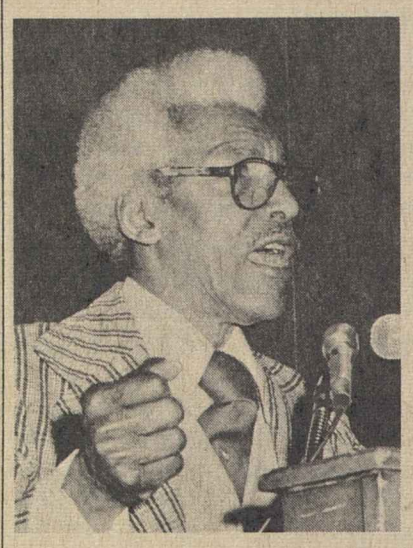
Henderson, an economist, called for the creation of two million public service jobs as a first step leading to the implementation of a policy by which the government would guarantee a job for every person who wants to work.

He added that the most tragic aspect of the economic downturn is that it occurred "just as blacks were gaining a foothold in the economy." He pointed out that racial progress has come about only under conditions of full employment.

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, praised the institute as a militant force for social change that doesn't "feel it has to sound militant all the time."

A highlight of the conference was the presentation of the first annual A. Philip Randolph freedom Award to Roy Wilkins and the NAACP. The award was accepted by William Pollard, AFL-CIO civil rights director and a member of the NAACP board.

Other speakers included COPE Director Alexander E. Barkan, Rep. Parren Mitchell (D-Md.) and Ottwell Simmons, a representative of the Bermuda labor movement.



FAULTY ECONOMIC POLICIES of the Ford Administration that spur higher unemployment are denounced by speakers at the A. Philip Randolph Institute's national conference in Baltimore. In the top photo are, from left, union Presidents Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers, Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes, and Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers, and Randolph, institute board chairman. Below are, left, Bayard Rustin, president, and Norman Hill, executive director.

Real Wages Continue Lag, Prices Climb

(Continued from Page 1)

maintenance and repair commodities, housekeeping supplies, reading materials and used cars.

Other price rises were posted for new cars, toilet goods, drugs and prescriptions, appliances, television sets, tires and apparel.

Among the service charges which increased in April, the largest increases were for transportation. Besides higher auto insurance costs, there were increases for parking fees, auto repair charges and taxicab fares.

In addition, physicians' fees and hospital service charges rose in April. There were also large increases for household services other than rent, and moderate increases in other services such as drycleaning, laundry and personal care.

Jobless Aid Extended, Set for Senate Action

(Continued from Page 1)

because their previous employment hadn't been covered by state laws.

The AFL-CIO had urged that these workers be given the same entitlement as workers who lost jobs that had been covered by state programs. The House bill didn't go that far, however. It extended the maximum duration of SUA payments to 39 weeks for the period through June 30, 1976, reverting back to the present 26-week maximum from July 1, 1976 to Dec. 31, 1976.

The Labor Dept. had sought and the AFL-CIO had opposed a plan to link the duration of unemployment compensation benefits to "triggers" set off by jobless rates in each metropolitan area.

While the House Ways & Means Committee did not include any trigger device in the current bill, it promised to consider the issue as part of a permanent overhaul of the unemployment compensation program and the Administration agreed to support the temporary extension of present extended programs.

A blueprint for overhauling the 40-year-old unemployment compensation program has been drawn up by an 11-member panel of experts of the Upjohn Institute.

Its recommendations, based on a six-year study, parallel many of the proposals that have been advanced by the AFL-CIO. They include:

- Broad expansion of unemployment insurance coverage to jobs currently exempt.
- Higher weekly benefit formulas and enactment of a federal minimum benefit standard.
- Extended duration of benefits.

The report noted that during the current recession, the unemployment insurance system is being tested to its fullest capacity.

"It is at such times that its significance is most in evidence—its strengths appreciated and its shortcomings most painful," the committee stressed in urging that the time is now right to bring about permanent improvements.

While arguing for immediate adoption of its basic recommendations, the panel also called for creation of a long-range study commission to undertake a full reappraisal of the UI system.

In its recommendations to broaden coverage, the committee said unemployment insurance protection should extend to all wage and salary workers.

The report noted that about 12 million workers are presently in jobs excluded from coverage in state and local government, on farms and in domestic households.

The committee also called for passage of a federal minimum benefit standard that would require all state laws to specify weekly benefit ceilings high enough to assure 80 percent of the covered workers at least half their regular weekly earnings.

In this area, the AFL-CIO has called for a wage replacement benefit keyed to at least two-thirds of a worker's former wages.

Meanwhile, the Federal Advisory Council on Unemployment Insurance adopted a resolution urging federal minimum standards of benefits to assure jobless workers adequate income to meet basic living costs.

The advisory council, composed of public, labor and employer representatives, approved the resolution in a 7 to 4 vote. All employer representatives opposed the measure.

While the Upjohn panel stressed that benefits should run at least 26 weeks, it also urged states to extend the duration of benefits to 39 weeks at all times—not just during recessionary periods — with some federal sharing of long-term benefit costs.

Recession Bit Deeper in Early '75, No Signs of Auto, Housing Upturn

(Continued from Page 1)

sure of gross national product as the best indicator of the nation's overall economic health.

Another indicator—the Federal Reserve Board's index of industrial production—sent out other signals confirming that recovery from the nation's steepest post-World War II recession is not yet in sight.

The index fell in April for the seventh consecutive month, dropping from 109.8 percent of its 1967 average to 109.4, a decline of four-tenths of 1 percent. The decline put the Fed's index 12.4 percent below its year-earlier level.

Contributing to the April fall-off were further declines in the production of business equipment, steel and other durable-goods materials, the FRB reported.

Also reflecting the severity of the recession was a continued heavy volume of new applications for unemployment insurance benefits. The Labor Dept. reported another 461,800 initial claims were filed during the week ended May 10, an increase of 11,600 over the previous week.

Overall, 6,257,100 persons drew jobless benefits under seven different programs in the week ended May 3. Of the total, 4,559,300 were claimants under regular federal-state unemployment insurance programs. A year earlier, the number of persons drawing benefits under these programs was 2,038,100.

Meanwhile, the key auto and housing industries, which were hit first and have suffered most by the economic downturn, showed only faint signs of revival.

The Commerce Dept. reported that housing starts rose 2 percent in April at the seasonally adjusted annual rate of 990,000 units. This still was 37 percent below the year-earlier level of 1,580,000 units, however.

The number of new building permits issued in April offered housing analysts a little more encouragement. Often an indicator of future housing starts, building permits last month rose 27 percent over the previous month.

But the outlook for the industry was still not bright. Henry Schechter, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Housing & Urban Affairs, said he does not expect housing starts this year to exceed 1.2 million units, and "they could be as low as 1.1 million."

Schechter cited high mortgage interest rates as a major hurdle for prospective homebuyers. "Most people's incomes still are such that they can't afford to buy at current rates," he noted.

The Ford Administration recently boosted the rate on FHA and VA mortgages by one-half of a percentage point, from 8 to 8.5 percent. Conventional mortgages bear even higher rates. The AFL-CIO has called for national legislation to provide for lower mortgage rates to enable low- and moderate-income workers to buy into the housing market.

A hoped-for spring upturn in the auto industry, as in the housing industry, so far has failed to materialize, forcing car makers to cut back their production schedules and lay off more workers.

Total layoffs in the auto industry last week climbed to 183,825 from 180,100 the week before.

Public Service Jobs

PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT is an important ingredient in any package of economic stimuli. If used correctly, it can be of direct benefit to the unskilled, the semiskilled, and the young—all of whom are suffering double-digit unemployment.

In the area of public service employment, our program calls for "the need in fiscal 1976 to increase the present authorization so as to provide one million additional public service jobs for Americans who cannot find work." These jobs will provide immediate help for many of those most in need.

Unfortunately the Administration is proposing only enough funds to finance the present 310,000 Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA) job level through Fiscal 1976. This proposed financing is just as unacceptable as the Administration's projected unemployment rate that goes down by fractions to a 5.5 percent level in 1980.

The AFL-CIO has called and worked for public service employment programs ever since the mid-1960s. But, like other supporters of these programs, we never envisioned a period when there would be massive layoffs in the public sector. Even in the worst days of the depression, public sector jobs were considered secure. Today this has changed and public sector workers are now competing for CETA jobs with all other unemployed workers.

Where CETA was conceived as a vehicle to provide additional—and needed—jobs in the public sector when the private sector held no job opportunities, it has now become "the only game in town" for millions of jobless workers in both sectors. A CETA job has ceased to be an "add-on."

And long lines of desperate workers applying for all too few jobs in city after city clearly demonstrate that jobless Americans want work, not welfare. Perhaps, once and for all, the pictures of these long lines in Atlanta, Detroit, Cleveland, San Francisco, and other cities will convince the nation that America's unemployed are not loafers and bums.

Without adequate funds, local officials—whether state, county, or city—face impossible choices. Who does a mayor, for example, hire with CETA funds when the job competitors include: a well qualified but laid-off city employe, a veteran, a long-term unemployed worker from the private sector, and a member of a minority group.

There is no way that this terrible competition among jobless workers can be solved through amendments. Only a complete turnaround in the economy will solve this problem. In the meantime, adequate funding will simply help to lessen the job competition.

The AFL-CIO does not believe that laid-off public sector employes should get preference in CETA hiring. But we are equally convinced that they should not face discrimination. And we reiterate our long-standing position that state and local governments must not be permitted to fire permanent employes in order to hire federally-financed replacements.

There has been mounting criticism in the Congress describing public service employment as the "least useful" of economic recovery programs. The AFL-CIO strongly disagrees with this attack. The history clearly demonstrates that public service jobs can be filled quickly and can fill genuine community needs that are far removed from "leaf raking."

—From AFL-CIO testimony before a Senate Labor subcommittee on emergency jobs legislation.

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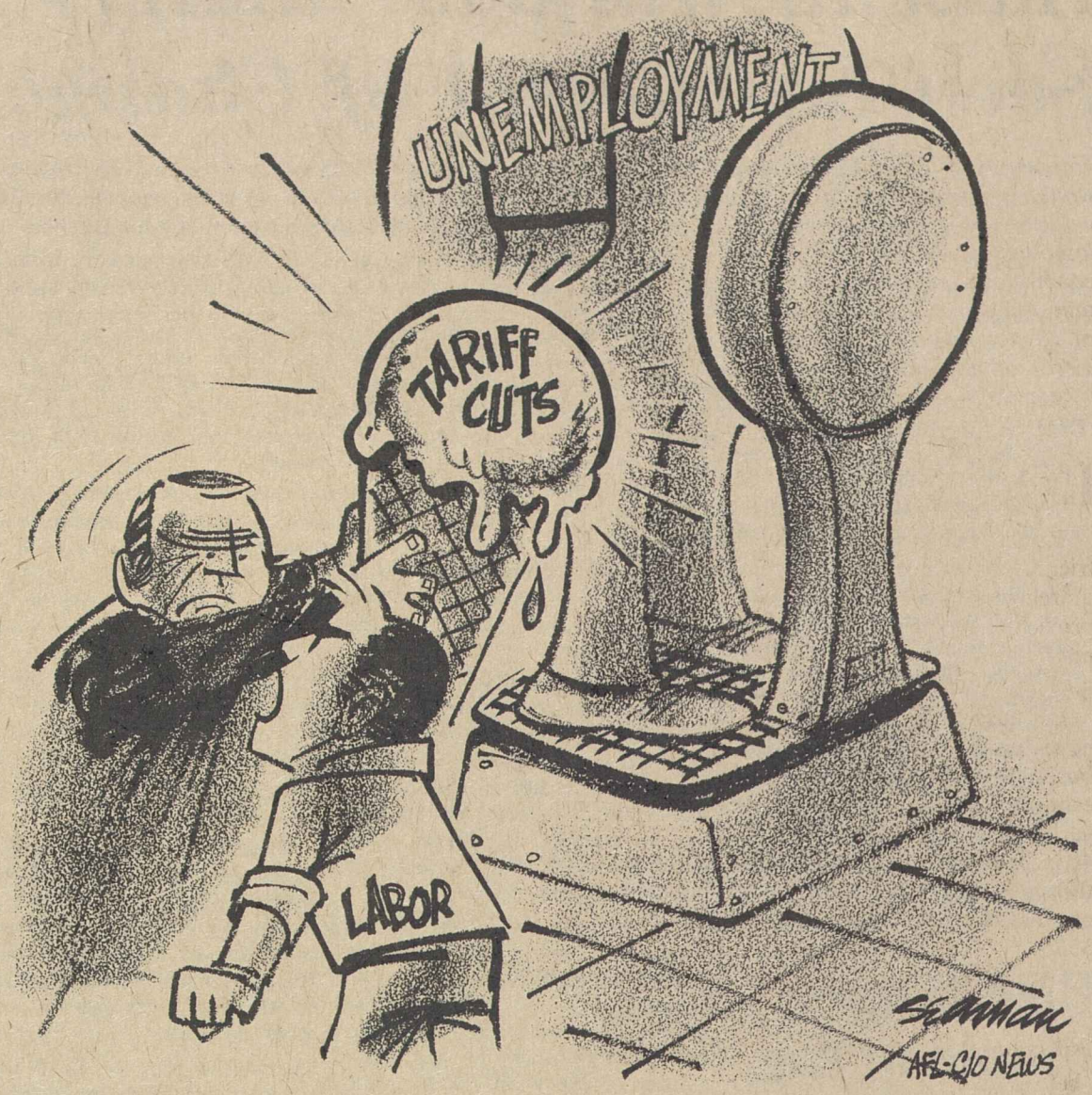


A Word Edgewise:

Expulsion from Phnom Penh A Death Sentence for Millions

By John P. Roche

WELL, THE "PROGRESSIVE" FORCES of the Khmer Rouge have just provided the world with a case study of how totalitarians deal with urban renewal. Forgive me if my tone is harsh, but I have been receiving a good deal of hate mail because I remarked here some time ago that Communist regimes are "barbaric," while a number of commentators literally heaved a sigh of relief as the curtain fell in Indochina.

Now I suppose they will explain that throwing over two and a half million people out of Phnom Penh (yes, 2,500,000) in 24 hours doesn't prove anything one way or the other—after all, those Orientals, you know, have always been rough on the opposition, Ghengis Khan, Tamerlane, and all that. Given the cynicism that dominates all discussions of these questions, I wouldn't even be surprised if someone pointed out that country air was good for city folk.

For the last decade we have been constantly exposed to the cries of the permanent floating band of ideological hemophiliacs who deplored American brutality in Indochina, Greece, Chile, Antarctica and——. (Fill in the blank.) This is a difficult assault for decent people to cope with because, if you defend American behavior, you find yourself accused of immorality, of being a "war criminal" and of other forms of wickedness. About a month ago, when I was trying to make the point that there was a real difference between the inefficient authoritarianism of the late Thieu government and the ruthless, organized totalitarianism of the Communists, someone said, "So, you justify the tiger cages?"

As it happens, he picked the wrong boy, because I saw the "tiger cages," which were not underground pits (as a trick photograph in one of our former unlamented weeklies suggested) but aboveground and covered by a roof to keep out the rain and sun. After the great howls went up, the prisoners were removed from the "tiger cages" to other quarters and the "cages" were eagerly taken over by South Vietnamese troops and their families because of the superior ventilation. So much for the "tiger cages." But back to the main point: there is a quantum jump between the brutality of, say, the Lon Nol or Thieu regimes and the systematic barbarism of their successors.

Imagine for a minute that the "brutal, corrupt Lon Nol clique" had driven the population of Phnom Penh into the countryside—women, children, sick, cripples included—and told them to sink or swim. Can you conceive of the racket that would be launched by our ideological hemophiliacs? The very thought of it makes me shudder. Yet to date I haven't heard a peep out of them. There can be only two explanations for this silence: first, they don't care what Cambodians or Vietnamese do to each other (which is another way of saying they are callous isolationists and-or racists); or, second, they approve of anything done by "progressive" forces (which is another way of saying they are pro-Communist). They can take their choice.

WHILE THEY ARE MEDITATING ON IT (and organizing their rally of the week against the "vicious, CIA-funded Chilean junta"), two and a half million perfectly decent people, most of whom were about as political as Ankor Wat, are wandering around the Cambodian countryside in quest of something called "rehabilitation." No effort has been made to provide them with any of the necessities of life—it will be several months before the next rice crop comes in and they have no experience at farming. The intention of the Khmer Rouge is perfectly clear: they have sentenced millions to death.

There is a word for this: genocide. It seems to me that the government of the United States should begin raising hell on the subject. Chairman Brezhnev recently made the charming observation that the fall of Indochina to the Communists would improve the atmosphere of detente. He should be informed that Communist genocide seriously impairs the atmosphere of detente.

In Congress, House Majority Leader Thomas P. O'Neill, who sponsored a resolution to designate Apr. 24 "a day of remembrance for all victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in 1915," might direct his concern to the Cambodians of 1975. And a few words from Jane Fonda and Tom Hayden would not be inappropriate.

One-Way Street for Imports:

Autos Provide Case History Of Trade Restrictions on U.S.

The House Ways & Means Committee has voted a tax on gas-guzzling cars so that Americans would be encouraged to drive more gas efficient vehicles. As a step to overcome some of the job loss that could result, a proposal was made in committee to require that imported cars must contain a percentage of U.S. parts. A U.S. "content" of 10 percent in the foreign cars would begin in 1976 and gradually rise to 50 percent by 1980.

The following remarks by Rep. Joseph E. Karth (D-Minn.) were made during that debate.

LET'S BE HONEST about the whole question of content provisions.

It has been said that other countries, our friendly trading partners, don't have content requirements. Well, maybe they don't have a content provision as such, but they have a lot of other restrictions that make it impossible for us to make a car in America and sell it over there.

Let me tell you about Japan, for example. They have tariffs of 6½ percent on trucks, cars and buses, 8 percent on bodies and chassis, and 6 percent on engines. They have a commodity tax that varies according to the size of the car. It is 30 to 40 percent on the larger cars and 15 percent on the smaller ones. A Ford Pinto, a moderate sized car that has a 30 percent commodity tax, is taxed $575.

Then they have an importer's charge. That averages about $498. Then they require an inspection that imported cars must go through before they are accepted into the country. Next they have an evaluation procedure. And then the dealer, because the manufacturer in most cases is also the dealer, has an arbitrary mark-up so that a Pinto, for example, costs thousands of dollars more in Japan than the most expensive Toyota.

Now, I guess you could honestly say that these imposts are not a content requirement restriction, and very strictly speaking I guess they are not, but they certainly have the same effect. In fact, they are more deadly.

I called the Commerce Dept. and asked, "How many cars do we export to Japan?"

They couldn't give me a figure. They merely said, "There is one word that describes it and the word is 'negligible.' " Actually, we exported 625, that is in all of 1973. In Europe it is the same picture; we face a whole series of obstacles.

The whole economies of some industrial nations are geared to "make it there and sell it elsewhere." We are talking about a very basic American industry that is in trouble along with the rest of the economy. We are talking about economic distress in America.

You know when we negotiated these agreements with European countries and Japan they were in trouble. They were redeveloping, after the war. I think it was appropriate for us to reach these kinds of agreements. I think it was appropriate for us to try to lift them, if you will, or help lift them from their economic distress and their vulnerability to those who at that time we considered our enemies and with whom today we are seeking detente. But that was years ago.

We were charitable. We were the only totally economically developed country in the world and we gave them a bushel basketful of things that maybe today we ought to take a second look at.

But today the United States is suffering economic distress. Today their unemployment is only 2 and 2½ percent, and ours is 9. One out of every five American workers is involved, directly or indirectly, in the manufacture and sale of automobiles.

Many foreign currencies are stronger today and ours is weak. We are now in trade negotiations. What better time, it seems to me, for the Congress of the United States to take sound action?

YOU KNOW THIS RETALIATION threat doesn't really scare me at all. The United States is still by far the largest consuming country in the world. You know, retaliation works both ways. We have been so conciliatory but I don't expect these people to voluntarily say, "Look, why don't you go ahead and adopt the content requirement so long as your country is in economic distress." I don't expect them to say that voluntarily, but I expect us to have enough sense to decide in favor of it.

What this content requirement does, in my judgment, is to say to other countries, we want reciprocation. If you want to do business with us like we do business with you—that is, to go to Europe and Japan, build plants, employ their labor, help pay their taxes and help insure that their unemployment doesn't rise to more than 2½ percent—we want a two-way street. All we are saying is, "You build some of those factories in our country and we will buy those cars the same as if they were made in our country."

In addition to that, we are saying to the American manufacturer, "If you want to build a fuel-efficient car, for God's sake, why don't you build it in America instead of going abroad, manufacturing it and sending it back in competition with the ones you build domestically?"

To Correct Deficiencies:

Federal Commitment Essential For Nationwide Blood System

THE ONLY WAY to put logic and effectiveness into the collection and delivery of life-saving and health-building blood is through a single, non-commercial, nationwide system, AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis said.

Perlis said the American Blood Commission, created through the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to shape such a plan, is a step in the right direction, but may not have a strong enough commitment "to go the entire route." The White House and Congress ought to play a bigger role in developing the policy for a unified system, he said, and if the ABC fails to shape the right kind of system, the only alternative is for Congress to take the lead with legislation.

"There's no reason Congress couldn't charter that kind of group; there's no reason Congress couldn't fund it, in order to do the job," he declared. Perlis appeared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Perlis said that hundreds of competing systems, ranging from voluntary organizations like the Red Cross to commercial firms where blood is bought and sold like a commodity, add up to a confusing and uneven system that cannot be effective. He called for a ban on blood-for-profit, charging that buying and selling human tissue is morally and medically wrong.

"It is wrong for our society to expect to sell part of their human bodies" for the income they need to survive from day to day, Perlis stressed. He asserted that commercialism is also objectionable medically, noting that "something like 17,000 people annually are infected with serum hepatitis, as a result of blood transfused from commercial blood-givers."

Perlis said that whatever national system is finally developed should provide voluntarily donated blood to those who need it, without charge for the blood itself. The only cost, he said, should be for administering the blood transfusion—an expense that can be covered by existing private health care plans and eventually, by national health insurance.

Reporters questioning Perlis on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Jerome Brazda of Washington Report on Medicine & Health and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

NO-FAULT AUTO INSURANCE may have a far brighter future in the 94th Congress than last year.

The Hart-Magnuson no-fault bill was approved by the Senate 53-42 last spring after lengthy debate. The Nixon Administration had opposed it with all the clout it could muster.

The problem developed in the House Interstate & Foreign Commerce subcommittee on commerce and finance. Under Chairman John Moss (D-Calif.) hearings on the bill were completed in July but the panel was unable to assemble a quorum to mark it up and report it to the full committee. And there it died.

This year, no-fault legislation falls under the jurisdiction of the new consumer protection & finance subcommittee headed by Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin (D-Calif.) who gives the bill primary importance and tentatively plans to hold hearings soon.

The Senate Commerce Committee is moving ahead on a measure that is almost identical to the one it approved last year. Its consumer subcommittee, under the chairmanship of Sen. Frank E. Moss (D-Utah), has held four days of hearings.

A new and interesting ingredient was served up at the hearing by Transportation Sec. William T. Coleman, Jr. He told the Senate panel that the Ford Administration, like the Nixon Administration, was opposed to the federal no-fault legislation.

Coleman told the committee that after reviewing the issue the Administration had decided that it would continue its policy that "the change should take place at the state level, where useful instructive experimentation with different types of no-fault systems could be undertaken."

The state approach, Coleman himself admitted, has been pretty much a flop. Only 16 states have adopted some form of no-fault insurance and in only one state Michigan, does the law meet the federal standards proposed.

THE SECRETARY SAID that "many, including this department, may once have anticipated that the pace of the state reform would have produced more extensive and more substantial results by this time than it has."

Moss, who is the chief sponsor of the Senate bill as well as chairman of the subcommittee, couldn't accept such a facile explanation.

"The power of trial lawyers to influence state legislatures is so strong," he told Coleman, that "you are never going to get (the states) to move in the absence of federal standards."

Moss was particularly interested in how the Ford Administration reached its decision. He suggested that Coleman and Carla Anderson Hills, secretary of the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, had urged the President to support the bill while Atty. Gen. Edward H. Levi was opposed.

Coleman did not deny that he was among the bill's supporters and thought it was constitutional and would benefit consumers. However, Coleman refused to develop his own views or to reveal positions taken in the internal White House discussions.

Federal no-fault legislation has the solid endorsement of organized labor, consumer groups including the Consumer Federation of America, numerous insurance companies and underwriters.

The major opposition is still offered by lawyers and the American Trial Lawyers Association, the very group that stands to profit from lengthy judicial processes. A study a few years ago by the Dept. of Transportation showed that more than 20 percent of the fees of the legal profession in this country are derived from auto negligence cases. Over 90 percent of ALTA members make part of their living from automobile claims and related legal actions.

The proposed federal legislation provides that victims of auto accidents would receive compensation from their own insurance companies regardless of who is at fault. The bill is designed to cut down on court costs and attorneys' fees and result in overall insurance savings.

LOGIC AND EFFECTIVENESS will come to the collection and delivery of blood only through a single, non-commercial, nationwide system, Director Leo Perlis, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Jerome Brazda of Washington Report on Medicine & Health. The program is heard Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

House Rollcall Vote on Farm Bill Veto

The AFL-CIO supported the effort to override President Ford's veto of a bill that would have improved income guarantees for farmers.

The 245-182 vote in the House on May 13 was short of the two-thirds needed to override a veto.

Right votes (R) to override were cast by 212 Democrats and 33 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 111 Republicans and 71 Democrats.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; A—absent.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) R

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Mills (D) R
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) R

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) W
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) W
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) W
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) W
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) W
32. Anderson (D) W
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) W
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) A
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) W
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) W
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) W
5. Sarasin (R) W
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) R
2. Fuqua (D) R
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) R
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Haley (D) W
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) W
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) W
15. Fascell (D) W

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) R
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) R
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) R
9. Landrum (D) W
10. Stephens (D) R

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) W
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) W
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Vacancy
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) W
8. Rostenkowski (D) A
9. Yates (D) W
10. Mikva (D) W
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) W
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) R
6. Evans (D) A
7. Myers (R) R
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) R
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) R
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) R
4. Shriver (R) R
5. Skubitz (R) R

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) R
5. Carter (R) R
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) R
4. Waggonner (D) R
5. Passman (D) R
6. Moore (R) R
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Sarbanes (D) W
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) W
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) W

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) W
2. Boland (D) W
3. Early (D) W
4. Drinan (D) W
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) W
7. Macdonald (D) W
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) W
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) W

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) W
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
5. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) W
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) A
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) W
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) R
2. Hagedorn (R) R
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) R
2. Bowen (D) R
3. Montgomery (D) R
4. Cochran (R) R
5. Lott (R) R

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) R
8. Ichord (D) R
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) R
2. McCollister (R) R
3. Smith (R) R

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) W
8. Roe (D) W
9. Helstoski (D) W
10. Rodino (D) W
11. Minish (D) W
12. Rinaldo (R) W
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) W
15. Patten (D) W

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) R

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) W
2. Downey (D) W
3. Ambro (D) W
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) W
7. Addabbo (D) W
8. Rosenthal (D) W
9. Delaney (D) W
10. Biaggi (D) W
11. Scheuer (D) W
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) W
16. Holtzman (D) W
17. Murphy (D) W
18. Koch (D) W
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) W
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) W
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) W
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) W
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) R
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) W
34. Horton (R) W
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Fountain (D) R
3. Henderson (D) R
4. Andrews (D) R
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) R
11. Taylor (D) R

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) R

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) W
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) R
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) W
23. Mottl (D) W

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) R
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) R

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) W
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) W
16. Eshleman (R) W
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) W
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) R
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) W
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) R
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) R
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) R

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) R
4. Evins (D) R
5. Fulton (D) R
6. Beard (R) R
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) R
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) R
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) R
11. Poage (D) R
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) R
14. Young (D) R
15. de la Garza (D) R
16. White (D) R
17. Burleson (D) R
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) R
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Krueger (D) R
22. Casey (D) R
23. Kazen (D) R
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) R
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) W
9. Wampler (R) R
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) A

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) A
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) W

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) R
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) R

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Landmark Ruling:

Unions Gain Bigger Voice in Job Safety

The Occupational Safety & Health Review Commission has given unions a stronger voice in dealing with on-the-job hazards. The action stems from a two-year-old case involving the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the General Electric Co.

In effect, the landmark OSHRC ruling would provide for:

- Increased employer consultation with unions on prevention and abatement of health and safety hazards.
- A wider union role in the adjudication of employer appeals from violation citations by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.
- More vigorous enforcement of federal safety and health standards by OSHA compliance officers, who in the past have tended to pass over some hazards because of narrow and legalistic rulings of the commission.

The commission was highly critical of GE's failure to correct a long and continuing list of unsafe conditions at its giant Schenectady, N.Y., facility.

Issues in the case before the commission were raised by IUE Local 301 which represents the 4,000 members at GE's steam turbine-generator products division Schenectady. The company employs more than 27,000 workers in that area.

More than two years ago, OSHA inspectors cited GE as being in violation of a number of federal safety and health standards and proposed $14,800 in penalties.

But an OSHRC administrative law judge, Charles Chaplin, dismissed several citations and assessed penalties of only $1,650. The IUE local and the Labor Dept. then asked for a review of the judge's ruling by the commission.

In a 2-to-1 ruling, the commission reinstated six citations dismissed by Chaplin, in addition to upholding the other citations he had affirmed.

The commission also ordered GE to consult with the IUE on matters involved in the affirmed citations and went on to "encourage" all employers to consult with their employes and union representatives on safety and health.

"In appropriate cases," the commission said, "such consultation will be considered in determining the good faith factors" in computing penalties for safety and health violations.

The commission's opinion noted that "the 'good faith' of General Electric has been put into issue by the union. The transcript shows that its contentions are well taken."

The commission found that evidence showed GE "was aware of on-going violations and applied little or no additional effort to see that they were eliminated."

In reversing Chaplin on several points, the commission also increased the proposed penalties to more than $6,000.

But it also found that Chaplin was right in allowing the IUE to argue and produce evidence that a hazardous ladder, which could result in a 17-foot fall, was a "serious" violation and not a "non-serious" one as OSHA had ruled.

The commission further ruled that all GE buildings and plants in the Schenectady-area operations are one workplace for the purposes of deciding if a given hazard is a "repeated" violation. Since repeated violations can draw fines 10 times greater than initial violations, the IUE pointed out that there will be more incentive for employers to correct such conditions.

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS and its implications for labor were explored at a three-day conference in Washington that drew 150 labor editors and educators. Morris Paladino, executive director of the Asian-American Free Labor Institute, explains AAFLI's activities in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. The International Labor Press Association was among the sponsors of the conference in cooperation with Georgetown University's International Labor Program.

Washington Conference Explores Labor's Stake in Mid-East Crisis

One hundred and fifty labor editors and educators meeting in Washington took a three-day cram course on the Middle East crisis and its implications for labor.

The conference was put together by Dr. Roy Godson and the Georgetown University's International Labor Program. One of the five sponsors was the International Labor Press Association. The AFL-CIO Department of Education and International Affairs were among the participating organizations.

Speakers dealt in depth with such subjects as Middle East societies and labor movements, Russia's role in the Middle East, U.S. policy and labor's policy.

The tone of the conference was set by its initial speaker, Dr. Gil Carl Alroy of City University of New York. A one-time Middle Eastern specialist for the State Dept., Dr. Alroy spent more than 10 years in the region.

The Middle East, he said, reaches into three continents and is about one-half Arab. He added that "the more powerful and stable Middle Eastern nations—Turkey, Iran and Israel—are non-Arab."

The region, he said, is still living in a pre-industrial age where words stand for things, religion overshadows class and revenge outdraws even the pull of material uplift. He said that the Middle East has one foot in the 16th Century and one in the 20th Century.

"While we think of the Middle East as coterminous with riches and fast modernization," Alroy said, "it is a particularly poor and backward part of the world."

Just how the Soviet Union is using the international labor movement "to reduce the influence of the United States and its allies and to strengthen its own" was described by Godson in another session.

He said that the Soviets "are able to secure support from many Afro-Asian and Arab governments and trade unionists and at the same time erode pro-Israeli support in the European left. Moreover, by encouraging the Arab governments to increase the economic difficulties of the West and at the same time subtly encouraging strikes and other dislocations, the Kremlin is attempting to further weaken the West."

Morris Paladino, executive director of the AFL-CIO's Asian-American Free Labor Institute, described the work of the institute in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon, three of the 15 countries where it operates, and Ernest Lee, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs, stressed the federation's full support for Israel which, he said, was the only reliable ally of the United States in the region.

Nat Goldfinger, AFL-CIO director of research, stressed that the oil crisis is not simply an economic problem but a political one as well. The oil embargo, followed by the four-fold increase in the price of oil, plus later increases, were political decisions.

"It is clearly necessary to develop our own domestic energy capacities to reduce or eliminate dependence on imported crude oil by the U.S., other western countries and by Japan," he said.

Among the obstacles to this, Goldfinger said, are the tax breaks enjoyed by the oil companies where U.S. taxpayers pay the bill for deals with the Arab countries and the fact that these companies own most of the major alternative sources of energy in the United States such as coal and oil shale.

"Our failure to provide leadership," he continued, "encourages other countries to make private deals with the Arab countries, above and below the table, making real problems down the road." (PAI).

Arkansas Labor Gears For R-T-W Repeal Drive

Hot Springs, Ark—The Arkansas AFL-CIO is gearing up for an all-out effort to repeal the state's open shop law through a referendum in the 1976 elections..

Delegates to the state federation's 10th biennial convention laid the groundwork for the repeal drive in calling on all affiliates to take part in a signature campaign for the initiative petition and to cooperate in a voluntary fund raising campaign.

State AFL-CIO President J. Bill Becker said that repeated efforts in the state legislature to wipe out the "right-to-work" statute have failed. He noted in his report to the convention that the legislature also has been unresponsive to organized labor's appeals to improve workers' compensation benefits and to provide collective bargaining rights for public employes.

He accused the state's general assembly of being "anti-worker and "anti-people," stressing that only about 10 percent of the people are receiving needed benefits.

The state federation also pointed out that Arkansas—as a "right-to-work" state — ranks among the lowest in the nation on wage scales and among the highest with counties in poverty.

Among key resolutions adopted at the three-day convention, the 336 delegates called for congressional passage of the labor-backed National Health Security bill, creation of a Consumer Protection Agency, medical insurance for the unemployed, curbing the flow of job-eroding imports, postcard registration of voters, and enactment of the AFL-CIO jobs program to get the unemployed back to work.

The convention also re-elected Becker and Sec.-Treas. E. J. Jacobs to new two-year terms. Both have held top offices in the state federation since 1964.

Major convention speakers included Sen. Dale Bumpers (D), Gov. David Pryor (D), Rep. Raymond Thornton (D), President Joseph P. Tonelli of the Paperworkers, President Carl Scarbrough of the Furniture Workers, Sec.-Treas. Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers and Legislative Rep. Dan Mundy of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

Professional Employees Name Davis Treasurer

Hal C. Davis, president of the Musicians, has been chosen treasurer of the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees.

He was appointed by the council's board to succeed Stanley Ballard, who recently retired as secretary-treasurer of the Musicians.

Worker Education Role In Foreign Policy Cited

Organized labor can make a real contribution to reversing the nation's "disastrous" foreign policies, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told a Teachers' conference on international education.

"Teachers, of course, are in a very special and unique position to play a role here," he said. "Teachers are spread out all over the country. They are informed and articulate.

"They have shown in the past that they can be persistent in getting their message across."

Kirkland urged all trade union organizations, from local units and central bodies through state AFL-CIO organizations, to educate their members on labor's international affairs program.

"With a hostile press, ignorant commentators and opportunistic politicians in superabundance, I sometimes despair that we shall ever succeed in making the public at large understand these larger principles that guide the international views and activities of the AFL-CIO," he said.

"But the very least we can do—and must do increasingly in the years ahead—is to educate our own troops."

Kirkland's remarks were delivered to more than 50 AFT state, local and national leaders at a day-long conference held in cooperation with Georgetown University at the National 4-H Center near Washington, D.C. Participants later attended a second conference at the center on the Middle East crisis and its implications for labor.

In his address, Kirkland said that the increasing interdependence of the nations of the world means that trade unionists, "from the local level on up, have got to know more about what's going on in the world, and how it affects us." He added:

"Our people have got to know more, much more, about the problems of other free trade-union movements around the world, about the roles they play in their own countries, and about how they are affected by the policies of the superpowers.

"It is important to know about what's going on in the labor movements of Portugal, of Greece, of Italy, of France — developments there will have a bearing on the survival of freedom in the world, and hence of the American future."

Earlier, AFT President Albert Shanker told the conferees of the growing need to develop a better understanding of the impact of U.S. foreign policy on the quality of life on the home front.

"We have an interest in the exploitation of workers in other countries. We have to be concerned that standards we have negotiated are not undercut by horrible conditions in other countries," Shanker said.

Jacobson Appointed to NLRB Memphis Post

Raymond A. Jacobson, 59 a career employe with the National Labor Relations Board, has been appointed NLRB regional director in Memphis, replacing John J. A. Reynolds, Jr., who retired.

Jacobson began his NLRB career in 1937. A native of Chicago, he has been serving as officer-in-charge of NLRB's Peoria, Ill., subregional office where he was responsible for the agency's operations in the northern half of Illinois.

House Test Postponed:

Ford Veto Thwarts Strip Mining Curbs

President Ford vetoed a labor-supported, employer-opposed strip mining bill and House Democratic leaders put off an attempt to override the veto because they were not sure they now have enough votes for the two-thirds majority needed.

Ford pocket-vetoed a similar bill last Dec. 30, after the 93rd Congress had adjourned. The new version, also intended to force surface mining operators to restore the land they have torn up, appeared to have a veto-proof majority when it won final House approval on May 7. The 293-115 vote was substantially above the two-thirds mark.

But Ford accompanied his veto with strong White House pressure on Republicans to back the President. The Administration, which has fought and imposed veto threats against a host of job-creating bills, contended that federal environmental standards for coal mining would reduce employment, curtail coal supplies and lead to coal price hikes.

The AFL-CIO strongly supported the bill, which had originally been viewed as a compromise between strictly environmental concerns and the economic well-being of the industry. It also was backed by the Mine Workers.

The bill's chief sponsor, Rep. Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.), said he will convene his Interior subcommittee on June 2, when Congress returns from a week's recess, so that Administration officials can be called on to back up their "wild charges" about the bill's impact.

The vote to override the veto in the House has been tentatively set for June 10.

In other congressional developments:

● **The Senate voted 67-10 approval of a bill that would make $700 million in federal grants available for improvement of railroad roadbeds and tracks—of which $600 million would be for direct labor costs. Funds for the bill had been voted by the Senate as part of an emergency job-creating appropriations bill but were deleted by the House because the legislation authorizing the funds had not been passed.**

● The Senate voted 79-2 approval of a House-passed bill appropriating $405 million for resettlement of Indochina refugees, thus clearing the legislation for the President's signature. The emergency appropriation includes funds to transport, feed and house refugees from Communist takeovers of South Vietnam and Cambodia. The AFL-CIO Executive Council endorsed the assistance programs and urged that the refugees be welcomed as have earlier victims of aggression.

● A House-Senate conference agreement on housing legislation appeared heading for major procedural problems in the House so the legislation was pulled back for rewriting. The changes do not affect the bill's provisions for mortgage subsidies for middle-income families and a federal loan program to keep jobless workers from losing their homes through foreclosure.

● **The House beat back attempts to cut a $32 billion appropriation for military weapons, research and development and passed the bill, 333-63. It had already been trimmed $3.7 billion by the Appropriations Committee. The AFL-CIO Executive Council has opposed cutbacks in defense and urged additional funds if needed.**

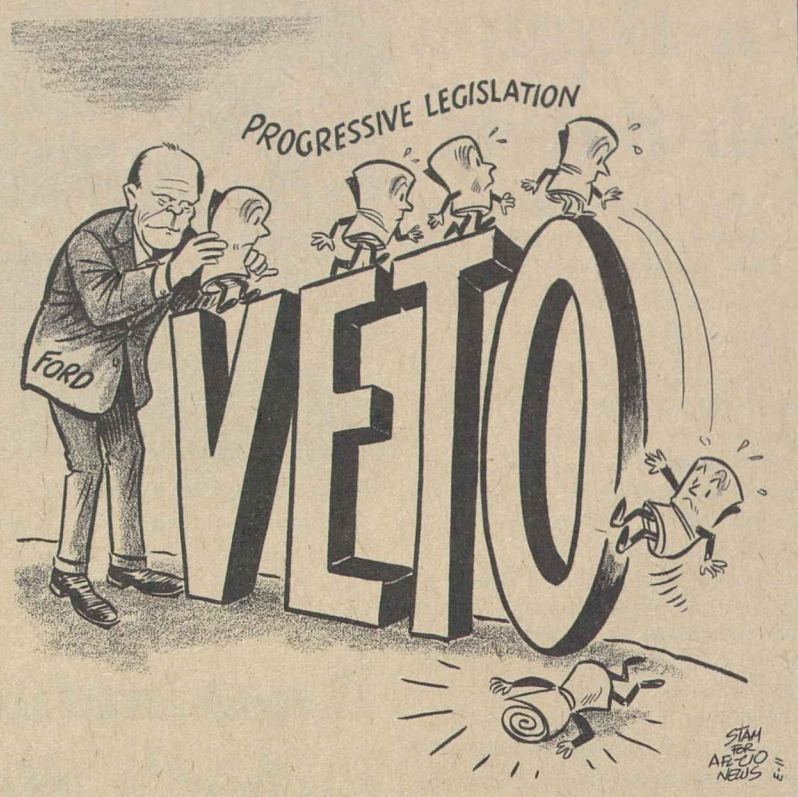
● The Senate prepared for a lengthy debate over the disputed New Hampshire senatorial contest as the Rules Committee failed to agree on whether Democrat John A. Durkin or Republican Louis C. Wyman won last November's election.

● Scheduled for early House action after the last-week-in-May recess is a bill to continue the Voting Rights Act, make the ban on literacy tests permanent, and extend the law's concern to language minorities, primarily the Spanish-speaking.

● A Senate Judiciary subcommittee gave unanimous approval to the proposal by its chairman, Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), for a constitutional amendment to elect the President of the United States by direct, popular vote.

In 1969, after the three-way Nixon-Humphrey-Wallace contest, the House approved a popular election amendment by a 339-70 vote. But it was filibustered and in effect defeated in the Senate. A two-thirds vote is required to send a constitutional amendment to the states for ratification.

Walking the Plank



Federal Role Held Key To Employment Upturn

New York—The federal government must assume the dominant role in resolving the nation's pressing manpower issues of employment and unemployment, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman told a Conference Board meeting here.

"Labor and management can make their contribution but it is government which must play the key role," Seidman declared.

He stressed, however, that manpower policy must take precedence over monetary and fiscal policy "and not the other way around," and strongly criticized those who would redefine full employment to countenance ever-higher rates of joblessness.

"I am appalled at the redefinition of full employment that would make it a meaningless concept," Seidman said. "Unemployment at 5 percent or even higher, as some have suggested, is not full employment. It is massive unemployment. It means 4.5 to 5 million people unable to get jobs."

He added that the Ford Administration's "complacent acceptance" of 7 to 8 percent joblessness, or even Congress's acceptance of only a slightly lower figure, is "absolutely intolerable."

Seidman participated in the conference as a member of a panel. The theme of the day-long meeting was "human resources in a recessionary environment."

In his remarks, Seidman called for a national rededication to the goal of genuine full employment—"that is, a decent job at adequate wages for all who want to work." He noted that a corollary principle is that "those who can't or shouldn't be expected to work must be assured of an income sufficient at least to meet their daily needs."

Addressing his remarks to the appropriate role of unemployment insurance, Seidman observed that there are many things wrong with the present program, but that two gaps in particular ought to be filled to contribute toward achievement of a more effective manpower policy.

One involves new entrants and re-entrants into the labor force, categories that now are not covered by unemployment insurance.

"As potential workers seeking work, they should receive benefits until they get jobs," Seidman remarked. "It may require some ingenuity to work out the details but there is no reason why this cannot be done."

The second aspect of unemployment insurance that needs rethinking is extended benefits, Seidman observed.

"Workers who are out of jobs for a long time need to receive unemployment insurance payments, and they need to receive them whether or not the overall unemployment rate is high or rising in the nation, state or locality," he said.

In addition to the payments, triggers are needed that would set in motion a battery of aids after an individual worker has been unemployed for a period of time. Such aids would include guidance, retraining, voluntary relocation, and other appropriate manpower services to help restore that jobless worker to suitable and remunerative employment.

Unions Seek Increase In Federal Arts Funds

AFL-CIO unions representing musicians and actors urged Congress to increase federal funding of the National Endowment for the Arts in order to preserve America's cultural resources.

Musicians President Hal C. Davis told a House subcommittee that the inflation-eroded $82 million proposed by the Administration, although higher than last year, is not enough. He urged Congress to appropriate the full $126 million it has authorized for the arts subsidy program.

Actors Equity Executive Sec. Donald Grody, in House testimony, and the union's western regional director, Edward Weston, at Senate hearings also pressed for higher funds.

Davis stressed that even with federal funds to help meet symphony deficits, the salaries of talented musicians are far less than their training and skills warrant.

Without adequate federal aid, he warned, major orchestras and orchestras in smaller cities alike would be pushed to the brink of collapse.

Thousands of other related jobs would be lost as well, Davis noted. He is chairman of a subcommittee on the arts of the Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees.

Grody and Weston said lack of jobs and low pay have forced many talented men and women to abandon the theater, their abilities and training wasted.

In a typical week, they said, more than 85 percent of the union's membership will be unemployed.

Full funding at the level authorized by Congress would mean more employment for actors, longer seasons by resident theaters throughout the nation and regional tours, the Equity officials said.

Albert Epstein Dies, Retired IAM Economist

Albert Epstein, who retired last September as research director of the Machinists, died after a heart attack at Kennsington, Md., May 8. He was 65.

Epstein had served the IAM for nearly 30 years as an economist, pension specialist and research director. He also was active in the Industrial Relations Research Association and the American National Metric Council.

Survivors include his wife, Esther, and two sons. Services were held May 11 in Washington, D.C.

Meany Named To Panel on Refugee Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

Indochina. The Executive Council earlier this month directed the federation's departments to work with government and voluntary programs to assist the refugees in finding housing and jobs and to obtain needed social services.

Much of the federation's effort is being channeled through the Dept. of Community Services with the cooperation of the departments of International Affairs, Organization & Field Services and the Human Resources Development Institute.

Community Services Director Leo Perlis notified all affiliates, state and local central bodies and the CSA staff across the country of the AFL-CIO program to assist the 130,000 refugees that are expected to be resettled in the United States.

Perlis alerted the AFL-CIO groups to the 10 national voluntary organizations which are cooperating in the effort to find sponsors for the refugees.

He noted that the federation has worked with the voluntary agencies for a number of years and suggested that AFL-CIO unions and representatives work with the local affiliates of these agencies and with other community groups to help the refugees.

He urged that any questions, problems or suggestions dealing with the resettlement of the refugees be forwarded to the Dept. of Community Services.

The refugees are currently being processed through three military installations in the United States, at Camp Pendleton, Calif.; Fort Chaffe, Ark.; and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

Clerks Press For Talks on A&P Closings

The Retail Clerks, following a meeting of 90 of its local unions affected by the closing of A&P stores across the country, demanded that A&P meet immediately with the four unions representing the grocery chain's workers and comply with a set of minimum standards for store closing.

The union declared that the closing of an estimated 1,200 A&P stores presents a "grave national problem affecting the future and welfare of 25,000 workers and their families" belonging to RCIA, the Meat Cutters, Bakery Workers and Teamsters. It called on A&P top management to "sit down with the leaders of the four unions and work out the humanitarian problems involved. These workers deserve no less."

RCIA also stipulated that it regarded four items as being "minimum standards" to be discussed at such a meeting: layoff pay, job recall rights, continuation of health and welfare and pension rights "and other pressing human concerns."

"The problems of these 25,000 workers deserve immediate attention on a national scale," RCIA said. "At a time when the jobless rate in the country continues to skyrocket, A&P . . . has an obligation to see to it that the plight of these workers is cushioned as fully as possible. Certainly, at a time when the chain is talking about closing down small stores and opening giant ones in their place, the workers are entitled to top consideration for re-employment rights."

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Labor Spurs Swift Action On Voting Law Extension

Study Finds Tax Breaks Favor Rich

Americans with incomes above $100,000 a year saved an average of $45,662 in taxes last year through a variety of special exemptions — ranging from deductions generally available to middle-income families to such big loopholes as the capital gains tax.

While the 160,000 persons in that income bracket amounted to only two-tenths of 1 percent of all taxpayers, their tax breaks cost the federal treasury $7.3 billion.

A Treasury Dept. study, compiled for and released by Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.), identified $58 billion in revenue losses as the result of tax provisions "intended to encourage or reward specific activities."

As an example, the tax exemption for state and local bond interest, which was intended to make it easier for communities to market their bonds, costs the federal treasury $1.1 billion. Of that amount, Mondale noted, more than 88 percent represented tax savings for persons with incomes over $50,000 a year.

The AFL-CIO and other tax reform advocates have contended that less revenue would be lost if the federal government subsidized the interest rate of local government bonds and eliminated their tax exemption.

Mondale stressed that the same dollar deduction is worth substantially more to persons with the highest incomes since they are subject to higher tax rates. Thus, at the $5,000-a-year taxable income level each $100 deduction is worth $14 a year in reduced taxes. But to a person making over $200,000, he said, each $100 deduction is worth $70 in reduced taxes.

The Treasury Dept. table showed that the capital gains tax loophole —which taxes certain forms of investment profits at a lower rate than wages and salaries—cost the government $6.7 billion in revenue.

More than 47 percent of the tax savings went to persons with incomes over $100,000, Mondale noted. And more than 62 percent went to the 1.2 percent of taxpayers with incomes over $50,000.

Mondale said that many tax exclusions serve a useful purpose and should be continued. He added:

"Others need to be examined to see whether they can be restructured so that their benefits are distributed more broadly and equitably. In still other cases, a direct expenditure, loan or guarantee program might work better than a tax expenditure, and we should consider substituting one for the other. And finally, some tax expenditures serve no defensible purpose at all, and should be abolished."

Court Bars Vinyl Rule Challenge

A federal standard virtually barring worker exposure to the cancer-causing gas vinyl chloride has survived a final legal challenge as the U.S. Supreme Court left standing a lower court decision upholding the standard.

Two major plastic companies and a trade group sought to overturn the Labor Dept. regulation limiting the concentration of vinyl chloride in work areas to less than 1 part per 1 million parts air (1 ppm) over an eight-hour period.

The employers did manage to delay the effective date of the standard for three months while appealing to a lower court and the Supreme Court. They contended that the reduced vinyl chloride exposure level established by the standard was not technically or economically feasible.

The AFL-CIO and the Industrial Union Dept. had intervened on the side of the Labor Dept. in the appeals court and Supreme Court cases.

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration last October issued the standard requiring employers to reduce exposure levels of the carcinogenic gas from 50 ppm to 1 ppm on Jan. 1.

But the Second Circuit of Appeals granted the plastics industry a stay while a special three-judge panel studied the appeal. The court upheld the standard, but postponed the effective date to Apr. 1.

Union Carbide Corp., Firestone Plastics Co. and the Society of the Plastics Industry then asked the high court to review the lower court's ruling. They not only sought to overturn the standard, but also to stay the new Apr. 1 effective date.

(Continued on Page 8)

NATION'S BICENTENNIAL forms the theme for a new design of U.S. Savings Bond being purchased by AFL-CIO President George Meany from U.S. Treasurer Francine I. Neff. Bonds featuring the new design went on sale this month.

Ford Tariff Opposed:

House Energy Bill Held 'Far Superior'

An energy conservation bill drawn up by the House Ways & Means Committee is "far superior" to the Ford Administration program and more closely approaches labor's proposals, the AFL-CIO said.

In a letter sent to all House members before President Ford's televised speech, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller detailed the federation's reasons for preferring the House Committee bill to the Administration approach.

Ford's tariff hike approach "would mean across-the-board price increases in gasoline and fuel for all working Americans, hospitals, schools, industry and transportation," Biemiller said.

He estimated that its "ripple impact" would add $300 to $500 a year to living costs.

Ford, voicing impatience at the slow pace of congressional action, imposed an additional dollar-a-barrel tariff on imported oil—on top of the $1 tariff he levied Feb. 1. His plan to cut oil consumption calls for still another $1 price hike.

Ford also announced his intent to remove the last vestiges of price controls from domestic oil—a move that would further inflate the price of petroleum products and push up living costs generally.

The further impact of decontrol of domestic oil prices, Biemiller warned, would have a "crushing impact on all Americans without regard to the circumstances of their incomes or their jobs."

The difficulty Congress has encountered in trying to develop a consensus for an alternative to the Administration's energy program enabled Ford to paint a picture of a nay-saying legislative branch and a President who had been patient but now must act.

Initially, the House had hoped to complete action on energy legislation before departing for a weeklong recess. But the bill that cleared the Ways & Means Committee by a slim 19-16 margin faced such a multitude of amendments that House leaders decided to hold it up until early June.

The AFL-CIO has endorsed

(Continued on Page 6)

Cites Role In Building Civil Rights

The AFL-CIO has called on House members to approve "without weakening amendments" a bill that would extend the Voting Rights Act, expand its coverage and permanently outlaw the use of literacy tests anywhere in the nation.

The House is scheduled to start debate on the bill on June 2, when it returns from a weeklong recess. Key portions of the present law expire in early August, and civil rights groups are concerned that even a short lapse might undo some of the hard-won progress of the past decade.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller declared that the Voting Rights Act has "proved its value" since it was first passed in 1965. He termed it "a major contribution to political freedom in the United States" and stressed the AFL-CIO's continued strong support for the law as "effective and equitable civil rights legislation."

A number of provisions of the bill drafted by the Judiciary Committee may be hotly contested on the floor of the House.

The Administration and some southerners not flatly opposed to the bill want the extension limited to five years as contrasted with the Judiciary Committee's 10-year bill.

A southern-led effort will be made to make it easier for counties and states to get out from under the law's coverage through proof of non-discrimination.

But the sharpest controversy has

(Continued on Page 8)

NLRB Order Sustained on Attorney Fees

The Supreme Court has let stand a landmark ruling of the National Labor Relations Board ordering a company that sought to avoid bargaining by engaging in "frivolous" legal tactics to pay the resulting attorney fees incurred by the union.

The high court refused to review a 1974 ruling of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia which approved the award of attorney fees to the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers. The NLRB order against Tiidee Products, Inc., of Dayton, O., was the first of its kind in the board's history.

The company had appealed the ruling with the support of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which

(Continued on Page 2)

Pay Board Upheld on State Raise, Wage-Hour Decision Postponed

The Supreme Court said the federal government can prohibit states and cities from giving their workers a pay raise higher than the amount allowed by a wage stabilization ruling. But it put off a decision on whether Congress can compel local and state governments to meet minimum wage and overtime pay requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

While the circumstances differ, both cases deal with federal actions that affect the compensation of public employes.

The case decided by the Supreme Court upheld the cutback of a 10.6 percent pay raise the Ohio legislature voted for 65,000 state workers in 1972.

The federal Pay Board that year, acting under temporary emergency wage control powers that Congress has since refused to renew, had reduced the raise to 7 percent.

A seven-member majority of the Supreme Court voted to affirm an appellate ruling that Congress did not intend to exempt state employes from coverage of the Economic Stabilization Act and that it had the power to hold public employers to the same standards set for the private sector.

The Supreme Court noted that in 1971, when wage-price controls were first imposed, state and local government employes made up 14 percent of the nation's workforce, and added:

"It seems inescapable that the effectiveness of federal action would have been drastically impaired if wage increases to this sizable group of employes were left outside the reach of these emer-

(Continued on Page 8)

Clerks Weigh Proposals of Rail Board

Negotiators for the Railway & Airline Clerks are studying details of a presidential emergency board's recommendations following its five-week review of the union's long-standing contract dispute with the nation's major railroads.

The special factfinding panel recommended that BRAC accept the general pattern of settlement signed earlier this year by seven other rail unions. That settlement provided an estimated 41 percent increase in wages and benefits over a three-year period.

BRAC officials had no immediate comment, pending completion of their examination of the board's recommendations, which are not binding. Under the Railway Labor Act, both sides must observe a 30-day cooling-off period to allow negotiators time to consider the board's findings.

The union will be legally free to pursue any "self-interest" course of action such as a strike as of 12:01 a.m. on June 23.

The three-member emergency board was established by President Ford Apr. 16 under RLA provisions, blocking a nationwide strike by BRAC that had been set for Apr. 18. The union had rejected the carriers' offer as inadequate, particularly in the areas of wages and pension benefits.

Meanwhile, the four shopcraft unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO Railway Employees' Dept — the Carmen, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Firemen & Oilers and Boilermakers-Blacksmiths — completed membership polls to authorize a strike if they cannot reach agreement with the carriers. Final results showed that an overwhelming majority approve a walkout.

The shopcrafts' negotiators are scheduled to meet with the carriers during the second week in June under the auspices of the National Mediation Board.

The board also is assisting the Yardmasters in its bargaining with the railroads.

COMMON PROBLEMS facing workers in Japan and the United States were discussed at a meeting of leaders of the Japanese Confederation of Labor (DOMEI) and the AFL-CIO. Shown above, left to right, are DOMEI President Seiji Amaike, AFL-CIO President George Meany, and Federation Vice Presidents Hunter P. Wharton and S. Frank Raftery.

U.S., Japanese Labor Reaffirm Cooperation

The Japanese Confederation of Labor (DOMEI) and the AFL-CIO have pledged to cooperate to strengthen free trade unions in Asia.

"We seek to join with our Asian brothers in a program to increase the power of free trade unions to influence economic and social factors in favor of the membership and workers generally," the two organizations declared in a joint statement.

Signed by AFL-CIO President George Meany and DOMEI President Seiji Amaike, the statement was issued following a four-day meeting in Washington attended by representatives of the two labor organizations.

The conferees discussed a wide range of problems facing workers in Asia and the United States. They noted that the political and economic situations in the free world have worsened since their last meeting in Tokyo in the summer of 1974.

"The Communist countries have strengthened their position vis-a-vis the democracies of the free nations," the statement observed.

"South Vietnam and Cambodia are the most recent examples of this trend."

The two organizations noted the threat to democratic institutions posed by the activities of the Communist powers, adding:

"We must restore the ideals of free, democratic trade unionism, eroded not only by the illusions of some trade unions concerning detente with the labor fronts of the Communist countries but also by the Communist-inspired labor movements expanding their activities in the free countries of the world."

Representing the AFL-CIO at the meeting were Meany; AFL-CIO Vice Presidents Hunter P. Wharton, Joseph D. Keenan, S. Frank Raftery, John H. Lyons and Glenn E. Watts; Joseph T. Power, president of the Plasterers & Cement Masons; Ernest S. Lee, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs; Morris Paladino, executive director of the Asian-American Free Labor Institute, and Harry Goldberg, AFL-CIO international affairs representative.

DOMEI representatives besides Amaike were Vice Presidents Ichiro Shioji, Ryoichi Tanaka and Yoshiji Watanabe; Assistant General Sec. Masao Uenishi; Iwao Fujiwara, member, Committee of Internation Affairs; Naotake Kaihara, director, Auto Workers' International Dept., and Masao Aihara, director, International Affairs Bureau.

Firm Loses Plea:

Court Backs NLRB On Union Legal Fees

(Continued from Page 1)

argued that the payment order was punitive.

IUE President Paul Jennings commented that the Supreme Court decision "certainly strengthens labor's hand in overcoming refusals to bargain," but still leaves much to be done.

"The time is long overdue," Jennings said, "that workers, who are the real victims, be made whole for the losses in wages and fringe benefits they suffer as a result of such cynical lawbreaking by their employers."

The origins of the much-litigated Tiidee case date back nearly eight years to the IUE's first moves to organize the company, which manufactures house trailer parts. Tiidee tried to discourage an election, but finally consented. Its next tactic was to refuse to bargain with the union, and the IUE filed unfair practice charges which were upheld by the NLRB.

When the company challenged the board's order, the appeals court branded the firm's refusal to bargain a "clear and flagrant violation of the law" and termed its objections to the 1967 election "patently frivolous."

At the same time, in the spring of 1970, the appeals court directed the NLRB to conduct further hearings on the IUE's request for special remedies, suggesting that the penalties proposed by the board were not stiff enough to correct the unfair practices.

The "affirmative action" clause of the labor law, the court panel said, is not a "mere charter of authority that the board has the option to exercise or ignore," but is, in the words of the Supreme Court, a "broad command."

Effective redress for a broken law, the judges reasoned, should compensate the party wronged and withhold from the wrongdoer the fruits of its violation.

The IUE had sought such special remedies as pay raises and cost-of-living increases lost by the workers because of Tiidee's foot-dragging, reimbursement for dues and initiation fees the union would have collected had the company bargained in good faith and reached agreement, and relief in such areas as additional organizing costs.

Before the board could conduct new hearings, however, Tiidee took the case to the Supreme Court, where review of the lower court order was refused for the first time.

When the case finally got back to the NLRB on remand, the board took the position that Congress had not given it authority to "make whole" workers for wages and benefits denied them while an employer illegally refused to bargain with their union.

The NLRB, however, did order Tiidee to pay both the union and the board itself for litigation costs they had incurred, suggesting that this "will undue some of the baneful effects" resulting from the company's flagrant violation of the law.

The appeals court upheld the order for payment of the IUE's legal fees, but rejected that part of the ruling calling for payment of the NLRB's costs. It was this decision that the Supreme Court refused to review in the latest chapter of the Tiidee case.

Construction Labor Unit Appointed by President

Ten labor and 10 management members of a new panel set up to encourage the peaceful negotiation of construction wage and benefits settlements were named by President Ford.

The panel—the Collective Bargaining Committee in Construction—was established by Ford on May 1 as a branch of the President's Labor-Management Committee.

According to the Executive Order creating the committee, the panel will strive generally to foster more effective bargaining in the construction industry "with a minimum of government interference."

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop will serve as chairman. W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service will serve as a member.

The 10 labor representatives are Presidents Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers, Peter Fosco of the Laborers, William Sidell of the Carpenters, S. Frank Raftery of the Painters, Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, Hunter P. Wharton of the Operating Engineers, Charles H. Pillard of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, John H. Lyons of the Iron Workers, Robert A. Georgine, of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., and Frank E. Fitzsimmons of the Teamsters.

At the time the committee was being formed, Georgine noted that the panel could be "a forum where progress could be made, but only the future will tell."

"Most important," Georgine said, "everyone should know that we have no stabilization responsibilities or authority. If the committee has meaningful discussions, it could mean progress for the construction industry."

The committee's functions will be to facilitate the collective-bargaining process at local and regional levels, help create a data bank on wages and benefits, facilitate local and regional coordinated bargaining where appropriate, and "seek to resolve particular disputes that cannot otherwise be reasonably resolved."

The committee is authorized to hold meetings on particular collective bargaining issues and to make recommendations to the parties involved in a dispute.

Wayne State Dedicates Reuther Labor Library

Detroit—Much of labor's historic past will be preserved in the setting of a major urban university with the dedication of the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor & Urban Affairs.

The modern, four-story building, which will house the library, is on the campus of Wayne State University. The structure was financed by a donation from the Auto Workers and a grant from the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

A number of AFL-CIO unions, as well as the UAW, have already made the library a repository for their records, among them the Air Line Pilots, State, County & Municipal Employees, Teachers, Newspaper Guild, and Farm Workers.

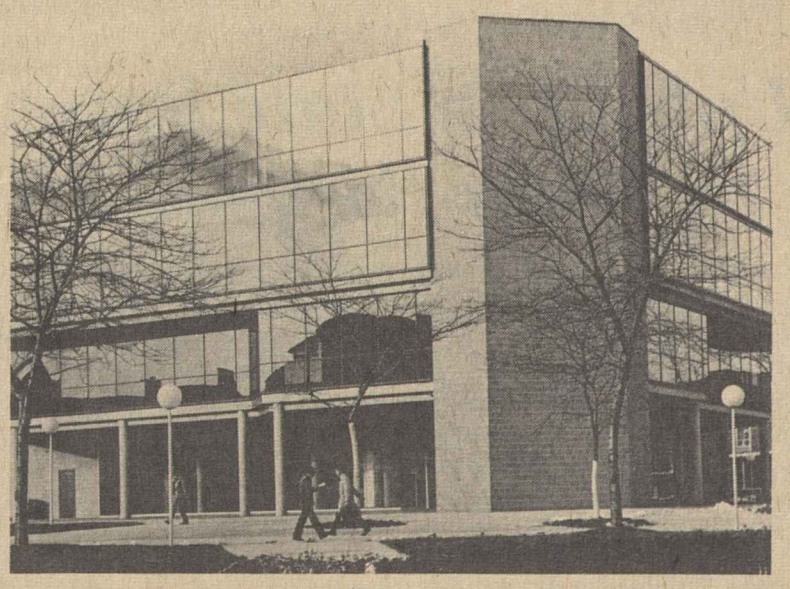
Both the Michigan AFL-CIO and Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO have collections at the library. Civil rights and civil liberties organizations are also represented among the collections as are labor-related church organizations and social services groups.

The personal papers of men and women associated with the labor movement represent another facet of the library. In addition to the collections of the leaders of the UAW and other unions, this section includes donations from a number of secondary leaders and rank-and-file members.

More than 20 million items are presently deposited with the library. In addition, it has more than 4,000 reference and labor books, thousands of photographs and recordings of the voices of many persons who made union history.

Two long-time friends of the labor movement and the Reuther family—Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) and former Labor Sec. W. Willard Wirtz—were featured speakers at dedication ceremonies.

UAW President Leonard Woodcock called the library "a fitting memorial to Walter in the heart of the city to which he gave so much."



NEW CAMPUS LANDMARK at Wayne State University in Detroit is the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor & Urban Affairs, dedicated recently. The library was financed by the Auto Workers and a grant from the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

With Special Programs:

Garment Workers Mark 75th Year

New York—June 3 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Ladies' Garment Workers, but the union's diamond jubilee is already in full swing.

Hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers and visitors to the city have seen the ILGWU's Rockefeller Center exhibit of historic photos that date from the sweatshop era of the garment industry.

The union has also sponsored daily noon-hour programs that combine entertainment, craft demonstrations and fashion displays.

There have been many special events, with more to come. Members of Congress and their families have been guests at a "Festival of Fashion" breakfast. Talented ILGWU members are bringing a mini-pageant to Unity House, the union's summer resort in Pennsylvania, where a national leadership conference of ILGWU officers and staff is being held.

In New York, nearly 8,000 union retirees attended two concerts at Lincoln Center and were hailed by the ILGWU's officers as "the mothers and fathers of the great unions whose benefits we enjoy today."

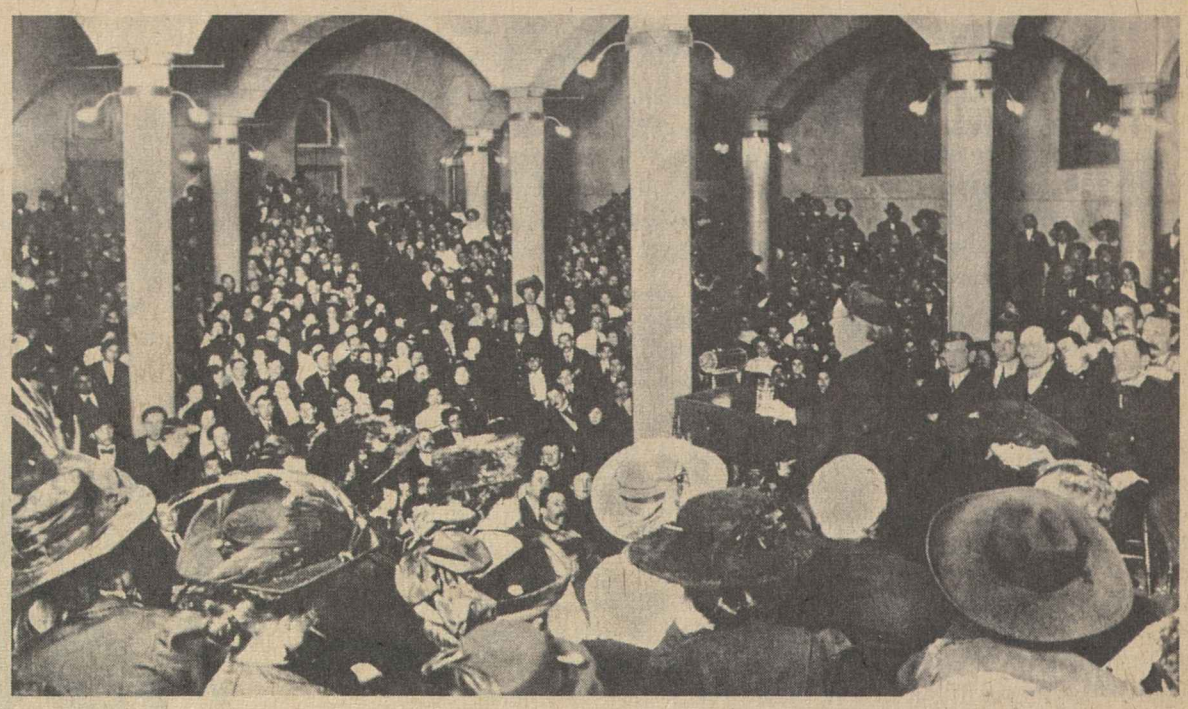
New York's Mayor Abraham Beame joined other mayors and governors in proclaiming June 3 as Garment Workers Day, and he will be host to a reception at Gracie Mansion on June 17.

A special issue of Justice, the union's newspaper, presents the highlights of the union's history from its earliest years—the first attempts to organize, the earliest strikes, the tragedy of the Triangle fire where 146 garment workers died, court battles, lockouts, successful fights against communists and racketeers, for progressive legislation and candidates, against runaway shops and cheap imports.

The union's history embraces also such pioneer ventures as health centers, production of the long-running show Pins and Needles on Broadway, vacation camps, generations of adult education and union education programs.

The union's membership of more than 400,000 is about 80 percent women and the ILGWU's geographical base has spread with the industry.

A "census" of members shows that 33 percent work in New York City, 12 percent in nearby areas. Five percent are in the Philadelphia area, 22 percent in other sections of Pennsylvania and in New England. Nine percent work in the Southeast, 8 percent in the central states and 2 percent on the Pacific Coast. Six percent are in Canada and 3 percent in Puerto Rico.



HISTORIC PHOTO from an exhibit marking the 75th anniversary of the Ladies' Garment Workers was taken on Nov. 22, 1909, in the Great Hall of Cooper Union in New York. That's the meeting at which shirtwaist workers, mostly young immigrant women, boldly voted to strike all of the city's shirtwaist shops. Shown addressing the group is Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. They won their 10-week strike and wrote an important page in labor history.

Seattle Region Set Up By Mediation Service

The Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service announced establishment of a new regional office in Seattle, effective July 1. The office will direct FMCS operations in the northwestern United States.

James L. Macpherson, currently FMCS regional director in Cleveland, will become director of the new region. Exact boundaries of the region remain to be fixed.

Trade Advisers Warn Against Job Giveaways

Organized labor warned the government that a new round of giveaways in trade negotiations for additional tariff reductions on low-wage imports would worsen the jobs loss of U.S. workers.

Representatives on the Labor Policy Advisory Committee for Multilateral Trade Negotiations questioned Administration officials as to whether the 1974 Trade Act provides sufficient safeguards against further job erosion.

The committee expressed its concerns during its first meeting with Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop and Special Trade Representative Frederick Dent. Participating in the meeting were representatives of nearly 40 AFL-CIO affiliates, including several federation vice presidents.

The labor representatives criticized the government's failure to correct employment problems caused by previous tariff reductions while it continues to propose new cuts that will accelerate the rise in imports.

Negotiations are now under way in Geneva, Switzerland, under the General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade (GATT). The negotiations are being extended to nearly 100 countries, including some which are not parties to GATT.

The committee, which also includes representatives from several unaffiliated unions, was established under the trade act along with advisory committees representing business, agriculture and the public.

The law requires that each advisory committee report to the President, Congress and the Special Trade Representative on each trade agreement pact "as to whether and to what extent the agreement promotes the economic interests of the United States."

However, the labor committee expressed little hope that its concerns over the economic impact on U.S. workers of any of the future agreements would be given full consideration.

Dent sought to assure the labor representatives that if government trade negotiators reject any labor committee advice on trade agreements they would be required to report to Congress their reasons for the rejections.

Wentworth Retires From PR Staff Post

Robert J. Wentworth, a veteran newsman who served as an editor and in public relations with the AFL and the AFL-CIO, has retired.

Wentworth worked on the Boston Transcript, the Boston American and the Washington Herald and Times-Herald as a reporter, copy reader, picture and sports editor before joining the AFL in 1951 as an assistant editor of the AFL News-Reporter. He was a copy editor on the AFL-CIO News for several years before becoming assistant director of the Dept. of Public Relations in 1957.

He served in the Office of Special Services in World War II in China-Burma-India. He and his wife Madelyn will be living in East Dennis, Mass., on Cape Cod.

Civil Service Bargaining Law Backed

Salt Lake City—The time has come for Congress to enact legislation that will provide "true collective bargaining" for employes of the federal government and their unions, W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federation Mediation & Conciliation Service, declared here.

Addressing a Government Employees' banquet, Usery also emphasized that further delay in legislating bargaining for federal workers "carries with it some inherent dangers."

History shows that workers often resort to "illegal strikes" when they are not granted bargaining rights, such as has been the case among state and local government employes and farm workers, he warned, and federal workers could be provoked into similar action.

Usery called the Presidential Executive Order under which bargaining occurs now a "weak substitute for law."

While crediting Presidents since John F. Kennedy with a "sincere" desire for better labor relations in government, Usery said "still the truth remains that there is precious little collective bargaining in the federal sector."

As long as federal unions are restricted from bargaining on such vital issues as wages, pensions, medical care, seniority, transfers and union security "there can be no fulfillment of our national policy in the government's house," Usery said.

The end-product of the executive-order "mechanism," he observed, "is all too frequently a contract that simply restates what management will do—and providing only the protection to grieve should management violate its own rules."

LOUIS STULBERG

ILGWU Names Chaikin As Stulberg Retires

Unity House, Pa.—Louis Stulberg will step down as president of the Ladies' Garment Workers on Sept. 1 and Sol C. Chaikin, the union's secretary-treasurer, will succeed him.

Stulberg announced his retirement in a moving letter to the ILGWU executive board which met at Unity House, the union's summer resort for members. The meeting was tied in with the observance of the union's 75th anniversary.

A committee named by ILGWU First Vice President E. Howard Molisani, who presided in Stulberg's absence, nominated Chaikin for the post. The board unanimously elected him and he was sworn in as president elect to take office on Stulberg's retirement.

Stulberg's letter noted the anniversary observance and termed it "fitting" that the union should move on from that milestone with "new leadership at its helm."

He said the ILGWU "has been all things to me—my school, my college, my door to worlds I had never dreamed of and certainly never dreamed of entering. Above all, it has given a rich meaning to my existence. I have had the opportunity to work for an ideal. I have been able to serve the garment workers, to help improve their lives and to help turn some of their most important social ideals into reality."

Stulberg, who is 74 years old, has been president of the 400,000 member union since 1966. Born in Poland, he emigrated to Canada as a child and joined the ILGWU in Toronto in 1916. He graduated from Harbord Collegiate Institute there and attended the University of Chicago after moving to the United States. He assumed his first union position in 1924 as a general organizer in the Midwest. Moving to New York, he served as business agent and later as assistant manager of Local 10 from 1929 to 1945.

He joined the ILGWU general staff in 1945 as assistant executive secretary and was elected a vice president and member of the executive board in 1947. At the same time, he became manager of New York undergarment Local 62.

In 1956, he moved up to the new post of executive vice president, then became general secretary-treasurer in 1959. His union career culminated in election to the presidency in 1966.

During Stulberg's nine-year tenure as president, the ILGWU achieved substantial gains in members' benefits, winning wage increases totalling some 65 percent and doubling monthly retirement benefits to $100.

Along with his ILGWU career, Stulberg served many labor, government and public service organizations. He has been a member of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations, a fellow of Brandeis University and is a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

Chaikin, 57, will serve the balance of Stulberg's three-year term as president, which runs until the ILGWU's 1977 convention. He will also remain as secretary-treasurer.

In accepting election as president, Chaikin paid tribute to the accomplishments of Stulberg and David Dubinsky, his immediate predecessors. He then told the board members:

"I'm of a new generation, born in this country, born in this century, not necessarily better but different, even as the challenges confronting us today are different."

Chaikin has been associated with the ILGWU since 1940, when he graduated from Brooklyn Law School. His assignments have included three years as director of the ILGWU's southwest division, associate director of its 95,000-member Northeast Dept. and vice president of the union.

He was elected secretary-treasurer by the ILGWU board in 1973 and was elected to a full term by acclamation at the 1974 convention. He was recently honored, along with Clothing Workers Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman, with the League for Industrial Democracy's annual award.

SOL C. CHAIKIN

Barriers to Voting

THERE ARE 40 MILLION men and women in the United States who cannot vote because they are not registered. In the 1974 elections, 38 percent of the U.S. eligible voters actually voted. National figures show that approximately 62 percent of the eligible voters are registered to vote, so the obvious conclusion is that in order to increase the number of voters, there must be an increase in the number registered.

Voter registration by mail would go a long way toward solving this problem. States that have adopted such a mail registration system have experienced a dramatic increase in registration.

But there is strong opposition to registration by mail and despite liberal support, Congress has been unable to pass a national mail registration bill. Even in the 93rd Congress, reputed to be a liberal Congress, it took considerable effort to move the bill through the Senate and it died in the House, victim of a 204-197 vote in which conservatives managed a parliamentary maneuver to block routine consideration of the rule under which the bill would be debated. And it passed the Senate only after a filibuster was broken on the third try—a monumental event in itself, since it was the first time since 1917 that a filibuster had been broken after two unsuccessful tries.

Ironically, Congress has already passed one register-by-mail bill, for our men and women in the armed services. So the principle of mail registration has been agreed to by Congress.

A national mail registration bill has been re-introduced in the 94th Congress and proponents have hopes of success. It is pending final committee action in both the House and Senate—so final action in both houses could come by the end of summer 1975.

Meanwhile, several states have taken the lead in trying to make registration systems equitable. They have provided mobile registration, door-to-door registration and several other methods. And Maryland, Texas, New Jersey, Minnesota, Kentucky, Utah, Montana, Alaska and Idaho have adopted mail registration—in one form or another.

These states' experience proves that registration by mail can produce the fullest possible citizen participation in the electoral process. Wider use of the method could open the door for those 40 million new voters who have never expressed themselves at the polls—undoubtedly for many reasons.

REGISTRATION LAWS have been used to prevent and control people in the exercise of their right to vote. A prime example of controlling a segment of the population were the poll taxes used by southern states to limit the registration of blacks. But even with the poll tax and other devices repealed, a wide variety of practices and barriers exist that are the equivalent of poll taxes—the restrictions and regulations which discourage people, primarily blue-collar workers, from registering.

In recent years, some giant steps have been taken toward opening the polls to more people, including the right of 18-year-olds to vote under the 26th Amendment, the protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and various court decisions.

But millions of people are still disenfranchised.

While the mail registration will not guarantee that people will turn out to vote, it will at least insure that they are able to vote—paving the way for 40 million disenfranchised Americans to begin to participate in the electoral process.

—From the May 1975 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

AFL-CIO News

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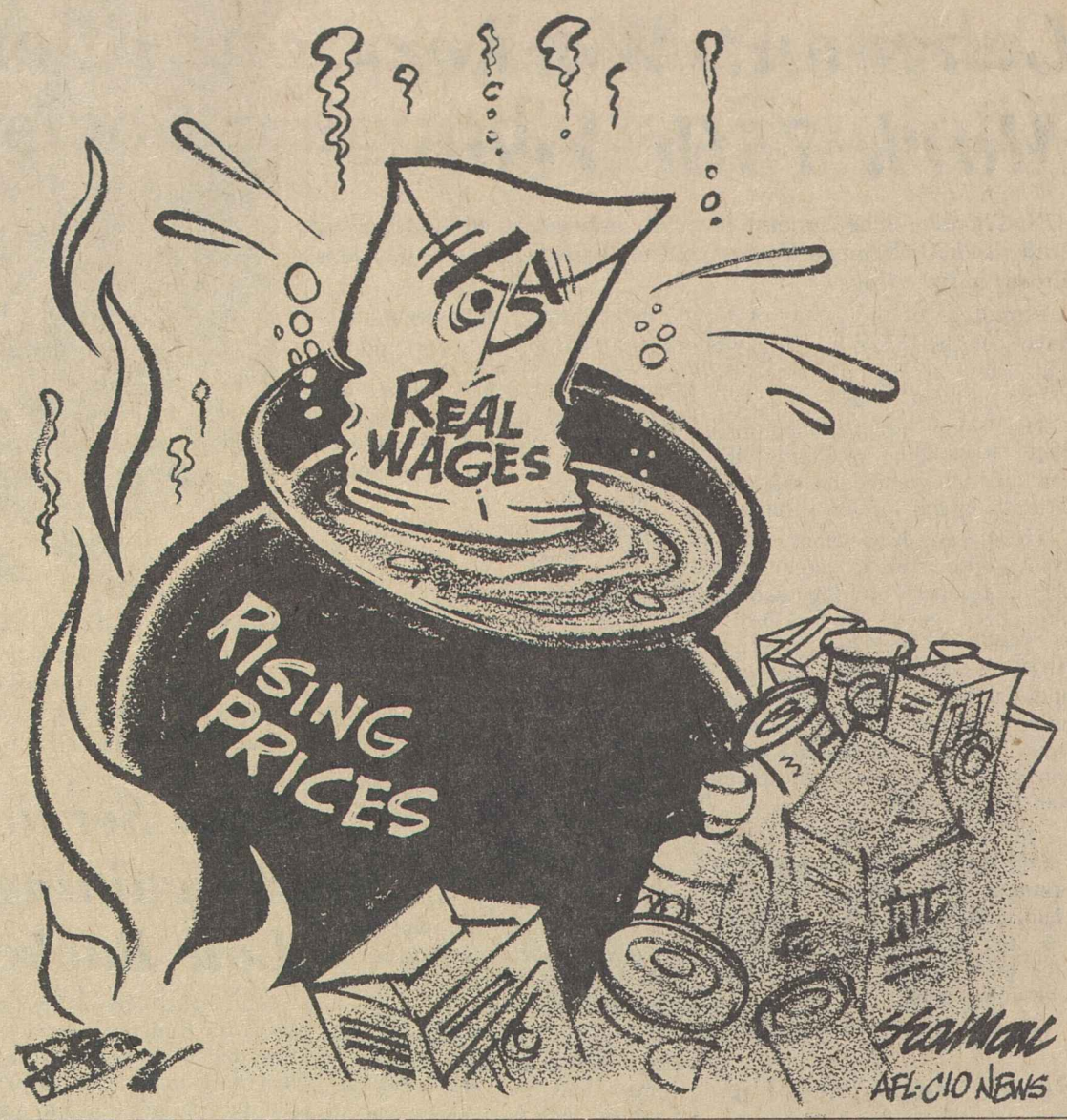


A Word Edgewise:

Vietnam Refugees Accept Risks In Fleeing Oppressive System

By Bayard Rustin

AMERICA IS FACING a moral crisis, and nothing reveals this more vividly than the debate over the Vietnam refugees. We have witnessed in recent weeks an orgy of mean-spiritedness, self-recrimination and intellectual duplicity in which, most deplorably, many liberals have played a leading role. A nation which attained moral stature as a haven for the oppressed now seems willing to turn away from its most cherished traditions. Truly we are experiencing a low point in American history.

I can understand why many ordinary Americans regard the refugees with hostility. The economy is in dreadful shape; competition along racial, sexual and age lines is accelerating; the arrival of another group is seen as exacerbating an already desperate situation.

The fear generated by high unemployment also accounts for the antagonistic response of a good number of blacks. For six years the government has encouraged policies and attitudes of racial neglect. Other causes and priorities have displaced the goal of racial progress on the national agenda. Black people believe that they are justified in asking whether the refugees represent another have-not group whose arrival signifies that Negroes will be shunted further aside.

But while the apprehensions about the economic impact of the refugees may be real, they are in truth unwarranted. Although the total number of refugees comes to about 120,000, the number seeking work is relatively small, about 30,000 or 40,000. Most, in fact, are children, including many orphans.

That the American people do not understand these facts is largely due to the failure of political leadership exhibited by many liberals. It is a frightening and discouraging spectacle when those who have traditionally stood by the persecuted of the world now take the narrow road, carping at and criticizing the request for political asylum.

Ironically those who, in oppposing the Vietnam war, criticized the American government for holding degrading and stereotyped views of the Vietnamese people now suggest that the majority of refugees are either criminals or political terrorists. One can hardly imagine a more degrading or unjustified stereotyping.

As for those, such as Sen. McGovern, who propose, either through naivete or dishonesty, that most refugees would actually prefer to return to their homeland, have they considered asking the refugees themselves?

The critics of our refugee policy are unable to accept a hard, simple fact: that refugees, like millions of others who have suffered religious or political persecution, prefer the uncertainties of American life to the certain oppressiveness of the political regime they fled. That ordinary people had much to fear from the Communist forces is borne out by the experiences of the Cambodian people: a whole population uprooted from its homes, families separated from each other, forced into what amounts to slave labor, the sick and aged left to die.

THERE IS AN ANALOGY between the situation of the Vietnam refugees and the experience of black Americans. During the 1940s and 1950s, southern blacks migrated in massive numbers to the cities of the North. They understood that the life awaiting them was not utopia and that they might be greeted with hostility by workers with whom they would compete for jobs. But they also recognized that the northern cities offered opportunities for personal and political expression as well as economic opportunities.

In a sense, they were seeking an alternative political, economic and social system to the rigid, caste-bound pattern of southern segregation. They were convinced that the change, despite its traumas, was worth the risk.

The response of the southern defenders of Jim Crow was that theirs was just another system, different from the rest of the nation's, but compatible with the needs of its people. This was, of course, absurd. Segregation was not simply just another system. It was a cruelly oppressive, ingrained way of life that affected the lives of every black person born into it. And I am convinced that, upon reflection, few Americans would deny that the Vietnam refugees are fleeing a system whose oppression is real and tangible, and not simply imagined.

Blacks have been at most but marginally involved in the controversy over whether America is moving toward isolationism in the wake of Vietnam. But if America indeed does embrace the mean, isolationist outlook, it will be its black citizens who will be the worse for it. For a society which rejects the dispossessed of the world, we shall discover, is a society that ultimately repudiates its own dispossessed. This is the lesson to be learned from the debate over the refugees.

Despite Built-In Handicaps:

Labor's Public Relations Effort Vital in Fast-Changing Society

The following is excerpted from an address by AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack to the Washington chapter, Public Relations Society of America.

UNIONS NEED public relations. In fact, we don't have a choice. Unions are news, and because they are news they have public relations.

So the labor movement can either make an effort at establishing good public relations, or it can do nothing and have bad public relations.

Times have changed since George Meany received his first public relations advice more than 50 years ago. Then, he was told: "Kick the damn reporter down the stairs."

Society is more complex. Issues—even labor issues—aren't easily separable into "white hats" and "black hats," like the old horse operas. The communications media have undergone a revolution of startling proportions. The labor movement, too, is much different.

Our members are being bombarded from all sides by the media—radio, television, newspapers, magazines, direct mail and their own union publications. Unions are in a competition for members' attention and loyalty and for their minds. It is not a competition we can afford to lose by default.

Therefore, we have to get labor's message in front of our members, just as we must take our message to the general public.

And to do this job, we start out with two strikes against us—a lack of money and manpower. The closest thing America has to a general national circulation newspaper is Walter Cronkite. To combat the natural hostilities of newspaper publishers, labor has a loosely-knit—but highly effective—press of its own. There is, however no national labor newspaper that goes to all union members—we simply can't afford it.

Neither can we afford a national advertising program. One minute of network prime time costs $60,000. Add the production costs, and the total is equivalent to the monthly per capita payments to the AFL-CIO for seven million members.

Let me put it another way: A one-minute television commercial, on one network, shown one time, costs as much as 20 issues of the AFL-CIO News—which informs union leaders of the news of the labor movement.

And I don't think I'm telling anyone here anything new by pointing out that the key to advertising is repetition.

Anyway, our members and the general public alike are naturally suspicious of advertising—and rightfully so.

A movement of people cannot be sold like deodorant—even though Americans once got a President that way.

The labor movement is too big, too diverse to have one public relations program. Dsepite editorials to the contrary, labor is not a monolith—one thought, one message, one program . . . all set forth by a cigar-chomping dictator.

Unions are more PR conscious. Regrettably, some still believe that the only thing to PR is a quick press release and outrageous rhetoric that someone will think is quotable.

Still other unions are worried about the high cost and effectiveness of what passes for public relations in the corporate world and, hence, shun legitimate public relations.

A few are ardent practitioners of the "kick-the-damn-reporter-down-the-stairs" type of public relations.

The biggest hurdle for public relations in the labor movement, however, is when it is thought of by union leaders. Usually, it is after the picket line has gone up . . . after the scab gets roughed up or a picket captain is in jail . . . after the opposing faction files for office . . . after the decisions are made.

Then the call goes out: "Send in whatshisname—the PR guy—to straighten this mess out."

IT IS MY BELIEF that so long as unions hide their good side, they shall constantly see their bad side in print.

The union official that operates in secrecy is open to criticism, rumor and misunderstanding. A union that lets management do all the talking to the press during negotiations faces the potential of pressure on union members by the general public and a membership that is unable or unwilling to defend their union.

Similarly, unions cannot count on the media to be sympathetic, especially if we don't give them the facts to be sympathetic about. For example, many unions and companies are being hit by EEOC suits. If the answer of the union official to reporters' queries is "no comment," then the story is one-sided. And union members confused.

So long as the labor movement fails to emphasize its democratic structure and the broad base of its political action programs, then it is doomed to be continually classed unfairly with big business in stories and editorials about political campaign abuses.

Stronger Stimulus Needed:

Low Ceiling on Budget Deficit To Cramp Economic Recovery

THE TOTALLY INADEQUATE $68.8 billion ceiling Congress put on the budget deficit will do little to spur recovery and may spell a "human deficit of 7 million unemployed people for at least the next four years," AFL-CIO Assistant Legislative Director Kenneth Young warned.

Young also assailed the "recovery-is-just-around-the-corner" forecasts of Administration spokesmen and economists, who say that a higher budget deficit would cause very severe inflationary problems.

With one out of seven workers either unemployed or underemployed and industrial production at less than 70 percent of capacity, Young asserted, there are no signs of this quick recovery, nor any danger of inflationary impact in trying to stimulate the economy toward full employment.

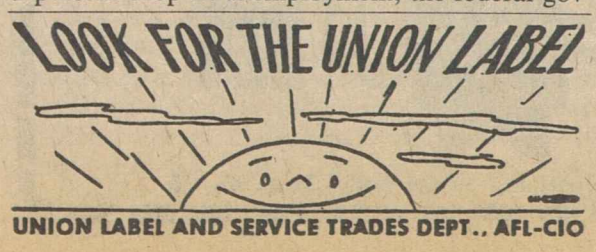
He said that "the way to cut the deficit is to put people back to work," pointing out that for every 1 percent drop in unemployment, the federal government picks up $16 billion in tax revenues and saved social costs.

"If the unemployment rate today were what it was when Nixon first took office, we would have a surplus in the budget," he declared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Young said that "a whole package of stimulus programs" is needed to make a solid move toward recovery. He said such a package should include substantial expansion of public service jobs beyond the 310,000 President Ford wants to hold to, accelerated public works programs, new housing starts, aid to the cities, work on the railbeds, and health insurance for jobless workers.

He said the argument made by a number of conservative economists and conservative members of Congress that increasing the deficit would create a money crunch "just doesn't hold water." He pointed out that many of the nation's biggest financial institutions say that the present economic situation poses no danger of a money crunch, and added, "We think that the banks that are saying that are absolutely right."

Young was questioned by Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine and Michael Posner of the Reuters News Agency.



Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

FOR MOST OF THE YEAR that William E. Simon has served as Secretary of the Treasury, he has enamored Wall Street and the corporate interests. Before coming to government he was a bond salesman with Salomon Brothers, an impeccable New York investment banking firm.

But now reports filtering through the financial publications indicate that Simon is slipping in favor as many of them are becoming disillusioned with that other disciple of "trickle-down" economics, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns.

Some of the business world, it seems, is coming around to the realization that pre-Hoover philosophy may not work in government—as appealing as it may sound in the chatter of executive suites. Actually, most businesses never have let the gospel interfere entirely with their operations, since few, if any, make their way on balanced budgets.

What "Simon believes" and "Simon says" was brought sharply into focus when he recently told a panel of the Senate Finance Committee about his—and the Ford Administration's—ideas on the kind of tax reform Congress should enact later this year.

The country needs higher taxes on consumers and more tax breaks for businesses and investors, Simon said. Translated: the tax burden should fall heavier on the poor, low- and middle-income families and the retired. It should fall less on the wealthy who buy tax-free municipal securities.

Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) wondered if Simon might be going a bit too far in advancing benefits to the rich so that they can disperse them to the rest of us, the "trickle-down" theory that is. But Simon doggedly stuck by his guns, reiterating that he would "prefer heavier emphasis most assuredly on consumption taxes.

As he and Burns have been doing incessantly, Simon also fretted about federal spending for programs to create jobs and advance social programs on the grounds the economy might recover too quickly, creating further inflation.

AFL-CIO President George Meany has drawn an analogy between such over-concern with inflation and the unimaginable attitude of fire-fighters who might decide to limit their output of water on the flames so as to avoid a mopping-up later on.

WALTER HELLER, chairman of President Kennedy's economic advisory council, and other economists, including professionals on the Federal Reserve Board, point to a number of available economic policies to curb inflation, if needed. The biggest danger, they emphasize, is that any economic rebound will not become a genuine recovery without solid government action to reduce unemployment.

Simon claims there already has been too much "tilt" in this country in favor of consumers in taxes. To enforce his argument for more sales taxes, he ticked off statistics to show that other countries such as France, West Germany, Great Britain, and Japan get a higher percentage of revenue from consumption taxes and less from income and corporation taxes.

Labor, consumer organizations and most economists oppose sales, excise, value-added and other types of consumer taxes because they are regressive. The more they are piled on, the more perversion there is of the doctrine that taxes are to be based upon the ability of a person or institution to pay.

William Simon is not exactly a household word. There have yet to appear any "Honk If You Love William Simon" bumper stickers, such as those honoring Burns. He isn't as famous as Earl L. Butz. But given a little more publicity, Simon may catch up.

HUMAN NEEDS, not dollar deficits, should chart the course for Congress and the Administration in shaping the federal budget, Kenneth Young, center, declared on Labor News Conference. The AFL-CIO assistant legislative director was questioned by Michael Posner, left, of the Reuters News Agency and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The AFL-CIO produced interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

MEAT CUTTERS legislative conference hears an address by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, one of several key speakers appearing before the 500 union delegates at the three-day meeting in Washington. The conference focused on labor's efforts to push through Congress anti-recession, job-creating programs and extension of the Voting Rights Act.

Environmental Agency Projects Lower Costs on Plant Noise Curbs

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the cost of reducing noise in workplaces to safer levels is only about one-third the amount projected by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

In testimony before a Senate subcommittee, an EPA official set the cost of a 10-year program to limit occupational noise to 85 decibels at $11.7 billion. OSHA had earlier estimated that the noise reduction program would cost industry $31.6 billion over ten years.

Dr. Alvin F. Meyer, EPA deputy assistant administrator for noise abatement and control, told the Senate panel that the lower cost estimate is based on a recent accoustical engineering study that takes into account new technological developments in sound-proofing.

Occupational safety experts in organized labor and the EPA have called for a federal standard that would limit industrial noise to 85 decibels. OSHA has proposed a 90-decibel standard on the grounds of technological feasibility and economic impact on employers.

Irritating sounds are about 75 percent louder at the 90-decibel level than at 85.

The EPA and OSHA are involved in a continuing battle on noise control, with EPA consistently calling for lower levels of noise than OSHA. Under the Noise Control Act of 1972 all federal agencies must coordinate their noise regulations and research with those of the environmental agency.

While the EPA has been supporting the position of organized labor for lower noise levels, OSHA has reflected the attitudes of the Ford Administration that the added costs for employers would be excessive.

The Administration's cost factor was stressed in a speech by President Ford to the Chamber of Commerce. Attempting to assure the Chamber that he is on its side in opposing stricter noise controls in industry, Ford even exaggerated OSHA's estimated costs tenfold.

"Is it worth as much as $30 billion a year of consumers' dollars to reduce the level of occupational noise exposure by approximately five decibels?" Ford asked in his address.

He said that the question "is not whether we want to do something about noise and safety, but whether making changes in our regulations would make sense in terms of the costs added and benefits gained."

In his Senate testimony, however, Meyer stressed that uncontrolled noise pollution imposes excessive costs on workers and society. He cited increased compensation claims for illness and injury, hidden personal costs of medical care and the added costs of litigation.

In addition to causing hearing loss and other worker illness, Meyer pointed out, noise increases accident rates and decreases worker productivity—causing further economic losses to industry. These include wages paid under continuation plans, fringe benefits to absent workers, overtime pay to other workers, padded employment to compensate for expected absences, and poor quality or defective products that are produced when key workers are absent.

Meyer also cited studies of the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health that show absences in heavy industry are significantly greater in high-noise areas than in low-noise areas. The number of lost-time accidents is greater in noisy plant departments, he said.

Public hearings will be held in late June on OSHA's proposed 90-decibel noise standard for workplaces. Employer groups are expected to line up with OSHA to defend the higher noise levels, while the EPA and AFL-CIO affiliates press to reduce the level to 85 decibels.

Union Program Deters Unnecessary Surgery

New York—A new surgical consultation program provided by a Textile Workers' contract has discovered that more than one out of every four elective surgical operations recommended to union members by their physicians were found unnecessary by a second consulting physician.

Instituted 10 months ago, the TWUA program presently covers only employes and eligible dependents under the union's dyers and printers agreement with mid-Atlantic area employers. The contract provision gives the division's members the right to obtain a separate opinion from another qualified surgeon at no cost.

William Gordon, director of the plan, noted that findings of the new consultation program show "at least 30 percent of all operations performed in the United States are unnecessary."

"It is of the utmost importance to obtain an opinion from another surgeon," Gordon notes, "as studies among union members and others show that an average of one-third of elective surgery originally recommended was decided against after a second surgical consultation, and medical records further indicate that 50 percent fewer operations are performed under health plans such as ours than there are in cases where surgery is performed at a profit by private doctors."

Gordon further notes there is a 3-4 percent statistical risk of death connected with most surgery, thus making an additional surgical opinion "extremely valuable."

The dyers and printers consultation plan includes consultation, examination, laboratory fees, X-rays and performance of the operation by the consulting surgeon if desired. The program is completely paid for under existing insurance coverage.

If the consulting surgeon deems an operation necessary, the plan provides that the participating surgeon will perform the operation and accept whatever is allowed under the basic and major medical programs without any cost to the employe.

"This amounts to a full-service program whenever consulting surgeons are used," Gordon noted.

Shelepin 'Resigns' Soviet Labor Post

Moscow — The state-controlled "trade unions" of the Soviet Union have lost their leader, Alexander Shelepin. He quit after losing his position with the Communist Party's Politburo a month earlier.

Shelepin officially resigned "at his own request" at a meeting of the central committee of the All-Union Council of Trade Unions of the USSR. No announcement was made as to who his successor will be.

Before his appointment to the labor post, Shelepin was head of the Soviet secret police, the KGB.

In March, Shelepin visited England in one of his rare trips outside the USSR as a guest of the British Trades Union Council. The visit was cut short in the face of protest demonstrations by British union members and sharp criticism from the press.

Ford Tariff Opposed:

House Energy Bill Held 'Far Superior'

(Continued from Page 1)

the bill, Biemiller said, because the Administration plans would have a "devastating" impact and the committee bill "more closely approaches the AFL-CIO's proposals to meet America's energy goals while considering the problems of individuals."

Biemiller said the committee bill "makes it possible for Americans who use gasoline sparingly to pay virtually no additional tax."

The committee bill establishes a quota on imports of petroleum products, with a degree of flexibility given the President to raise or lower the quota.

It would finance an energy development trust fund with a 3-cents-per-gallon tax. An additional tax would be imposed starting in 1977 if U.S. gasoline consumption rose above the 1973 levels—to a maximum of 20 cents a gallon.

This tax, however, would be refunded to most people through a tax credit that would amount to a rebate of the added tax on 40 gallons a month of gasoline for every taxpayer and dependent aged 16 or over—whether or not the person owned or drove a car.

There would be additional credits to reduce the tax for gasoline used for business, for public transit, for work-related travel which would cover travel to different worksites, as would be common for construction or migrant workers, but not to a permanent place of employment.

The bill also includes an allowance for insulation and other means of lowering home fuel costs. It would set up fuel efficiency standards for auto manufacturers, starting in 1978, with a graduated tax only if a company's output failed to meet these standards.

Biemiller asked House members to restore to the bill a provision deleted by a last-minute committee action — establishing a federal agency to purchase and resell for domestic use oil imported into the United States.

He stressed the AFL-CIO's belief that "the United States must adopt a strong energy conservation program that will lead to greater self-sufficiency and greater industrial independence."

The remnants of oil price controls that Ford wants to remove have kept domestic oil prices generally from soaring to the level of the Arab-set price of imported oil.

It applies only to "old" oil—that is, oil produced in fields that were functioning in 1972 and only up to the level of the 1972 production.

But oil produced from the same fields in excess of the 1972 volume and oil produced from new oil wells can be sold for whatever the market will bear.

Ford echoed the oil industry's contention that it needs bigger profits—despite two years of huge income—as an incentive to seek out and develop new oil sources or get all the usable oil out of marginal operations.

The President also sought to link his veto of the labor-supported strip mining bill—a measure designed to protect the countryside from being permanently desolated by surface mining operations—to the need for increased coal output.

House leaders had put off an attempt to override the veto because they wanted more time to round up a two-thirds majority needed to repass the bill.

Rubber, Oil Unions Shift Conventions

Two unions that hope to merge this year have scheduled conventions at nearby locations to start on Oct. 13.

The Rubber Workers will meet at the Americana Hotel in Bal Harbour, Fla.; the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers will meet in Hollywood, Fla., at the Diplomat Hotel.

If a final merger agreement has been worked out by then, it will be submitted to the delegates for approval. If both unions approve, delegates to the two conventions will then meet jointly to launch the merged union.

Executive boards of the two unions approved a preliminary merger agreement earlier this year and committees are continuing efforts to shape a proposed constitution.

'75
AFL-CIO UNION-INDUSTRIES SHOW
JUNE 6-11
MECCA Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Union Label and Service Trades Dept., AFL-CIO

Concentration of Power:

Huge Corporations Wield Dominant Role in Economy

Big business—growing bigger by the decade—dominates the United States economy to the point where the nation's prosperity and the jobs and incomes of millions of Americans are vitally affected by corporate decisions.

All too often, AFL-CIO Economist Markley Roberts notes in the May issue of the Federationist, these decisions are made in a vacuum.

"There is no public accountability . . . no way for workers, consumers, regulatory agencies or even the elected public policymakers to get essential information on the structure and operations of big business," Roberts observes in the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine.

Workers have a direct interest in getting more information about the corporations with which they bargain, Roberts points out. Without sufficient data on a company's costs, prices and profits, effective bargaining is difficult if not impossible.

"Much more adequate public disclosure of basic economic information is needed," the author declares, noting that the AFL-CIO has called on Congress for a comprehensive investigation of the structure of the U.S. economy.

Specifically, the federation wants Congress to examine the role of mergers and acquisitions in increasing economic concentration, the interlocking relationships among the giant corporations and banks, their control of key parts of the U.S. economy, their effects on prices, income distribution, America's position in the world economy, and the impact of these tremendous aggregations of economic power on democratic institutions.

The nation's 400,000 manufacturing firms account for less than 4 percent of all business enterprises, for instance; but this 4 percent accounts for 40 percent of all business receipts. And these manufacturing firms have a very high degree of concentration, Roberts notes.

A very small number of manufacturing operations — the top 100—get about 50 percent of all profits in manufacturing, according to the Federal Trade Commission. The top 200 get 70 percent and the top 500 get 80 percent.

He points out, for example, that about 3,000 of the nation's 14,000 private commercial banks are affiliated with bank-holding companies. The 100 biggest banks hold more than 50 percent of all bank assets.

In addition, a 1968 staff report by the House Banking Committee revealed that the 49 biggest banks held 5 percent leverage control in more than 5,000 major corporations as well as 8,000 interlocking directorships in more than 6,500 major business corporations.

"These banks also control billions in trust fund dollars, including pension funds," Roberts notes.

A 1973 report of the Senate Government Operations Committee noted a very high degree of concentration in stockholdings in a whole range of companies—energy, manufacturing, transportation, communications and retail trade—among a handful of New York bank trust departments.

Aggregate concentration of corporate assets, corporate profits and employment by corporate giants is one thing. Market concentration is another. In many industries, such as autos, there is a concentration of production, shipments and sales by the top three or four corporations.

This kind of oligopolistic "competition" often results in anti-competitive "administered" pricing actions, sometimes in violation of federal antitrust laws, "and almost always results in raising prices above competitive levels," Roberts notes.

The FTC estimates that because of this monopoly power U.S. consumers pay as much as an extra $80-$100 billion each year in higher prices—out of total purchases of $900 billion.

Mergers, which first swept the nation in 1897, largely explain the concentration in the industrial sector of the economy, Roberts observes. A second merger wave occurred in the late 1920s and a third round began in the 1950s.

"A new twist of this third merger movement was the conglomerate pattern of acquisitions of companies totally unrelated to the product lines of the acquiring company," Roberts notes.

The big U.S.-based multinational corporations spawned by the conglomerate movement operate through 10,000 subsidiaries and foreign affiliates all over the world and with no effective regulation, Roberts points out.

Often, such corporations make profitable deals directly with Communist governments. They export production and jobs of American workers, and they export capital and technology developed in the United States at the expense of the American taxpayer.

"This is eroding the nation's industrial base, and the shutdowns of U.S. plants—as production and jobs are shifted abroad — are undermining the strength of large and small communities throughout America," Roberts stresses.

Studies indicate a slowdown in productive efficiency, invention and innovation in big corporations and in highly concentrated industries, the author adds.

Thus, he notes, there is a strong economic argument for government policy on economic concentration —in addition to the basic social and political need to control and, wherever possible, to prevent gigantic concentrations of business power that can undermine democratic institutions.

Labor Studies Center Sets Schedule for June

A five-day institute on major problems in grievance arbitration will highlight the June program at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, Silver Spring, Md.

Ronald Haughton of Detroit, vice president of Wayne State University and a veteran arbitrator in the auto, airline and other industries, will cap the week's discussion with a professional's view of recent arbitration developments.

The institute is open to full-time officers and staff members of AFL-CIO unions. Participants will study the issues of subcontracting, seniority, promotions and management rights. They will examine trends emerging from recent cases and the latest technical developments, such as Expedited Arbitration.

The Arbitration Institute will open at 4 p.m., Sunday, June 1, and conclude on Friday, June 6.

During the month, four AFL-CIO unions will use the Labor Studies Center campus for staff and officer training. The schedule:

Paperworkers—A program to help local union officers recognize and deal with occupational health and safety problems in the paper converting industry. From 4 p.m., Sunday, June 8, through Friday, June 13.

Transport Workers—A seminar on grievance processing for TWU Flight Attendants. They will study each step in grievance handling. From 9 a.m., Wednesday, June 18, through Friday, June 20.

Meat Cutters—A seminar for local and international union organizers. Participants will examine the mechanics of each stage in an organizing campaign with special attention to small group communications, one-on-one organizing, committee meetings, mass meetings and campaign planning. From 4 p.m., Sunday, June 22, through Friday, June 27.

Graphic Arts—A seminar for the Graphic Arts International Union staff to examine union policy and legislative issues and to study arbitration methods, public speaking, organizing and affirmative action. From 4 p.m., Sunday, June 22, through Friday, June 27.

One off-campus institute on Collective Bargaining Techniques is scheduled for June in cooperation with the University of California at Berkeley. Participants will study testing skills, analyze both union and management tactics and key contract clauses, and review new developments in collective bargaining. From 9 a.m., Monday, June 9, through Friday, June 13.

More information on these and other center programs may be obtained from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Telephone 301/431-6400.

WORLDWIDE EFFORTS to improve living standards of workers in the mining industry are explored by U.S. delegates to a 22-nation conference at the International Labor Organization in Geneva. From left are Dean K. Clowes and Frank S. McKee of the Steelworkers and Joseph Miller of the Operating Engineers.

Broad Goals for Miners Charted by ILO Parley

Geneva—A blueprint for providing miners and their families better living standards was adopted at a 22-nation International Labor Organization conference here.

Trade union, employer and government delegates unanimously agreed that the improvements they charted during the 11-day session in social, educational and other facilities for miner families were in "no way to be regarded as a substitute for the payment of a fair salary."

The conference also emphasized that the supplying of such services was not to "prejudice the basic rights of workers," particularly the right to establish free trade unions and bargain collectively.

Addressing the session's final meeting on behalf of the worker delegates, Joseph Miller, international representative of the Operating Engineers, complimented all participants for the no-holds-barred discussion that resulted in a "job well done in all respects."

Miller represented the worker delegates on the conference's key steering committee and on the committee dealing with the welfare of miners.

His fellow delegate on the U.S. delegation was Frank S. McKee, director of Steelworkers District 38, while Dean K. Clowes, also of the Steelworkers, completed the AFL-CIO team as an adviser.

Commenting on the conclusions reached by the conference for submission to the ILO Governing Body, Miller said that a major advance was made in "clearly establishing the responsibility of governments and employers for providing social services and assuring safety practices."

"But at the same time," he continued, "the right of workers to participate in all phases of the planning of such services and the drafting of safety measures was firmly recognized."

McKee, who served on a committee dealing with vocational training as well as job retraining, said that he came away with the impression that the employers "conceded that there should be a worker input in the preparing of programs in these fields."

"The employers recognized," he said, "that it is not their responsibility alone to prepare workers for the industry and to retrain those who must shift to new jobs, but that the workers themselves must participate in all phases of this task."

When detailing the social services that should be available to mine workers and their families, the conference said that the primary aim must always be to assure them "decent living conditions and allow the development of normal community life."

Vocational training programs, the conference urged, should be provided with the intention of insuring that "employment offered by the mining industry reflects the best possible conditions and rates of pay."

The conference urged that special attention be given at the next session on the mining industry to trade union rights and collective bargaining, as well as to the impact of the working environment and of technological changes on miners' health.

Industry Line Laid to Head Of Price Panel

Chicago—Retail Clerks President James T. Housewright charged in an address here that the head of the Ford Administration's Council on Wage & Price Stability "has swallowed the food industry's propaganda — hook, line and sinker."

Housewright said the director of the council, Albert Rees, seemed to parrot the industry's line in favor of removal of prices from individual grocery items when he spoke recently to the National Canners Association.

Discussing RCIA's support of the consumer movement's efforts to keep product price marking, Housewright noted: "It is ludicrous to charge that price marking legislation will impede the introduction of automated checkout systems.

"At least 85 percent of the 'savings' that industry anticipates will be gained through introduction of the new technology could still be realized even if item price marketing were continued," he said.

"The cost to the consumer for price marking will be minuscule, while the protection afforded will be appreciable."

In his address to the National Canners Association, Rees also was critical of some recent collective bargaining agreements in the retail food industry, stating that he was "disturbed both by the size . . . and by new impediments to the improvement of productivity." He cited settlements amounting to 12 to 16 cents an hour in wages and fringe benefits.

Challenge Rejected:

OSHA's Vinyl Rule Clears Court Test

(Continued from Page 1)

Organized labor maintained in its briefs that the industry had more than enough time to gear for the improved working standard. In issuing the standard several months earlier, OSHA said it was post-dating it to allow employers to make the needed technological changes.

OSHA had determined that vinyl chloride was a carcinogen following Labor Dept. hearings a year ago which brought out extensive evidence linking fatal liver cancer to exposure to vinyl chloride. Thirteen deaths among workers in manufacturing and fabricating plants had been traced to their exposure to vinyl chloride.

At the time of the hearings, the government permitted an exposure level in workplaces of 500 ppm. The level was reduced to 50 ppm as an emergency temporary standard last April.

But even before the temporary standard went into effect, a number of vinyl chloride producers had reduced exposure levels for workers to below 10 ppm because of the mounting medical evidence that the gas was carcinogenic.

Although the allowable exposure is set at 1 ppm for an eight-hour period, the concentration of vinyl chloride may go to 5 ppm for 15-minute peak periods. Where employers cannot achieve the 1 ppm level, they are required to supply worker with respirators.

The use of respirators by workers is currently optional where concentrations of the gas go up to 25 ppm, but will become mandatory next Jan. 1.

Other key provisions of the standard require employers to:

- Conduct monitoring programs to determine where exposure levels exceed 0.5 ppm.
- Give workers and their union representatives "reasonable opportunity" to observe monitoring and measuring.
- Provide workers with protective clothing and equipment.
- Forbid any direct worker contact with liquefied vinyl chloride.
- Provide for periodic medical examinations of workers and maintenance of their medical records for at least 30 years.

The vinyl chloride rule covers an estimated 6,500 workers in vinyl chloride production and about 350,000 in plastics fabricating.

Social Security Benefits Due To Rise 8%

Thirty-five million Americans on the social security rolls will receive an 8 percent cost-of-living increase this summer despite efforts by the Ford Administration to impose a 5 percent ceiling.

After Congress made clear that it would not pass legislation to put a cap on the automatic increase that is linked to the consumer price index, Health, Education & Welfare Secretary Caspar Weinberger announced the 8 percent boost.

It will be contained in checks for June that normally are delivered on July 3.

A comparable increase will go to persons who receive Supplemental Security Income payments, starting in July. That will raise the minimum benefit to any individual without other resources to $157.70 a month and $233.60 to a couple. However, states that add an additional supplement to the federal payment have the option of lowering the state payment by the amount of the federal increase.

Weinberger complained that the refusal of Congress to limit the social security increase to 5 percent "will add inflationary pressures to the economy."

Labor and senior citizen groups had contended that the nation's economy needs the stimulus of added spending power—particularly a group that has been severely hurt by inflation.

Social security recipients also have received or soon will receive the $50 special payments voted by Congress earlier this year as part of the tax cut bill.

Each person on the benefit rolls is entitled to a payment. Thus, a widow with two dependent children would get a $150 check in addition to her regular social security benefit.

The $50 payments are a one-time benefit and are not incorporated in the monthly payments. The Treasury Dept. has mailed some of the checks but the mailing won't be completed until about June 20.

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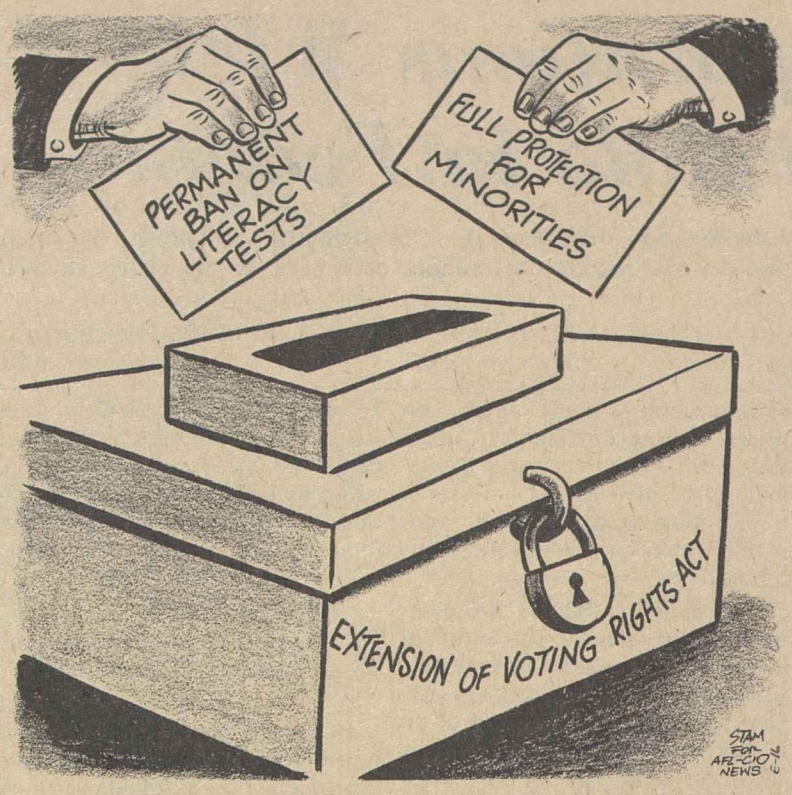
Aye Votes



76 Senators Urge Ford To Meet Israel's Needs

Three-fourths of the members of the U.S. Senate have formally called upon President Ford to submit to Congress a foreign aid request for fiscal year 1976 that "will be responsive to Israel's urgent military and economic needs."

In a letter signed by 76 senators, Ford also was urged in any "reassessment" of Middle East policy to "make it clear, as we do," that the United States stands firmly with Israel in the search for peace.

"We believe that preserving the peace requires that Israel obtain a level of military and economic support adequate to deter a renewal of war by Israel's neighbors," the letter declared.

"Withholding military equipment from Israel would be dangerous, discouraging accommodation by Israel's neighbors, and encouraging a resort to force."

The President is expected to send his foreign-aid requests to Capitol Hill in the next few weeks.

The senators' letter followed close on the heels of a statement on Israel adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its spring meeting earlier this month.

In the statement, the council reiterated the AFL-CIO's "full support" for Israel, and called on the Ford Administration to "reassert, not reassess, America's commitment to democracy in the Middle East, to Israel."

Among those signing the Senate letter were 12 of the 17 members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Generally, the letter supported the major Israeli policy positions in the Middle East.

"We believe that a strong Israel constitutes a most reliable barrier to domination of the area by outside parties," the senators declared. "Given the recent heavy flow of Soviet weaponry to Arab states, it is imperative that we not permit the military balance to shift against Israel."

The senators noted the "desirability" of greater participation by Congress in the formulation of American foreign policy, adding that cooperation between the Executive and Legislative Branches "is essential for America's effectiveness in the world."

They emphasized their support of the President's efforts to strengthen U.S. ties with countries which share democratic traditions and help to safeguard American interests.

"We believe that the special relationship between our countries and Israel does not prejudice improved relations with other nations in the (Middle East)," the senators stressed.

New Arguments Set On Wage-Hour Issue

(Continued from Page 1)

gency federal wage controls."

Justice William H. Rehnquist was the only direct dissenter from the opinion written by Justice Thurgood Marshall. However, Justice William O. Douglas did not join in the majority opinion, stating that he didn't think the court should act in the case since the stabilization law had expired and there was no continuing bar to the payment of the salary increases.

The court had been expected to rule in its current term on the contention of the National League of Cities that Congress exceeded its authority in bringing all public employes under the wage-hour law, and particularly in applying overtime standards to police officers and fire fighters.

Instead, it scheduled additional oral arguments in the case for next fall. Meanwhile regulations implementing the overtime provisions for fire and police departments remain suspended.

The AFL-CIO, in a brief to the Supreme Court, defended the right of Congress to cover these public employees and said it has been "a national disgrace" that hundreds of thousands of state and local government workers have been paid below-poverty wages.

In another case of interest to labor, the Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether a disability insurance plan illegally discriminates against women workers if it treats pregnancy different from other conditions that prevent an employe from working.

The Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit last February ruled that a plan that denied income protection to employes unable to work during pregnancy and that required women to return to work within a specified time after childbirth violated employer obligations under the Civil Rights Act.

Arbitration Group Offers Mediation

New York—The American Arbitration Association announced it will now provide mediators and factfinders for disputes in both private and government employment.

The AAA has been the major non-governmental source for labor arbitrators for nearly 50 years.

AAA President Robert Coulson noted that most labor mediators will continue to be drawn from the professional staffs of government agencies. However, "we hope to supplement this important public service by offering a viable private alternative for appropriate cases," he said.

Officials of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, as well as former FMCS directors David L. Cole and William E. Simkin, expressed their support.

Labor Spurs House Action On Voting Law

(Continued from Page 1)

arisen out of the committee's attempt to eliminate voting barriers for "language minorities," primarily Spanish-speaking Americans but in some areas including orientals and American Indians.

One section of the bill would require that bilingual election and registration information be provided in communities where the language minority population is 5 percent or higher.

Under the committee bill, if bilingual election information is not available and the total voter turnout of a community with a significant language minority is less than 50 percent of the vote in the last previous presidential election, federal voting supervision would be established as has been done to ensure black voting rights in the South.

There appears to be less controversy over making permanent the ban nationwide on literacy tests that is now part of the law.

The Judiciary Committee report quoted from a Supreme Court decision upholding the temporary nationwide ban on literacy tests the statement that "the tests have been used at times as a discriminatory weapon against some minorities, not only Negroes but Americans of Mexican ancestry and American Indians; that radio and television have made it possible for a person to be well informed even though he may not be able to read and write."

As to the case for continuing federal supervision, the House committee report noted that there is still a wide gap between black and white voter registration in some rural areas, despite a general improvement.

It cited evidence developed in committee hearings of such barriers as limited and inconvenient times for registration, discourtesy to applicants and discriminatory purges of voting rolls.

Dues Rebate Appeals Set By AFSCME

Three labor relations experts have agreed to serve on a panel established by the State, County & Municipal Employees to review requests for per capita tax rebates by non-members who are represented by the union but object to its partisan legislative activities.

The three members of AFSCME's Rebate Review Panel are David A. Morse, impartial chairman of the Coat & Suit Industry of New York and former director-general of the International Labor Organization; Donald W. Haughton, vice president for urban affairs of Wayne State University, and Harry T. Edwards, professor of law at the University of Michigan Law School and a labor arbitrator.

The panel will decide on appeals for per capita tax rebates by non-members covered by agency shop agreements. Under the union's constitution, both members and non-members may appeal to the AFSCME Judicial Panel for rebates. Members may appeal decisions of the Judicial Panel to the union's conventions while non-members will take their appeals to the Rebate Review Panel.

House Fails to Reverse Job Fund Veto

Override Beaten By GOP Shifts

President Ford made his veto of a job-financing bill stick as the House failed by five votes to muster the two-thirds majority needed to override the veto.

In the crunch, most Republicans who had voted two weeks earlier for the emergency job funds—a key element in efforts to restore full employment to the economy—bowed to White House pressure and abandoned the bill.

On the 277-145 vote, 258 Democrats and 19 Republicans voted to override the veto. They were blocked by 123 Republicans and 22 Democrats.

The vetoed bill would have appropriated $5.3 billion to finance an estimated 900,000 jobs. There was added money for public works projects, for public service employment, summer youth jobs, work-study programs and an assortment of other quick-stimulus projects.

In a letter sent to all House members before the vote, AFL-CIO President George Meany had urged Congress "to restore compassion and economic sense to this nation's economic policy by voting to override the President's veto."

Meany termed the measure "of vital importance to the 8 million unemployed and their families" and "an absolute first step if the human recession of unemployment is to be turned around."

Meany stressed that "the answer to America's economic problems is jobs" and a vote to override the veto represents a vote for jobs.

To President Ford, however, the bill "would exacerbate both budgetary and economic pressures" and provide "too much stimulus" for the economy. Besides, the President said, economic recovery will be "well underway" later this year.

Ford followed up his veto action with a phoned message to House Republicans made from the plane taking him to West Point for a commencement speech. Ford's message, relayed by Republican Leader John J. Rhodes, was that his program to combat inflation and recession depended on sustaining the veto.

Later, House Republican Conference Chairman John B. Anderson (R-Ill.) described the outcome as "the sweetest victory the President has had."

When the House voted final approval of the bill in mid-May, despite strong indications of a

(Continued on Page 8)

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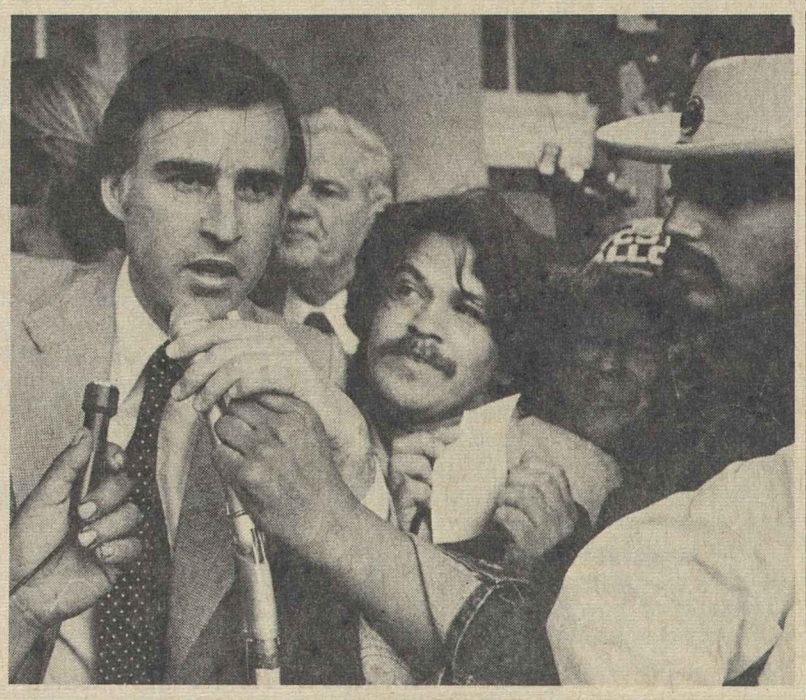
Severe Joblessness Hits Record 127 Major Areas



JUBILANT FARM WORKERS, gathered on the steps of the California state capitol building in Sacramento, hear Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., announce full agreement on collective bargaining legislation for agriculture. Behind the governor is John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the State AFL-CIO, who pledged full support to the UFW in representation elections for field workers. The new law becomes effective Aug. 28.

Sharp Increase Adds 22 Centers in Month

Substantial unemployment—defined as a jobless rate of 6 percent or more that is expected to continue for at least two more months—engulfed the nation's key job centers in April.

The number of major labor areas classified by the Labor Dept. as having substantial joblessness rose sharply to a record 127 in April with the addition of 22 new areas.

"The rise from 105 in March to 127 among the 150 major areas surveyed each month marked the second month in a row that the figure was the highest since the present classification system was started in May 1955," the Labor Dept.'s Manpower Administration noted.

In April 1974, the number of job markets that fitted the Labor Dept.'s definition of substantial unemployment was 43. The list of areas with substantial joblessness reached the previous high of 101 in April 1961, but that was topped in March when the list swelled to 105.

The 22 newly listed areas raising the total to 127 in April are Birmingham and Mobile, Ala.; Little Rock-North Little Rock, Ark.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Baton Rouge, La.; Baltimore; Minneapolis-St. Paul; Manchester, N.H.; Rochester, N.Y.; Columbus, Ohio; Harrisburg, Lancaster and Reading, Pa.; Charleston and Greenville-Spartanburg, S.C.; Chattanooga, Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange, Corpus Christi and San Antonio in Texas, and Charleston, W.Va.

In all of the newly classified areas except Mobile, Jacksonville, Baton Rouge, Charleston, S.C., San Antonio, and Charleston, W.Va.,

(Continued on Page 8)

House Acts To Extend Voting Law

The House approved a 10-year extension of the Voting Rights Act and widened its jurisdiction to include Spanish-speaking Americans and other "language minorities" as well as southern blacks.

Also in the bill that now goes to the Senate is a permanent nationwide ban on the use of literacy tests as a qualification for voting.

The original Voting Rights Act, in 1965, barred literacy tests in sections of the country where they had been used as a subterfuge to keep Negroes from registering to vote.

When the law was renewed for another five years, in 1970, Congress wrote in a nationwide ban on literacy tests to run until Aug. 6, 1975, when the present law expires. The House-passed bill would make the ban permanent.

The AFL-CIO and civil rights

(Continued on Page 8)

Breakthrough in California:

Bargaining Law Set For Farm Workers

Sacramento—A new collective bargaining law will give California's farm workers the right to pick the union they want to represent them, starting Aug. 28. They will vote in state-supervised collective bargaining elections, to be held within seven days after workers on a farm have petitioned for union representation.

All segments of labor supported the new farm labor law—including the United Farm Workers, other AFL-CIO affiliates with members who could be affected, and the Teamsters.

It also had the backing of major farm employers, including a number of growers who had signed contracts with the Teamsters in an effort to push out or keep out the UFW.

Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., who helped shape the bill, called the legislature into special session so that it could be passed as an emergency measure and take effect after 90 days. Otherwise, it would have been delayed until 1976.

The astonishingly broad support for the bill after some last-minute clarifications was reflected in the bipartisan 31-7 vote in the state Senate, followed by 64-10 approval in the Assembly. Brown signed the measure on June 5th.

If the bill works as its sponsors anticipate, workers on each farm will decide which union, if any, will bargain for them through a procedure that is similar but not identical to federal labor law.

Existing contracts, most of them held by the Teamsters, will not be bars to a representation election

(Continued on Page 3)

White House Forecast Grim on Job Outlook

The Ford Administration presented new economic forecasts acknowledging that the recession is worse than it anticipated in February and that the prospect of a return to full employment in this decade is virtually nil.

In its midyear review of the 1976 budget and related economic data, the White House predicted joblessness for 1975 as a whole will average 8.7 percent, or about 8 million unemployed workers, instead of the 8.1 percent estimated earlier.

Chairman Alan Greenspan of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, briefing reporters on the revised outlook, predicted the nation's unemployment rate—8.9 percent in April—would peak at a level "modestly above" 9 percent "in the next several months" before turning downward.

The White House also predicted a larger drop in the nation's 1975 real gross national product—the value of the total output of goods and services adjusted for inflation.

(Continued on Page 8)

Labor Protests Moves For Tariff Concessions

The AFL-CIO called for the tightening of tariff regulations on job-eroding imports while urging Congress to reject Trade Act amendments that would expand the list of countries qualifying for duty-free shipments of products to U.S. markets.

In a statement submitted to a House Trade subcommittee and to the International Trade Commission, the federation warned that the American economy could not absorb the additional shock of zero tariffs at this time.

With the nation's official unemployment rate at 8.9 percent, the statement noted, a program of encouraging more imports into the United States would result in more lost jobs and continued unemployment for millions of American workers.

It said Congress should repeal Title V of the 1974 Trade Act under which tariff-free preferences could be extended to all but a few countries. Proposals now before Congress would lift the restrictions against most of the remaining countries and thus widen the list of countries in line for preferred tariff treatment.

"Opening U.S. markets to more imported products at a time of record U.S. joblessness is not simply momentary bad timing," the

(Continued on Page 6)

FORMER AFL STAFF MEMBERS, Margaret Scattergood, left, and Marjorie Clark Egloff present copies of Florence Thorne's book—Samuel Gompers, American Statesman—to the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center. The center's executive director, Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., accepts the books. Miss Thorne, who died two years ago, had been research director with the AFL.

Labor Publications Face New Postal Rate Boost

A proposal to cut the cost of mailing a first-class letter from 10 cents to 8½, making up the lost revenue by raising rates on other types of mail, has aroused strong opposition from users of the U.S. Postal Service and from the service itself. Among other things, the recommendation poses the prospect of sharply higher mailing costs for union publications.

The proposal was advanced by Seymour Wenner, chief administrative law judge (hearing officer) for the Postal Rate Commission, who for the last 20 months has been hearing testimony on an application by USPS for a higher rate schedule.

In accordance with the terms of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, the rates asked by USPS back in 1973 have been in effect on a "temporary" basis ever since. It had been expected that they would be made permanent, with minor modifications, by the rate commission and the USPS board of governors—and that after a 100-day wait required by law, USPS would petition for a new rate increase, featuring a 13 cent stamp for letters.

Wenner's decision, if it survives the review and appeals procedures ahead, would block that plan. The law limits any single hike on first-class mail to one-third the old rate; 8½ cents could go only to 11⅓.

However, most of the controversy involves the impact of Wenner's proposal on other classes of mail. For example:

- The present schedule of rate increases on trade union periodicals and others that travel under non-profit second class permits, which provides for annual increments through 1987, is already considered by the International Labor Press Association, AFL-CIO, to be a heavy burden for most unions. Wenner would raise that schedule at an accelerating pace—20 percent this year, 42 percent next year, 63 percent by 1987, at which time a one-ounce labor paper would cost about 4.2 cents to mail. (In 1970 it cost 0.2 cents.)
- Parcel post, though suffering from the competition of the privately-run United Parcel Service, would have to raise its rates 57 percent.
- Air mail letters which USPS wants to abandon in favor of an all-air first class—now the general practice—would go to 15 cents an ounce, but airmail post cards would drop from 11 cents to 10.
- Third class bulk mail, mostly "occupant" advertising, would rise only 7 percent.
- Regular second class mail, nearly all made up of commercial magazines, would pay 24 percent more on editorial content immediately, and 51 percent more—15.7 cents a pound total—at the end of its five-year phasing period. The per-piece charge would reach 3.5 cents. Advertising content would pay proportionate increases on a substantially higher base.

Wenner arrived at these proposals by dismissing the USPS system of calculating postal costs and substituting his own. The key to both systems is how much of each postal cost is "attributable" to the various classes of mail.

The 1970 postal act says that each class of mail must bear the direct and indirect costs attributable to it, plus a "reasonably assignable" share of other costs. But certain preferred classes—nonprofit second class and in-county second class are the major ones—only need to pay their attributable costs.

USPS has calculated attributable costs at just under 50 percent. Wenner says they are 98 percent. Thus the "preferred" classes would get scarcely any preference. Ultimately, under Wenner's theory, a one-ounce labor paper would pay only a bit less than a one-ounce letter.

Wenner's decision is now open to the various parties in the rate case—USPS and nearly 40 private organizations, including ILPA—to file their views with the Postal Rate Commission and argue them orally.

At Anniversary Celebration:

Meany Tribute to ILGWU Hails 75 Years of Progress

New York — Leaders of labor and government joined in the 75th birthday party of the Ladies' Garment Workers, and AFL-CIO President George Meany led the tributes to a union that has pioneered in a host of progressive causes.

Meany spoke of the changes the ILGWU has brought to the garment industry and to the lives of its workers.

Still shockingly vivid, Meany said, is his teen-age recollection of the 1911 Triangle fire in New York that took the lives of 146 workers, most of them young girls.

He remembers also, he told the 1,500 guests at the union's anniversary dinner, "the anger, the militancy, the demonstrations" that led to changes and reforms.

The ILG has been fortunate in its leaders over the years, Meany said. He spoke of his long personal friendship with David Dubinsky, the union's president from 1932 to 1966, and of the leadership of his successor, Louis Stulberg, and Sol C. Chaikin, who is president-elect of the ILGWU and its secretary-treasurer.

Stulberg, recuperating from an operation, was unable to attend the anniversary dinner. But he sent, through Executive Vice President Wilbur Daniels, toastmaster at the dinner, a message of "love and thanks" to the membership and to the men and women who had given the ILG "the strength of their hopes, their dreams, their sacrifices, their courage."

Chaikin pledged to continue to move the union ahead as Dubinsky and Stulberg have done and to work to organize the unorganized.

"Too many of our people live in lousy homes," he said. "Too many of our people go to bed hungry at night."

Meany, the evening's principal speaker, stressed the broad concerns that have marked the ILG's history.

"It was vitally concerned with hours, wages and working conditions for its membership, reflected in better and better collective bargaining agreements," Meany said.

"But the union was concerned with much more—the health of its members, educational and cultural activities for its members."

While virtually the entire labor movement now is aware of the need for political activity, Meany noted that the Ladies' Garment Workers was one of the unions that "led the way."

He quoted as an example of the philosophy that has marked the ILG from its earliest years a 1904 charter asserting that "all human beings, irrespective of race, creed or sex, have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity."

In furtherance of that "global philosophy," Meany noted the union's support for victims of the Nazi dictatorship in the 1930s and its successful efforts in 1948 to help prevent a Communist takeover of Italy.

The ILG was a leader in achieving women's rights, Meany noted. He suggested that some of today's "well-to-do women's libbers" might read the union's history or look up the record of the Women's Trade Union League "and the role it played in helping to lift women out of the sweatshops."

Some of the early battles are still continuing, Meany noted. The hazard to an earlier generation of workers wasn't just from factory fires, he said. "It was also tuberculosis and the kind of accidents that result from fatigue—the kind of fatigue that comes from working 60 hours a week and then going home to take care of your children."

Meany added: "You would think that by now employers and the government would have fully recognized their responsibility in maintaining a safe working environment. But the fact is that we are still in this fight—with employers constantly seeking ways of undermining and crippling the Occupational Safety & Health Act."

New York's Gov. Hugh Carey and Mayor Abraham Beame were on hand to express their admiration for a union that has played such an important role in the affairs of the city and state. Other prominent public officials from areas where the union's members work sent messages of congratulation.

ANNIVERSARY BANQUET marking the founding of the Ladies' Garment Workers 75 years ago is addressed by AFL-CIO President George Meany in New York. The dinner, attended by numerous labor and government officials, was one of a series of anniversary events the ILGWU is staging.

Steelworkers Endorse Coke Oven Standards

The Steelworkers have called for speedy adoption of a proposed Labor Dept. standard to reduce worker exposure to hazardous coke oven emissions.

The proposal, which has the full endorsement of the USWA, was drafted by an advisory committee of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration that includes three labor representatives.

Recommendations of the advisory panel would provide for fixed standards of air quality, transfer of workers from coke oven areas without loss of pay or seniority, mandatory engineering controls and work practices, and workers' access to their own medical records.

The USWA noted that the recommendations do not cover all the safeguards it had sought, but said the proposed standard would be a long step forward in protecting the health of coke oven workers. The union which represents most of the nation's coke oven workers in the basic steel industry, urged Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop to put the standard into effect as soon as possible since "action is long overdue."

USWA President I. W. Abel had called for the development of coke oven emission standards as far back as July 1971, shortly after OSHA came into being. But little had been done until nine months ago when the advisory committee was formed — largely the result of USWA pressure.

Under the committee's recommendations, a worker could demand to be removed from a coke oven area without affecting his pay or seniority if he felt his health was being endangered by continued exposure to coke oven emissions. If a disagreement developed between the worker and the company, an outside physician would make the final determination.

The recommendations also call for the eventual reduction of coke-oven emissions to 0.2 micrograms of benzo-a-pyrene per cubic meter of air in the work environment. Benzo-a-pyrene is a known cancer-producing agent, the USWA pointed out.

The air quality standard would require detailed monitoring of work areas twice a year for particulates and annually for measuring levels of benzo-a-pyrene.

Employers would have to provide specific medical examinations for all coke oven workers and, for the first time, employes' physicians would have access to the medical records.

Representing the USWA on the advisory committee are District 15 Director Joseph Odorcich and Safety Rep. Daniel Hannan. Steven Wodka of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, is the other labor representative.

Breakthrough in California:

Bargaining Law Set For Farm Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

although they will remain in effect pending a change in union.

Election petitions will be considered only during high-season employment, when the workforce is at least half of the farm's peak employment during the year. The effective date of the law will correspond with high levels of employment in both the lettuce and grape fields—the key areas of competition between the Farm Workers and the Teamsters.

A union can obtain an election by petition of 50 percent of the workforce and a rival union can get a place on the ballot with a 20 percent showing.

Strikes for representation without an election are prohibited and the seven-day time limit between petition and election is intended to preclude delaying tactics that are common under the federal National Labor Relations Act.

An impartial five-member Agricultural Labor Relations Board, whose members are appointed by the governor, will supervise the elections and hear complaints of unfair labor practices.

Once a union is certified, it is free to strike at any time—including the harvest period. For years, farm employer groups had sought to prohibit harvest period strikes in exchange for any form of collective bargaining.

Unfair labor practices under the California law generally follow the precedents of federal labor law.

In the controversial "secondary boycott" area, the California law makes these distinctions:

- Actions by a union to keep struck goods from reaching the market place, such as using picketing to prevent store employes from handling the product, are prohibited.
- Picketing aimed solely at consumers, urging them not to buy a product, is permitted when done by a union that has been certified as the bargaining representative of the striking workers.
- Publicity other than picketing, such as peaceful distribution of leaflets, which asks the public not to buy certain products because the union considers the employer unfair would be allowed only if the union has not lost an election at the establishment producing the boycotted product within the preceding 12 months and no other union has been certified as the representative of the workers there.

One of the problems of interpretation that had concerned some AFL-CIO affiliates was worked out at a conference convened by the State AFL-CIO and incorporated into an amendment added to the bill with agreement of all parties. It makes clear that craft workers, such as building tradesmen using heavy equipment and constructing or repairing structures, will be able to maintain separate bargaining units.

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO, brought together UFW Director Cesar Chavez, President James Lee of the State Building & Construction Trades Council, and Jerry Breshears, executive officer of a Fruit & Vegetable Workers union affiliated with the Meat Cutters. The fruit and vegetable packing workers will be able to retain their separate units.

The agreement on the final terms of the bill brought a telegram of congratulations from AFL-CIO President George Meany to Henning for "a great job well done."

An enthusiastic rally of 2,000 UFW members and supporters at the state capitol cheered word that all obstacles to the bill's passage had been cleared.

Henning pledged the full support of the state's labor movement in the election campaigns that lie ahead.

Myra Wolfgang Honored By Michigan State U.

East Lansing, Mich.—Vice President Myra K. Wolfgang of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees received one of the two 1975 Distinguished Citizens Awards presented by the Michigan State University board of trustees.

LABOR'S VIEWS on the changing world situation are detailed by AFL-CIO International Affairs Director Ernest Lee during a briefing session at the federation's headquarters for labor attaches assigned to foreign embassies in Washington.

Supreme Court Ruling Narrows Antitrust Exemptions for Unions

A 5-4 majority of the Supreme Court opened the door to possible prosecution of unions under federal antitrust laws despite strong precedents and two lower court decisions to the contrary.

The dispute arose when a general contractor in Dallas—the Connell Construction Co.—sought to void an agreement it signed "under protest" promising not to employ non-union plumbing subcontractors in its work. The firm agreed after a local of the Plumbers picketed the jobsite and the contractor's workers walked off the job.

A federal district court ruled that picketing to secure a subcontracting clause is not unlawful and rejected the Connell firm's contention that the union was guilty of illegal restraint of trade.

An appellate court panel last year took the same position, terming the local union's goal of organizing non-union subcontractors legitimate and declaring that the local's efforts to achieve that goal were immune from antitrust penalties.

When the Supreme Court agreed to reivew the case, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce filed a brief in support of the antitrust argument and the AFL-CIO submitted a legal argument on the other side.

The AFL-CIO stressed that Congress and the courts have clearly established that a union's efforts to protect wages and working conditions do not violate antitrust laws, even if the intent is to eliminate competition based on wages and benefits paid to workers. There was no allegation, the federation noted, that the union action was the result of any "conspiracy" between the union and organized subcontractors.

The Supreme Court majority, which included all four appointees of former President Nixon, contended that the union action was subject to antitrust laws because it "indiscriminately excluded nonunion subcontractors from a portion of the market, even if their competitive advantages were not derived from substandard wages and working conditions."

Congress in 1959 specifically excluded the construction and garment industry from the labor law's ban on so-called hot cargo agreements. But the court majority sought to get around that exemption by contending that it only applied when the union seeking protection against use of non-union subcontractors has a collective bargaining relationship with the prime contractor. In this case, the Plumbers did not bargain for the Connell firm's direct employes, who were in other building trades.

The court did not hold that the antitrust laws had been violated, but it sent the case back to the lower court for trial on the issue. The four Nixon appointees were joined by Justice Byron R. White in the decision.

A dissent by the four other justices stressed that Congress clearly regulated union economic pressure against a "secondary" employer under the National Labor Relations Act and has repeatedly rejected attempts to bring such cases under the antitrust laws.

The majority decision of the Supreme Court was hailed by the Chamber of Commerce in a statement declaring that it "reaffirms the Chamber's long-held view that organized labor does not operate outside antitrust laws."

Both the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers have campaigned for years to bring unions under antitrust laws—a return to the era when workers banding together for their economic protection were regarded as engaged in a "conspiracy" in restraint of trade.

In an 8-1 decision in another labor case, the Supreme Court limited the extent of judicial review of a decision by the Secretary of Labor not to order a new election for union office under the Landrum-Griffin Act.

The case involved a claim by a defeated candidate for district director of the Steelworkers in a 1973 election which he lost by 907 votes out of 24,000 cast.

After a Labor Dept. investigation, the losing candidate was told that a new election would not be warranted. He sought to challenge the refusal in court, was turned down by a federal district judge but an appellate court sent the case back for a trial-type inquiry into the reasons for the Secretary of Labor's decision.

The Supreme Court held that the courts may not substitute their judgment for that of the Secretary of Labor and their only role is to examine the statement of reasons given by the Secretary of Labor to determine whether his decision is "irrational" and "arbitrary and capricious."

Clothing Workers Divert Pay Raise To Bolster Health Insurance Fund

New York—Members of the Clothing Workers employed in the men's and boys' clothing industry have voted to forego temporarily a wage increase due them June 2 to keep their health and welfare benefits program solvent.

Under the ACWA's agreement with the industry, workers were slated to receive a 27.5 cent hourly wage boost from June 2 to Sept. 29, as well as a cost-of-living increase amounting to another 4 cents.

As ratified recently by the union's members, the 31.5-cent raise will go instead to ACWA's social insurance fund to cover members and their dependents for the next four months. The wage boost will be reflected in workers' paychecks after Sept. 29.

The temporary diversion "will secure the stability of the union's welfare fund in the face of catastrophic economic conditions and will assure ACWA members in the men's and boys' clothing industry and their dependents, both working and laid off, a continuation of vital health, welfare and pension benefits," President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman declared.

The union noted that coverage for workers in the men's and boys' clothing field was in danger of being severely curtailed or suspended due to several factors. The recession, the worst since the end of World War II, has been particularly devastating in the men's and boys' clothing industry.

"Unemployment in the industry has reached over 25 percent, the highest of any manufacturing industry in the United States," Finley and Sheinkman observed.

An estimated 30,000 workers in the industry have been laid off, they noted. Under the union's contract with the industry, these workers and their dependents are receiving extended health and welfare benefits.

Even before the recession, however, two other factors threatened the stability of the union's social insurance fund.

"The rise in imports from low-wage foreign nations . . . had forced many American manufacturers to close their doors and made thousands of Clothing Workers jobless," the union said in a statement.

In addition, the fund's plight had been worsened by the steady rise in hospital costs—more than 50 percent higher than was anticipated when ACWA negotiated its contract with the industry in June 1974, Finley and Sheinkman observed.

The union's leadership denounced the economic policies of the Nixon and Ford Administrations "which have led the nation into this sorry plight." They added:

"The health, hospital, surgical and allied benefits which will continue for employed and laid-off ACWA members in the men's and boys' clothing industry . . . will enable our members to cope with a disastrous situation which they had no hand in fashioning."

Plate Printers Set Up Craft, Industry Unit

New York—Delegates to the 76th convention of the Plate Printers, Die Stampers & Engravers approved the formation of a membership committee to help develop programs to keep the union abreast of changes in the craft and the industry.

President Constantine Trochanis noted that prospects for the membership appear bright as the demand for their skills is on the upswing. He stressed the need for the union to maintain an effective apprenticeship program to fill job opportunities in the craft.

Of the union's 400 members, 90 are apprentices. The membership is engaged in the printing of U.S., Canadian and foreign currencies, stock certificates, bonds and other documents.

The 15 delegates representing U.S. and Canadian locals at the week-long convention re-elected Trochanis to his seventh two-year term. Other officers re-elected are Sec.-Treas. James Donegan, Jr., Vice Presidents Harold Ryan and John M. Kuiack, and Legislative Rep. Edward Snipes.

Delegates selected Ottawa as the site for the union's 1977 convention.

Two Anniversaries

A COINCIDENCE OF ANNIVERSARIES provides the proper time for examining parallels in the histories of our nation and our union. Even as we prepare to celebrate the bicentennial of one and the 75th year of the other, both are being challenged by tests of purpose and achievement.

Two centuries ago, brave warriors and wise statesmen created the first nation rid of kings and emperors. They assigned freedom to all the inhabitants thereof and in ancient words proclaimed liberty throughout the land.

But despite lives sacrificed, blood spilled in battle, hardships endured by colonial families in the bitter winters of the revolutionary era, freedom turned out to be a restricted blessing. Chattel slaves, before the Civil War, and wage slaves afterward were denied the full promise of the Declaration of Independence.

Within half a century of the American Revolution, party politics became the great game of consolidating and wielding power. Commerce, and later big business, developed corporate structures for whom the production of goods and services was secondary to the maximizing of profits.

Bursting with energy—its population expanding, its natural resources as gigantic as a continent—our nation became the envy and hope of the world. But even at the time of its peak power and soaring wealth, men and women labored endless hours, drew death in with every dust-laden breath in mine and sweatshop and allowed its children to be stunted by locking them into clattering mills.

Early in the 19th Century, workers seeking to improve the lives of their families through organized action were denied the right of combination enjoyed by their employers, and instead were brought to trial on charges of conspiracy. Captains of industry hobnobbed with legislators on all levels of government, with the result that law and public policy remained hostile to labor unions. Industrial servitude mocked the political freedom announced by the Founding Fathers.

OUR UNION, born in the brutal environment of slum and sweatshop, also had its founders, its times of bitter trial and battle and its triumphs in the cause of democracy. Our founders, like those of two centuries ago, had come to a new land in pursuit of freedom. We called our battle strikes, and our battle fields were picket lines. We stated our vision of human dignity in terms of wages, work hours, collective bargaining and industrial responsibility.

Today we confront doubts about national purposes and morale. Power and wealth have beclouded the vision. Everywhere—except in the ranks of the trade union movement—the controlling principle is for the self-aggrandizement of power and wealth.

Our union—and the great labor movement of which we are a part—marches to a different call. Our faith is that all Americans are inevitably involved with each other and with the rest of the world; that we rise together or not at all.

The good works and inspiring history of our union which we now celebrate testify to the power of that faith; the doubts that now bedevil our country make a return to that faith by all Americans a national urgency.

—From "Our Nation . . . Our Union" an editorial in Justice marking the 75th anniversary of the ILGWU.

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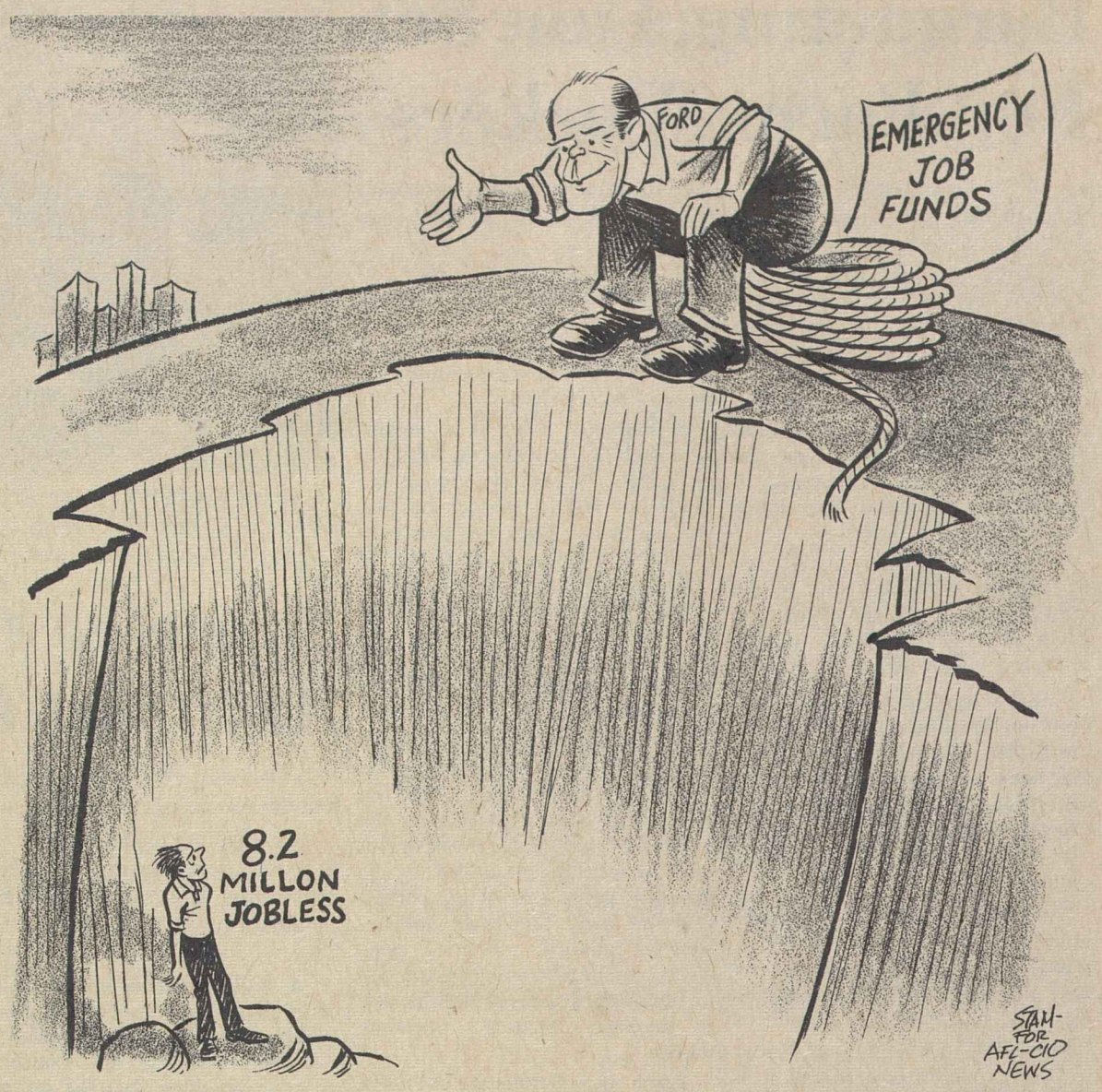

A Word Edgewise:

Bicentennial Faces Puzzle Of Benedict Arnold's Career

By John P. Roche

A FRIEND OF MINE learned in such matters tells of successive editions of the official Soviet history of the Bolshevik Revolution. The first had as its centerpiece a photograph of Lenin, Trotsky, Bukharin, Zinoviev, Kamenev and — standing modestly in the background — Josef Stalin. As the years and the purges accumulated, the characters in the photograph decreased rapidly until in 1936 only Lenin and Stalin (now in the foreground) remained. The text, of course, reflected this transformation. After all, Trotsky, Bukharin, Zinoviev, and Kamenev had been uncovered (and the last three confessed) as counter-revolutionary agents of imperialism. Similarly in 1954, after secret police chief Beria had been exposed as a CIA agent, libraries were sent a page on the Bering Sea to replace the item on Beria in the "Great Soviet Encyclopedia."

What brought this to mind is the terrible problem that faces the bicentennial celebrants in coping with Benedict Arnold. For example, the re-enactment of the capture of Fort Ticonderoga was done with Arnold in low silhouette, although he was as responsible for that superb coup de main as Ethan Allen. (Ironically, later as a prisoner Allen offered to join the British in return for a secure grant of what is now Vermont but was then claimed by both New Hampshire and New York. However, this information did not come to light for almost a century, when the papers of Sir Guy Carleton, the Governor-General of Canada, were published.)

But how can Arnold be omitted from the march to Quebec? Perhaps it could be called Burr's March—Aaron Burr was an officer in the expedition—but then Burr too does not emerge from American history exactly smelling of roses. The attempt to seize Quebec was a brilliant strategic maneuver; it failed by a whisker. Arnold was wounded in the assault: he did not watch battles through a telescope.

Probably Arnold's greatest contribution was a defeat. As Carleton's army began to invade New York, planning to move down Lake Champlain to meet a British force coming up the Hudson and thus divide the New England states from the others, Arnold—who among other things was a seaman—built a mini-navy on Lake Champlain. Carleton in turn had to stop his advance and bring down ships. In the resulting battle of Valcour Bay, the Americans were defeated, but the British timetable was thrown off a year and they abandoned the pincers movement.

Then, when in 1777 the British under "Gentleman Johnnie" Burgoyne again invaded New York, Arnold was everywhere. Deprived of any active command because of the jealousy of his totally incompetent superior, Gen. Horatio Gates, he was simply wandering around the Saratoga battlefield, and ran into some American troops literally looking for a leader. Never a man to miss a good fight, Arnold led the successful storming of the crucial British position on Bemis Heights—and, as at Quebec, was out front and collected another bullet.

IN SHORT, BEFORE HIS TREASON Benedict Arnold was one of the key figures in the American military command. Recall that it was the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga that tipped the balance at Versailles and brought the French into the war as full allies (unlike the Spanish who, while declaring war on Britain in hopes of recovering Gibraltar, refused to recognize the independence of the United States). And the role of these French "mercenaries" (as they would doubtless have been called in the Vietnam era) was decisive in the final defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Although there is some dispute among military historians of the War of Independence over the relative capabilities of Arnold, Nathanael Greene and "Mad" Anthony Wayne, there is no argument about Arnold's standing as one of Washington's three most talented subordinates. Thus, unless we are going to adopt Soviet-style historiography, Arnold's accomplishments deserve to be celebrated as much as his subsequent treason should be lamented and condemned. Those who find this proposition unpalatable might meditate on the fact that the Byzantine Church honored Judas Iscariot.

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Kirkland to Insurance Workers:

President's Battle of the Deficit 'Wrong War at Wrong Time'

The following is excerpted from a speech by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the Insurance Workers convention at Miami Beach, Fla.

IN A MODERN, COMPLEX, industrial society, the budget is the most accurate measure that we have of the responsiveness of the President of the United States and of the Congress to the needs of the people they were elected to serve. It is the most effective balance wheel that we have to sustain a stable and expanding economy.

The deficit is a measure, not of the largess, the generosity or the wastefulness of our government. It is a reflection of heavy unemployment and a declining gross national product which will be overcome only when unemployment is reduced and when the product rises. There really is no other way.

Today more than 9 million Americans are unemployed and a million of them have become so discouraged by the prospects that they have stopped even looking for work. Nearly four million are forced to work part-time because there just aren't enough full-time jobs, although they would certainly like to have them.

Twenty-five million Americans will be unemployed during some period this year. The rate of bankruptcies, both personal and corporate, is at a record high, the highest level since the keeping of these statistics was initiated. In the most human terms, all of these figures are just a form of shorthand for something that is much harder to describe — extreme hardship, crippled family life and case after case after case of personal ruin and personal tragedy.

There have been drastic changes in this country since the last Great Depression in the '30s and I believe that most of the consequences of those changes have resulted in the perception of economic pain or the threshold of pain being considerably lower than it was in those days.

It seems so long ago and the rate and pace of change has been so great that we sometimes don't realize the disparity of conditions. I want to mention just a couple. And they effect adversely today, with any decline in the economy, first those who are most vulnerable and least able to cope with any episode of unemployment or hardship.

In the 1930s, better than 50 percent of the black population of this country was engaged in agriculture and lived in rural communities. Today that figure is down at the level of 5 or 6 percent. There has been a massive influx, as people where driven off the farms of the South and other parts of the country, into the urban areas.

It is an urban society and it makes a difference. It makes a 10 percent level of unemployment just about as bad and just about as painful as perhaps 15 or 20 percent was back in these days of a more rural life. A fall is a little bit harder to take when you fall on the pavement, when you fall on the concrete, then when you fall into a bed of collard greens or cabbage.

And that difference is only partly overcome by unemployment compensation and by welfare. Certainly it is not overcome at all in terms of human aspirations.

Today when we need a sustained growth rate of 6 percent or better to reduce unemployment and to provide jobs for new workers coming into the labor market in droves every year, the gross national product—which is the measure of everything, all the goods and services that are produced in this country—is falling at an annual rate of 11.3 percent.

What has been the response of President Ford to this real and imminent crisis? He has officially projected a budget and a program which solidly contemplates a continuing level of heavy unemployment, leaving us with at least 7 million people jobless well into the year 1978.

The President has chosen to wage a battle of the budget and to stonewall the deficit. Most of you, I'm sure, saw him on television some time back where he had a chart and he drew that line for the American public to see, the point beyond which we shall not go in terms of the deficit.

Unfortunately all of those members of Congress that we helped to elect are in the process of delivering themselves into his hands.

THIS IS THE WRONG WAR, in the wrong place, at the wrong time. A war should be declared on unemployment, not on the deficit. For the deficit is a product of unemployment. For every percentage point that the unemployment rate is brought down, some $16 billion of additional revenues flow into the Treasury of the United States.

If unemployment were to be reduced, as it should be, by 6 points—to the same level as when Richard Nixon took office—there would be $96 billion of additional federal revenue and the problem today would be that of a substantial budget surplus instead of a $60 billion deficit.

Can the country stand a much larger level of federal expenditures and programs and a substantial increase in the national debt? The answer is, "Yes, we can. We have in the past and we must."

The business community, industrialists say that the problem will be solved by more profits, more incentives, more tax loopholes and less regulation. Our liberal friends, the academics and intellectuals, are completely cowed by the argument of the deficit and the budget.

The Administration says, "hold the budget line. We'll wield the veto." And somehow, sometime, some mysterious, unseen hand will, as a reward for their stern moralism at the expense of working people, descend from heaven and put everything to right in God's own good time, of course.

We say produce the jobs, put America back to work and higher profits, lower deficits will follow as they should. We propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

'Shortsighted, Callous':

Ford's Hold-the-Line Approach Ignores Critical Human Needs

PRESIDENT FORD'S hold-the-line approach to efforts to put jobless Americans back to work and ease the impact of the deep recession is shortsighted in both human and economic terms, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman charged.

Citing the President's proposal to reduce the 8 percent cost of living rise due social security beneficiaries under the law, Seidman described the move as "cruel and heartless." He said if the President thought Congress would go along with the idea, "he was being extremely callous to the needs of the elderly, and the disabled, and the orphans, and the widows who depend on social security."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Seidman said that while social security benefits have "gone up appreciably" over the last few years, those improvements were made on payments that were at "atrociously low levels" in terms of the needs of those Americans who depend on them.

He said that even with those improvements and even if the cost of living escalator "is kept up to where it should be," social security benefits still lag behind needs, "because the adjustments take place at drawn-out intervals." Reports of elderly citizens buying pet food for their own meals and others "scrounging in garbage cans" for food show how inadequate those benefits often are, he said.

Seidman said many members of Congress "have been fooled by the Ford Administration into, in effect, accepting the line that the budget deficit has to be held at . . . some artificial figure," despite the highest unemployment rate since the great depression. He cited the failure of both Congress and the President to include health insurance for the unemployed in their budget estimates and said the congressional committees are "afraid to even raise" the issue now.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

WHEN THE 94th CONGRESS convened on Jan. 14, Speaker of the House Carl Albert declared: "I have assured the chairmen of the appropriate committees that national health insurance will be one of the first bills."

As of June this seems to have been the high point of national health insurance. The "appropriate committees" that Albert assured have succeeded only in getting snarled in a jurisdictional mesh that would even defy a Rube Goldberg. And two Senate committees are battling for jurisdiction, too.

Hanging in the balance is not just health insurance but health coverage for the unemployed. Both are desperately needed.

The Ford Administration has made its questionable contribution in two ways: a threat to veto a meaningful health security bill and completely abdicating responsibility in declining to sponsor any health insurance measure in the 94th Congress.

There is solid support behind National Health Security. It has been sponsored by 95 members of the House and 17 members of the Senate and the number is growing. But if its supporters and other Democratic and Republican liberals can't resolve differences, health security will be little more than a 1976 campaign issue.

The Senate Labor & Public Welfare Committee has approved a measure, sponsored by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), to pay for health care for the jobless through general revenues. However, this is being held captive by the Finance Committee headed by Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) Senate Finance Committee.

The critical issue is private health insurance carriers. Kennedy, chief sponsor of National Health Security, wants to bypass the private carriers in health security.

He contends, as does organized labor, that private carriers take a sizable share of the health insurance dollar and provide no incentive for cost control. Long is committed to catastrophic insurance which, at this stage, can just muddy the waters.

Kennedy is urging that emergency legislation for the jobless, financed through federal revenues be passed now and be separated from national health insurance.

ON THE HOUSE SIDE is an even more complex jurisdictional tangle. The Ways & Means Health subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), has approved health insurance for the jobless. However, this bill goes far beyond the emergency measure and calls for a permanent plan covering ex-employes. The program would be financed through private carriers.

Battling the Rostenkowski subcommittee for health legislation jurisdiction is the Interstate & Foreign Commerce Subcommittee on Health & Environment chaired by Rep. Paul G. Rogers (D-Fla.). To fortify its jurisdiction, the Commerce Committee disapproved the Ways & Means bill and then approved its own substitute dropping the permanent part of the Ways & Means bill.

The conflicting moves and the host of parliamentary questions they raise have brought action on the proposal to a halt. Hoping to avert a bitter floor fight, key members of the two committees have been meeting to try to work out the jurisdictional problems.

Some observers believe that Rostenkowski would be willing to drop the permanent section of the jobless health insurance which would remove private carriers. However, the real issue is jurisdiction and which committee will handle national health insurance.

There's an additional roadblock, too. Neither the Ford budget nor the congressional budget provide any funds for health insurance for the unemployed.

If there is going to be any congressional action in this critical field, it will be initially up to the House leadership—Albert, Majority Leader Thomas O'Neill (D-Mass.) and Philip Burton (D-Calif.), chairman of the House Democratic Caucus.

If they cannot unsnarl the jurisdictional and fiscal tangle there won't be any health insurance protection for jobless workers and prospects for national health insurance, even in 1976, are dim.

PRESIDENT FORD's hold-the-line approach to job-creation and other steps to turn the tide of recession is "shortsighted" in both human and economic terms, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, charged on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Peter Milius of the Washington Post. The AFL-CIO produced public service program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

GOLD MERIT AWARD of the United Fund of Greater New York is presented to Conrad Olsen, left, president of the Carpenters district council, in recognition of $100,000 in contributions by the council and contractors for the fund's 1974 campaign. Richard E. Booth of the New York UF makes the presentation.

ILO Condemns Slaying Of Chile Union Leaders

Geneva—A fact-finding commission appointed by the International Labor Organization to investigate charges of reprisals against trade union leaders following the 1973 overthrow of Chile's Marxist President Salvador Allende reported that "many" labor officials were summarily executed or tortured to death because of their labor activities.

The commission noted that Chile's present military government "has failed to prove that these deaths took place for reasons other than that these persons were trade unionists or that they exercised trade union activities."

In a 122-page report, the commission said it had submitted to the Chilean government a "non-exhaustive" list of 110 labor leaders alleged to have been killed or executed up to the end of 1973. The report, just released after a four-week on-the-spot investigation in Chile at the end of 1974, said the government confirmed the death of 33.

The three-member panel said evidence made it clear that one of the government's aims was to "eliminate or prevent any large-scale opposition to its policy" by trade unions or their leaders.

The commission was headed by Jose Luis Bustamente y Rivero of Peru, a former president of the International Court of Justice. The panel heard witnesses here before going to Chile last November where its members conferred with Chilean authorities and visited detention camps.

The ILO's Governing Body, a tripartite organization representing labor, management and government, appointed the commission a year ago to conduct the investigation with the agreement of the Chilean government. It acted following strong protests from trade union groups throughout the world. The AFL-CIO at its 1973 convention adopted a resolution condemning the Chilean junta for its "sweeping suppression of political and trade union rights" and summary executions of political foes.

The Chilean government, meanwhile, has requested help from the ILO in reshaping its labor laws to insure a better future for Chilean workers. The request came from Chile's under secretary of labor, Luiz Ribalta Puig, in the wake of the factfinding commission's report.

A nation that "recognizes it has made mistakes," and has been passing through a difficult transition period "deserves the help that the ILO can give it," he said.

Expressing dissatisfaction with provisions in the projected revision of the Chilean labor code, the ILO commission made a series of proposals to "guarantee to the workers unhindered enjoyment of their trade union rights."

The Governing Body expressed "grave concern" over the commission's findings and called on the Chilean government to make a progress report by Oct. 1 on the action taken to carry out the commission's recommendations.

At a brief meeting prior to the ILO's annual June conference, the Governing Body made initial plans for a special session next year of all its member states to grapple with employment problems on a global scale.

U.S. Worker Delegate Irving Brown of the AFL-CIO observed that the ILO has a unique contribution to make on all economic and related issues because of its tripartite structure.

"Without the support of labor, proposals and resolutions of any international agency remain nothing but bits of paper," Brown declared.

CWA Strikers Score Gains At Rochester

Rochester, N.Y.—The 1,500 members of Communications Workers Local 1170 have approved a new contract with the Rochester Telephone Corp., ending a strike that began more than six months ago.

The agreement will provide CWA members wage increases and cost-of-living adjustments amounting to an estimated 34.1 percent over the next three years, plus fringe-benefit improvements.

Local 1170 negotiators hailed as a breakthrough the company's agreement to a completely union-administered health and welfare fund with improved company contributions.

The contract was approved by a margin of 3 to 1. Rochester Telephone Corp. is an independent telephone company outside the Bell System network.

The agreement was reached with assistance from the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. CWA President Glenn Watts participated in the bargaining sessions.

Convention Action:

Insurance Workers Approve Dues Hike, Expand Services

Miami Beach—Delegates to the Insurance Workers biennial convention here approved a dues and per capita increase to finance expanded services and compensate for the inflation of the past two years.

Overwhelming approval of a $2-a-month dues hike—to a total of $7.50 a month—came on the recommendation of a broad-based committee that President William A. Gillen said represented "all political views in the union."

Fifty cents of the increase will be earmarked to provide increased services to locals and members under a structure that divides the nation into 10 service areas.

Local unions within each service area will be encouraged to use the earmarked 50 cents to set up an area servicing staff. If this proves impractical, the international union will furnish the services and use the earmarked funds to provide help in such areas as grievance handling.

Gillen said the $1.50 addition to the union's per capita will avoid a cutback in legislative and educational programs—both of which have been expanded since the last convention—and will permit continued organizing progress.

He told the delegates that union education programs are "a necessity, not a frill."

At the state level, the union is pressing for laws that would protect against lapse of insurance during a strike by insurance agents and require adequate training before an agent can receive a state license.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland spoke to the delegates about labor's program for economic recovery and contrasted it with a Ford Administration budget keyed to continued high unemployment "well into the year 1978."

The jobless statistics, Kirkland said, are actually "a form of shorthand for something that is much harder to describe—extreme hardship, crippled family life and case after case of personal ruin and personal tragedy."

He noted that the nation and especially its black population is much more urban than at the time of the Great Depression of the 1930s and that a 10 percent unemployment rate can be as painful as a higher rate in a more rural setting.

"A fall is a little bit harder to take when you fall on the pavement," Kirkland suggested, "then when you fall into a bed of collard greens or cabbage."

As for President Ford's policies, "a war should be declared on unemployment, not on the deficit."

The convention's other major speaker, Director W. J. Usery, Jr., of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Services, foresaw continued union growth in the white-collar sector and noted that in Europe "white-collar workers are creating and joining unions at a mind-boggling pace."

Gillen reported to the convention continued organizing successes and a long string of victories in representation elections, mostly in small units expanding the union's bargaining base with the major insurance companies.

He said the union plans to step up efforts to organize clerks in district offices where the agents are organized and urged a broadening of the union's base because the era of debit agents calling at homes weekly to collect premiums is becoming "a thing of the past."

Delegates approved a $3,000 annual raise for Gillen, raising his salary to $20,000 a year, and increases for other officers.

Dock Workers Settle Container Rule Dispute

New York—The Longshoremen and waterfront employers in six North Atlantic seaports have resolved a two-month dispute with a new agreement on rules for handling ocean cargoes moving in containers.

Announced jointly by ILA President Thomas W. Gleason and President James J. Dickman of the Council of North Atlantic Shipping Associations, the agreement affects some 35,000 union members in ports from Boston to Hampton Roads, Va.

In addition, the settlement is also expected to set a pattern for settlement of a similar dispute involving ILA locals and a separate group of employers in South Atlantic ports ranging from Florida to North Carolina, the ILA and CONASA officials said.

CONASA is bargaining representative of port management groups in Boston, Providence, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Hampton Roads.

Basically, the new rules require that "steamship hauled" containers loaded or unloaded within 50 miles of one of the six ports must involve the work of ILA members.

The dispute arose when the union charged its members were being denied container loading and discharging work on piers that they were entitled to under rules agreed to in June 1974. Under a clause in the 1974 agreement, the union suspended the rules on Apr. 28, alleging that some shippers were violating them.

The new terms, contained in a supplemental agreement, restore the 1974 container rules and set up a new Council of Container Carriers to police the rules.

ILA's overall contract with port employers expires on Sept. 30, 1977.

Congress Urged to Reject Moves To Grant New Tariff Concessions

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO stressed. It pointed out that even the Ford Administration's relatively optimistic projections are that 6 to 8 million workers will be unemployed during the next five years while underemployment will remain at record levels.

It also pointed that declines in U.S. output are not considered temporary. The nation's industrial production dropped 11.3 percent in the first quarter of 1975 even after more than a year of recession, and manufacturing plants are currently operating at 68.3 percent of capacity.

"No one knows when, if or how this production loss will be reversed. Production cutbacks have been occurring in virtually every type of manufacturing—particularly in those industries where imports from low-wage countries have already been rising in recent years."

Noting that the Administration's proposals to cut tariffs are aimed at the so-called developing countries, the statement cited rapid increases of imports from those nations in recent years. It pointed out that between 1967 and 1973, imports of manufactured goods from developing nations rose to more than $8 billion—a larger amount than total imports of all products from those countries in 1967.

"Furthermore," the statement stressed, "the imports from these countries were often produced by multinational firms which were encouraged to locate and expand in these countries by the combination of U.S. and foreign laws that served to their advantage in taxes, labor costs and other benefits."

The people of the developing countries where multinational firms have relocated are being exploited for their low wages, rather than being benefited, the federation said. As examples it cited wage rates in Haiti of $1.60 a day, Colombia's 25 cents an hour and Brazil's basic wage of $60 a month.

The real beneficiaries of the generalized preference scheme are often the well-know multinational companies, including some which recently were accused of paying bribes to foreign government officials, the statement charged.

"The end result is that the companies prosper, the worker is exploited and the U.S. consumer pays virtually the same price as on a U.S.-made item. For the millions of Americans at home, the loss is even greater than the price alone. Americans must absorb losses in their jobs, losses in the tax base and their living standard."

Because of provisions in the Trade Act and the way it is being interpreted, the federation said the burden of proof falls on American producers and workers to show due cause why "thousands of products from scores of countries should not get special entry into the U.S. market to destroy many thousands more jobs."

"We do not believe that Congress intended that such a blanket challenge to our endangered economy could result from their acquiescence to the Administration's request for authority to negotiate to 'improve America's standing' by granting preferences," the federation said.

AFL-CIO Appeal Backed:

Labor Moves to Aid Indochina Refugees

Endorsement by the Arkansas State AFL-CIO of the national federation's appeal typified expanding efforts of labor groups to help Vietnam and Cambodian refugees and their families deal with problems of relocation, housing and employment.

The Arkansas federation urged local unions and central bodies in the state to consider sponsoring refugees. It backed the statement adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its recent spring meeting as being "in the best tradition of the labor movement and the long established principles that we are our brother's keepers and that an injury to one is the concern of all."

The Executive Council called upon all members of AFL-CIO affiliated organizations to make the refugees welcome in their communities. Since then, organized labor has moved swiftly to cooperate with government efforts to ease the problems facing the 130,000 Indochinese refugees being resettled in the United States.

Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning of the California State AFL-CIO will lead a delegation of central body leaders and community service representatives in his state to Camp Pendleton, Calif., on June 13, for a firsthand look at the refugee center there.

The California labor leaders will meet with camp officials, representatives of some 10 national voluntary agencies that are working toward resettling the refugees, and the refugees themselves. Pendleton is one of four military installations where the refugees are being processed and temporarily housed.

Other installations are at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.; Fort Chaffee, Ark., and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

The first labor organization offering to sponsor a refugee family was the United Labor Agency, Inc., of Cleveland. Its executive director, Mel J. Witt, wired AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis:

"In the interest of promoting Americanism and sharing the wealth of our country in the time of need of others, we wish to be the sponsors of two Vietnamese families." Witt noted his agency's request was a follow-through on the commitment made by President Ford and AFL-CIO President George Meany to provide all possible help for the refugees.

Meany is a member of a presidentially-appointed advisory panel on the resettlement of the Indochinese refugees.

Much of the AFL-CIO's effort to assist the refugees is being channeled through the Dept. of Community Services, with the cooperation of the Departments of International Affairs and Organization & Field Services, and the Human Resources Development Institute.

Perlis, as Meany's representative, recently toured the refugee center at Fort Chaffee, along with members of the White House advisory committee. He said the government "is running a good operation there," but added "the big problem is going to be resettlement and, finally, integration" into the American way of life.

Two major problems make resettlement of the Indochinese refugees more difficult than that of the Cubans and Hungarians who fled from Communist repression in the '50s, Perlis observed.

"First, there's a higher rate of unemployment," he said, "and there is no solid Vietnamese community in the U.S. So there's going to be some culture shock for them."

At Fort Chaffee, incidentally, are most of the Vietnamese union leaders and their families who made their way out of South Vietnam in the days just before the Communist takeover. Among them is President Tran Quoc Buu of the Vietnamese Federation of Labor.

In its statement, the Arkansas AFL-CIO noted the presence of the Vietnamese union members at Fort Chaffee, and declared "they will always be welcome in the Arkansas house of labor."

RESCUE OF VIETNAMESE union officials with the fall of South Vietnam is discussed at the annual meeting of the Asian American Free Labor Institute's board of trustees at the AFL-CIO headquarters. AAFLI Executive Director Morris Paladino, top center, also presented his annual report and discussed the outlook for Asian trade unions in the coming year.

Controllers Press to Strengthen Airline Traffic Safety Standards

Minneapolis — A determined drive to improve safety standards on the airline traffic routes of the nation and to push for eventual creation of an independent air traffic control system featured the 7th annual convention of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization.

Several hundred delegates and members heard President John Leyden predict achievement of these two goals as well as success in joint efforts with other public employe unions to gain adequate comparability pay increases from the federal government this year.

Shortly before the convention, PATCO concluded months of negotiations with the Federal Aviation Agency for a nationwide contract for the controllers. FAA runs the nation's civilian and military air traffic set-up, and PATCO represents an estimated 90 percent of the 15,000 air traffic controllers. They are employed both in airport traffic towers and in regional air traffic control centers.

PATCO is an affiliate of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association.

The delegates gave strong endorsement to a study brought to the convention by PATCO's safety committee, headed by Vice President David Siegel of Atlanta. The committee, working with a leading safety consultant, C. O. Miller, proposed a four-point program for better air safety.

It charged that the application of "separation standards" for planes in flight, as set by FAA, are far "too loose." The report said the agency is insisting "that controllers do more and more work without proper preparation or safeguards."

The committee also urged a basic reporting system and central data collection facility to provide the controller with "a means to report, with immunity, all those frustrating safety discrepancies which have not been corrected because of an unresponsive FAA."

The PATCO delegates also endorsed the views of Glen A. Gilbert, an air traffic expert. In a study prepared for PATCO, he proposed that the air traffic control functions be removed from FAA and lodged in a proposed U.S. Air Traffic Services Corp. This independant corporation, whose board would be appointed by the President, would represent various groups concerned with air traffic, including the unions.

Gilbert said that such a system, removed from the political influences involved in a government agency, would be able to offer better technical and operational performance in handling air traffic.

The convention heard from a number of technical experts on government personnel policies, as well as from Acting FAA Administrator James Dow and from Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.).

Humphrey won a standing ovation from the delegates—the big majority of them under 40 years of age—when he attacked government policies that have made good housing difficult to find and expensive to rent or buy.

"Muriel and I rattle around in two nice houses now," Humphrey said. "But the time when people need good housing is when kids are growing up, and today it's scarce. It's just not there for the people who need it."

He proposed a home-building program, low-interest mortgages and a grace period of five years before payments have to be made.

In the union's elections, Executive Vice President Robert Poli was re-elected without opposition. Leyden's term as president has two more years to run. Six of the seven regional vice presidents were re-elected, three without opposition. In the southwest district, David Trick was elected on a second ballot in a three-way race to fill the seat of Robert Conditt, who did not seek re-election.

Rep. John J. McFall (D-Calif.), head of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, received the PATCO Presidential Citation for service to air transportation.

Strike in Second Month At Sporting Goods Firm

Boulder, Colo.—The Clothing Workers moved into the second month of a strike against the Head division of the AMF conglomerate which manufactures Head skis and tennis rackets and Arthur Ashe tennis rackets here.

The ACWA's Midwest Regional Joint Board recently was certified bargaining agent for Head's 170 production and maintenance workers, and had been attempting to work out a first contract. But the talks were broken off when company negotiators refused even to submit counter proposals.

The strike got under way May 9 after union members earlier had voted by a 98 percent margin to authorize a walkout.

The ACWA said it had learned that Head-AMF management advised the Boulder County sheriff to prepare for a strike before contract negotiations had even begun.

The strike issues are wages, safety and health, and "arbitrary and capricious" personnel policies by Head-AMF, the union said. It reported that management had rejected union wage proposals as "ridiculous."

The union noted that even if the workers were to win their full wage demands, wages at Head-AMF still would be more than $1 an hour less than what AMF pays unionized workers making comparable products such as Harley-Davidson snowmobiles or VOIT basketballs.

"And wages at Head would even then still be over $1 an hour less than unionized Head competitors, such as Wilson tennis rackets, pay their workers," the ACWA stressed.

It charged that company bargaining tactics have made AMF, Inc., one of the most strike-prone firms in the country. Other unions that have been forced to strike the conglomerate in the past year to obtain acceptable contracts at various AMF plant locations include the Rubber Workers, the Auto Workers, the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, the Allied Industrial Workers and the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

UAW Seeks Import Aid For 39,000 at Chrysler

The Auto Workers have petitioned the Labor Dept. for adjustment assistance under the 1974 Trade Act for 39,000 workers laid off by Chrysler Corp. since last October. The UAW cited increased foreign imports from Canada.

The union said that in recent months, Chrysler has transferred substantial production from U.S. plants to the firm's Canadian operations while stepping up its imports of cars to the American market from Canada.

The petition further noted that auto imports have gained a larger share of the U.S. market to cause further unemployment among UAW members in the United States. The union also represents auto workers in Canada.

While 34 other unions have already filed for trade adjustment assistance under the trade act, the UAW's claim for 39,000 workers is by far the largest number affected in one union. It poses a major test of the effectiveness of worker protection clauses in the 1974 Trade Act.

If the Labor Dept. fully honors the union's petition, the claims could provide more than $100 million a year in benefits.

Benefits under the act, when coupled with regular state unemployment compensation, amount to 70 percent of a worker's weekly wage, up to the maximum of the national average wage in manufacturing.

Most workers can collect benefits for up to 52 weeks, in addition to counseling, training, job placement and other services that are available for those declared eligible.

The 39,000 affected UAW members had been employed at 10 Chrysler facilities in the United States—six assembly plants, two trim plants and two engine plants. They include hourly workers, office employes, engineers and nurses.

The UAW noted that in 1973 the union was successful in petitioning the government for nearly $2 million in adjustment assistance for 2,000 Chrysler workers after a Los Angeles assembly plant was shut down because of import competition. The petition was approved under earlier foreign trade legislation.

Under the old Trade Expansion Act of 1962 nearly 48,000 workers were certified eligible for adjustment assistance between 1969 and 1974. But a far larger number of claims were denied. During the first five years that the old act was in effect, all petitions for assistance were rejected by the former U.S. Tariff Commission.

Small groups of workers generally were involved in past petitions for assistance, primarily in such import-affected industries as textiles, footwear, electronics, apparel, glass and other manufactured products.

White House Reassessment:

Economic Prospects Grim for Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

Real GNP is now expected to dip 3.6 percent instead of 3.3 percent as forecast in February.

At the same time, the Administration stuck to its February forecast of a 1976 jobless rate of 7.9 percent, or about 7.5 million unemployed. Real GNP, however, was projected to rise 6.3 percent from 1975 rather than the initial estimate of 4.8 percent.

For the years 1977 through 1980 inclusive, the revised forecast calls for increases in real GNP of 6.5 percent annually.

"But they don't explain how that will be achieved," AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger commented. "It looks like a simple mathematical exercise in official Administration optimism.

"Even under these optimistic assumptions, they project unemployment rates of 7.2 percent in 1977, 6.5 percent in 1978, 5.8 percent in 1979 and down to 5.1 percent by 1980," Goldfinger pointed out.

"That would mean the number of jobless would be close to 6 million as late as 1979."

Goldfinger noted that even if the Administration's forecasts proved correct, it would mean three successive years—1975, 1976 and 1977—of the highest jobless rates since 1941 when the United States was emerging from the Great Depression.

"It wouldn't be until 1980, under these optimistic assumptions, that the number of unemployed would come down to the neighborhood of 5 million, or 5.1 percent," he pointed out. "There is nothing that approaches full employment in these predictions."

In its revised budget outlook, the White House said this year's deficit is now expected to be $42.6 billion—$7.9 billion above the February estimate — while the estimated deficit for 1976 has increased by $8 billion since February to $59.9 billion, just under the $60 billion deficit limit set by President Ford.

However, these Administration forecasts assume that Congress will go along with Ford's requests for more than $8.5 billion in spending hold-downs for many programs, including a proposal for a 5 percent cap on forthcoming wage comparability increases for federal employes.

The Administration was more optimistic in its projections on changes in the consumer price index, predicting retail prices this year would rise 9.1 percent rather than at the 11.3 percent rate estimated in February. By 1979, the CPI increase is expected to slow down to 4 percent a year.

The White House also noted that federal programs providing unemployment compensation to jobless workers have been costing less than earlier budget estimates, despite the high level of joblessness throughout the nation.

It said total costs in this area were expected to be $4.5 billion below earlier budget estimates during the two fiscal years 1975 and 1976.

The extension of unemployment insurance benefits, together with federal outlays to workers under the Tax Reduction Act of 1975, have helped to slow down the recessionary decline, Goldfinger noted.

But this does not mean the recession is at an end, he declared. Looking ahead, he drew the following scenario:

"At some time in the next few months industrial production and real GNP will stop falling, and the Administration will say the recession is over, that it has bottomed out. But that will be a technical, statistical description.

"In human terms," Goldfinger said, "the Administration expects the effects of recession to remain for at least another four years."

Severe Joblessness Hits Record 127 Key Areas

(Continued from Page 1)

the rise in joblessness was largely attributable to significant reductions in the metals and machinery industries.

Most of the 16 areas that reported higher unemployment in metals and machinery also reported employment declines in other industries, the Labor Dept. noted.

Many metropolitan areas have unemployment rates far in excess of 6 percent, and well above the national jobless rate which is expected to go over 9 percent when the Labor Dept. issues its May report on jobs.

Areas with the highest jobless rates were Ponce, Puerto Rico, 20.1 percent; Flint, Mich., 18.7 percent; Detroit, 16.1 percent; Providence-Warwick-Pawtucket, R.I., 16 percent; New Bedford, Mass., 15.8 percent, and Mayaguez, P.R., 15.5 percent.

The 22 areas added to the Labor Dept.'s substantial unemployment list in April and the 31 added in March were the largest number of additions to the list since 25 areas were added in March 1961, when the classifications were made on a bimonthly basis.

A labor area consists of a central city or cities and the surrounding territory within commuting distance. Major labor areas usually have at least one central city with a population of 50,000 or more.

Besides the 150 major job centers, the department also lists other smaller areas that meet the substantial unemployment criteria.

In April, the list of smaller labor areas with substantial unemployment swelled to 381, compared to 310 in March. A year earlier, the total was 263.

CLASS SPEAKERS for the 59th graduation ceremonies of the American Institute for Free Labor Development discuss the trade union training program with AIFLD Executive Director William C. Doherty, Jr., left, and Andrew McLellan, right, inter-American representative of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs. Vincente Taliano of Argentina, second from left, and Dionisio A. Lopez of El Salvador, delivered the class messages in ceremonies at AFL-CIO headquarters.

Ford Makes Veto Hold Up On Job Funds

(Continued from Page 1)

presidential veto, 49 Republicans had joined in the 293-109 vote which was well over the two-thirds mark.

The vetoed bill had been initiated by the House Democratic leadership in cooperation with the Appropriations Committee, whose members combed programs under their jurisdiction for those where additional funding could have the quickest job-creating impact.

Ford has vetoed 30 bills during his 10 months in office. Only four vetoes have been overridden.

In other congressional developments:

- The House prepared for another veto test—an attempt to override the President's veto of the strip mining bill, a compromise conservation measure that has broad support but is opposed by strip-mining operators, who would be required to restore the land they tear up to original contours before abandoning it.

Ford claimed in his veto message that federal strip mining regulations would result in fewer jobs—a contention sharply challenged at joint hearings by the House and Senate Interior Committees on the reasons for the veto.

Rep. Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.), who presided at the hearings, accused Administration officials of having concocted "phony" estimates of the economic impact of the legislation to kill the bill.

- The House Rules Committee cleared for floor action the energy conservation bill drawn up by the Ways & Means Committee. The bill includes a number of controversial proposals, including a gasoline tax with provisions for rebates, but the AFL-CIO has termed it "far superior" to President Ford's energy program. The legislation is subject to floor amendments, and changes are considered likely in view of the slim 19-16 margin by which the Ways & Means Committee approved the bill.

- Both the House and Senate are expected to approve a conference report combining middle-income interest subsidies for persons purchasing homes and apartments with a program of government loans to protect persons who lose their jobs from losing their homes through mortgage foreclosures. But a presidential veto appears likely on this measure, too.

House Clears Extension Of Voting Rights Law

(Continued from Page 1)

groups had urged approval of the bill drawn up by the House Judiciary Committee "without weakening amendments" and the major attempts to change the bill were decisively beaten—most by margins close to 3-1. The House then passed the legislation, 341-70.

The controversy over amendments was essentially between those who contended that the law had served its purpose in ending racial discrimination at the polls and now should be phased out, and those who saw the need to maintain a federal presence so that the overt discrimination of the past is not replaced by subtler means of discouraging voting or racially-motivated changes in election districts and laws.

Also at issue was whether the protections that proved so effective for blacks in the South could be used to remove less-overt handicaps to Latino citizens.

Fittingly, the debate was opened by a black congressman from Georgia, Andrew Young, who 10 years ago was an aide to the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the civil rights struggles that led to passage of the law.

"Many Americans lost their lives in an attempt to gain the right to vote," Young reminded his colleagues. He spoke of the gains since the law was passed and the election to state legislatures and Congress of candidates in the South who have been able "to forge a coalition of good will rather than a coalition of bigotry and prejudice."

But he also spoke of the slow pace in some sections of the South, of hundreds of towns with black majorities that still do not have even one elected black official, of attempts to evade the provision requiring advance federal approval of changes in voting laws, and of testimony at House hearings of intimidation of Latin-Americans trying to register and vote in communities where public office had been considered an Anglo prerogative.

A white Republican from Virginia spoke of local resentment of having to clear election law changes with the federal government and said, "You have to be from a state that is covered to understand the feeling."

Young promptly retorted: "I come from a covered state and I approve of it."

The House voted 279-133 against the amendment by Rep. M. Caldwell Butler (R-Va.) to make it easier for a state to be freed of coverage and rejected by a similar margin a substitute bill by Rep. Charles E. Wiggins (R-Calif.) in which both new coverage and exemption from coverage would be determined each two years on the basis of minority participation in the congressional elections.

A proposal by Rep. Robert McClory (R-Ill.) to kill the section of the bill extending coverage to Latinos and other language minorities was beaten, 305-104.

The Ford Administration has opposed any expansion of coverage and has supported only a five-year extension of the law.

Steps to End Food Stamp Delays Asked

The AFL-CIO strongly urged the Senate to streamline administrative machinery that is needlessly delaying for weeks and even months, the certification of unemployed workers to buy food stamps.

In a letter to all senators, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller urged support of a bipartisan amendment to a pending bill that would extend the food stamp program to the aged, blind and disabled.

The amendment, to be offered by Senators Robert Dole (R-Kan.), Hugh Scott (R-Pa.), Dick Clark (D-Iowa), George McGovern (D-S.D.), and Philip Hart (D-Mich.), would provide 30 days of food stamp benefits for families that appear eligible. Checks into the family's finances and resources would take place during the 30-day period.

Under the present system, Biemiller said, unemployed workers must sometimes wait weeks for even an appointment to apply for food stamps while their families go hungry. The new system, he said, would not only prevent needless suffering, but relieve pressure on food stamp aides and reduce clerical errors. Wrong payments would be retrieved and fraud strictly punished.

"We strongly urge your support for the amendment," Biemiller concluded. "Its enactment is absolutely essential to prevent hunger among the unemployed and their families."

6-7-75

AFL-CIO News

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American Labor Pulls Out After ILO Seats Terrorists

White House Callousness Assailed:

9.2% Jobless Rate Highest in 34 Years

The number of jobless persons in the United States increased by 362,000 in May, pushing the nation's unemployment rate to 9.2 percent of the workforce—the highest level in 34 years, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

"It all adds up to a callous, almost inhuman, disregard on the part of the national Administration for the misery and the suffering that go with unemployment," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

"I don't think these people in the White House running this show realize what it means to be unemployed."

The rise of three-tenths of 1 percent in the jobless rate meant there were a total of 8,538,000 workers classified as unemployed in May, the most since July 1940. The 9.2 percent rate was the highest since 1941 when joblessness averaged 9.9 percent for the whole year.

Almost all of the May jobless rise occurred among men 25 years and over and teenage girls, BLS noted. The rate for household heads—a key figure since these are workers with others dependent upon them—rose from 6 to 6.3 percent over the month. The rate for married men moved to 5.8 from 5.6 percent in April.

Meany noted that the unemployment rate for household heads has risen from 1.9 percent in February 1969 and was 3 percent only a year ago. The May figure, he declared, amounts to a "disaster."

Meany also observed that the Ford Administration "has managed to up the unemployment figure 3,600,000 people in a period of just nine months," and noted the 8.5 million officially unem-

(Continued on Page 8)

President's Strip Mine Veto Stands

For the second week in a row, the House was unable to muster the two-thirds majority needed to overcome a presidential veto.

The latest test was on the strip mining bill that would have required surface mining companies to meet federal standards for restoration of the land they have torn up.

It had originally passed the House by a supposedly veto-proof 293-115 margin last month. Congressional hearings after the veto demonstrated that the Administration couldn't back up its charges that the bill would curtail employment and lead to higher coal prices.

But as had happened a week earlier with the emergency job funding bill, the White House was able to switch enough votes to sustain the veto.

The tally was 278-143 for overriding the veto—three less than the needed two-thirds.

In comparison with the earlier vote, there were six additional

(Continued on Page 3)

RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY marking the opening of the 30th annual AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show in Milwaukee is presided over by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, shown snipping the ribbon, and AFL-CIO President George Meany. Others attending were, left to right, President Paul J. Burnsky of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept.; Sec.-Treas. Edward P. Murphy and President Richard F. Walsh of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept. which sponsors and produces the show each year in a different American city. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Solid Union Support:

Site Picketing Right Pressed for Crafts

By David L. Perlman

Building trades unions were joined by the AFL-CIO and the Industrial Union Dept. in a call for legislation allowing picketing at a construction site by a union that has a dispute with one of the subcontractors working on the job.

Congressional action is "long past due," AFL-CIO President George Meany contended at House hearings. He said "every segment of the labor movement" supports the bill to remove picketing restrictions imposed by a 1951 Supreme Court decision.

Meany's testimony was presented by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the Industrial Union Dept. testified for IUD President I. W. Abel in support of the bill.

"Industrial workers possess the right to strike and picket the work site," the IUD said. "Building and construction tradesmen need and are entitled to this same . . . basic freedom."

Earlier, President Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. told the panel that the jobsite picketing restrictions had left building crafts and their members "legally powerless to protect themselves" while giving construction employers "a virtual license to destroy unions."

The thrust of the legislation was endorsed also by Secretary of Labor John T. Dunlop, who noted that similar bills have been backed

(Continued on Page 8)

PLO Given Status As Observers

Geneva — The U.S. worker delegation withdrew from the annual conference of the International Labor Organization to protest a vote to grant official "observer" status at the conference to the Palestine Liberation Organization, an Arab terrorist group.

Irving Brown, the official U.S. worker delegate and a member of the ILO governing body, said the withdrawal was the unanimous decision of the trade union representatives from the United States. The delegation included AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and officials of a number of unions.

Seating of the Palestinian terrorists was also sharply protested by the U.S. government delegation to the tripartite organization — whose delegates come in equal numbers from governments, trade unions and management.

Edward P. Persons, the chief U.S. representative, told the conference that the ILO had made an "ill-considered and tragic decision" that "betrayed" the organization's goals.

He protested the "selfish subversion" of the ILO on behalf of "an entity which is neither a government, nor an employer, nor a union."

A similar point was made by Secretary of Labor John T. Dunlop, who had planned to attend and address the conference before its acceptance of the PLO.

(Continued on Page 2)

Elderly Hit White House Indifference

By John R. Oravec

The immediate needs of the nation's elderly for adequate income, housing, health care and social services were spelled out to Congress by 3,700 delegates attending the National Council of Senior Citizens legislative conference in Washington.

They told senators and representatives on Capitol Hill that their hopes of relieving the plight of older people rest with Congress, charging that the Ford Administration's policies toward the elderly are marked by indifference and even hostility.

(Continued on Page 7)

Meany Makes Strong Bid for Ford To Sign Job-Creating Housing Bill

Congress gave final approval to an emergency housing bill and the AFL-CIO strongly urged President Ford to sign it into law.

America needs both the 400,000 new housing units the legislation would support and the 900,000 jobs it would generate, AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

Meany said in a letter to Ford that the legislation is vitally needed and represents "an investment in America and her families who need both jobs and homes."

Foes of the bill have said confidently that it faces a presidential veto and Meany called on the AFL-CIO's state and local central bodies to help ensure that the measure becomes law.

He asked them to wire Ford urging that he sign the housing bill. And Meany alerted the labor councils to a campaign to get Congress to override a veto if the President rejects the legislation.

The veto-threatened bill would provide a variety of mortgage-interest subsidies intended to make it possible for middle-income families to afford to buy homes and apartments, and to influence a downward trend in mortgage costs.

One of the options would be a 7 percent mortgage interest rate for those who qualify—families with incomes not more than 120 percent of the median for their area and housing priced under $38,000 in most sections, but with higher limits in high-cost parts of

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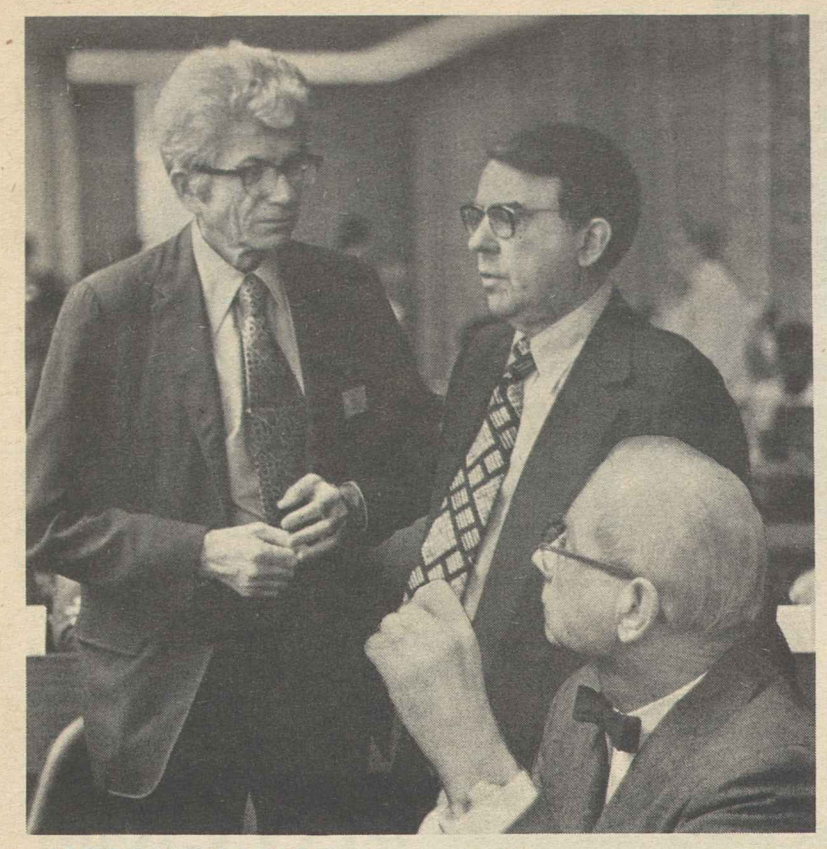

AMERICAN LABOR'S response to the move to grant the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization observer status at the International Labor Organization's annual conference in Geneva is discussed by Bert Seidman, left, and Irving Brown. Brown is the U.S. worker delegate to the ILO and Seidman, the AFL-CIO's social security director, preceded him in the post. Seated is Edward P. Persons, the U.S. government delegate.

ILO Seats Terrorists, U.S. Workers Pull Out

(Continued from Page 1)

Dunlop said he had intended to urge the ILO "to return to its fundamental work" of "promoting the well-being and social justice of working people."

But the granting of status to the Palestinian group "has further politicized the ILO," Dunlop said, and "under the circumstances" he will not attend the conference.

Earlier, the AFL-CIO Executive Council had warned that the ILO's usefulness would be seriously impaired if it bowed to the Arab and Soviet-bloc demands and gave official recognition to the terrorist group.

Brown's statement to the ILO conference expressed regret that "good faith efforts" to avoid the split were spurned. He noted the American labor movement's long support of legitimate national movements seeking independence and liberty. But the PLO, he emphasized, cannot be considered in that category and is clearly on record for destruction of Israel, one of the ILO's member states.

Some of the nation's that voted to seat the terrorist group, he suggested, are inviting similar treatment for self-proclaimed "liberation" movements that seek to destroy their governments.

Earlier, at the ILO committee meeting where the recognition issue was first debated, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman had sought to dissuade the ILO from its path.

Seidman, a former U.S. worker delegate and governing body member, cited the PLO's vow to "obliterate" Israel and its terrorist tactics. Only after it has shown "by deeds, not merely by words" that it has shed its past could the PLO be accorded international recognition, Seidman asserted.

The U.S. worker delegation, in addition to Brown, Kirkland and Seidman, included President Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers, President Joseph P. Tonelli of the Paperworkers, President Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, President James T. Housewright of the Retail Clerks, Vice President Velma Hill of the Teachers, Vice President Pat Greathouse of the Auto Workers, and Michael Boggs, AFL-CIO assistant director of international affairs.

WHO Warned On Anti-Israel Political Moves

A bipartisan group of six senators and 43 House members has put the World Health Organization on notice that any attempt to suspend Israel's membership rights will forfeit congressional support for the United Nations agency.

In an obvious political move, WHO last year adopted a resolution condemning Israel for alleged lack of cooperation with an investigation into health conditions in occupied territories by a committee drawn from nations hostile to Israel. Further anti-Israel moves may be considered this year.

The letter to the director general of WHO stressed that the signers have been strong supporters of both the World Health Organization and the parent United Nations.

They warned that allowing WHO to become a vehicle for political attacks on Israel "would be a grievous error" that "would inevitably lead to a diminution of U.S. support for your organization in Congress."

TWU Reaches New Contract With American

New York—New contracts covering 17,000 members of the Transport Workers Union employed by American Airlines have been agreed to, pending membership ratification.

The agreements would provide wage and fringe benefit increases for 11,500 maintenance employes, 4,500 flight attendants, and stores and communications employes, meteorologists and dispatchers.

Details of the pacts were withheld pending completion of the ratification vote. Deadline for returning ballots is set for June 23.

The contracts bear a Sept. 1, 1977, expiration date.

Record Crowds:

Union-Industries Show Gets Warm Milwaukee Welcome

By James M. Shevis

Milwaukee—This most heavily unionized city in the United States outdid itself to insure the success of the 30th edition of the AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show, a gigantic public exposition relating the story of labor-management-government teamwork.

As a result, the six-day exhibition at Mecca, the new convention center and arena in downtown Milwaukee, drew one of the largest crowds in the show's history. Nearly a quarter-million people from throughout the Midwest attended the exposition, show officials estimated.

Probably the largest free show of its kind in the nation, the exhibition was a blend of labor's skills and management enterprise. More than $100,000 worth of prizes, gifts and souvenirs were given away, and numerous live demonstrations of craftsmanship were put on, including glass blowing, bricklaying, carpentry, cake decorating, printing, welding and sewing.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, who was on hand to open the show, observed that the exposition "symbolizes the deep faith we all have in the American free-enterprise system . . . the best system ever yet devised by the mind of man."

Scores of trade-union members participated in the show, manning close to 400 exhibit booths. The exhibits were designed to promote among the general public the craftsmanship and value of products and services made or offered by firms with union collective bargaining agreements.

In addition to the union-manned industry exhibits, government displays were set up in the cavernous, year-old convention hall, explaining the role of such agencies as the U.S. Civil Service Commission and the Labor Dept.

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, who along with Meany officially opened the show, noted the importance of craftsmanship in American life and the Labor Dept.'s long-time interest in the quality of work—that is, jobs that pay well and provide fair and adequate fringe benefits. The union-industries show, he said, was a perfect example of labor and management working together to solve mutual problems.

The city of Milwaukee, which has the highest number of union members per capita in the country, draped its main thoroughfare, Wisconsin Avenue, with banners welcoming the exposition. City hall announced the show dates, June 6-11, in huge letters. And the Milwaukee Common Council adopted a resolution of welcome stating that its members were "delighted to have such a distinguished display of union-industry cooperation in our city."

One of the largest exhibits was that of the Allied Industrial Workers, the only AFL-CIO union headquartered in Milwaukee and Wisconsin. The union, which represents workers in many classifications of manufacturing, put up 34 booths to display products of firms employing AIW members.

As visitors entered the exhibit area, they were handed shopping bags provided by the Retail Clerks to hold the many souvenirs—and a raffle prize or two if they were lucky—passed out at nearly every booth.

RCIA's main exhibit was an old-fashioned store of the early 1900s which it compared with present-day stores. The general store displayed barrels and crates of fresh vegetables whose prices were a far cry from today's. Potatoes, for instance, were 12 cents a peck then; coffee beans were 12 cents a pound; green beans, three pounds for a quarter, and onions, 2 cents a pound.

The AFL-CIO's exhibit, different from that of previous years, was a prototype of one that will be extended for the nation's bicentennial celebration next year.

The final exhibit, which will be produced in cooperation with the Labor Dept. and the Smithsonian Institution, will afford a glimpse of the daily lives of workers in various occupations at different periods of American history.

One of the most striking displays was a piece of sculpture illustrating equipment used in the construction industry by the Operating Engineers. The 14-foot-high, chromeplated steel sculpture took two years to complete. The model equipment included a fork lift, pile driver, an auger and a trenching machine.

The Graphic Arts union distributed 50,000 scratch pads printed, cut and padded on the premises by GAIU members operating an offset press and a cutter.

The Communications Workers displayed an actual switchboard, operated by a CWA member to show the public how a telephone call is put through. The Bakery & Confectionery Workers drew large crowds at the cake-decorating booth and the cotton candy counter.

The Plumbers & Pipe Fitters gave plastic pipe welding demonstrations. The Dental Technicians & Specialists, a Service Employees' local, displayed dentures and other prosthetics produced by their members in commercial laboratories.

The Letter Carriers and the Postal Workers showed how mail is processed, sorted and delivered at an actual operating post office set up in the convention hall.

A glass bottle-blowing demonstration was performed by members of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association, who also showed curious show-goers how plastics and fiber glass products are made. A 14-foot, union-made Chrysler fiber glass motor boat was given away on the final day of the exhibition.

When they got foot-weary, visitors could stop for refreshments at—where else?—a beer garden erected by the Milwaukee Brewers, AFL-CIO. Milwaukee produces more beer than any other place in the country.

Statement of U.S. Worker Delegate On Withdrawal from ILO Session

Following is the statement by U.S. Worker Delegate Irving Brown to the International Labor Organization conference in Geneva following the conference's vote to seat observers representing the Palestine Liberation Organization.

I wish to explain to this conference the unanimous decision of my delegation concerning the vote which has just been adopted.

Our position is clear: We have never opposed legitimate movements fighting for their freedom and independence, and our history and record have demonstrated that in our support for such movements in North Africa and Black Africa. But these movements never demanded or sought the destruction of another people or their state sovereignty.

But we oppose the admission of liberation movements to the ILO which do not represent an oppressed state and we oppose the admission of liberation movements which seek the destruction of another state as a prerequisite to achieving their goals, particularly when that threatened state is a member of the very organization that has voted in favor of admission of that group into its ranks.

We oppose the admission of any group or organization to the ILO that is not legitimately tripartite.

Mr. President, practically every nation here represented has at least one or more liberation, or terrorist, organizations operative within and outside its national boundaries. I suggest that the action of this plenary just completed opens the door for other non-tripartite organizations to be admitted to this heretofore essentially technical organization, further removing the ILO from its once-vaunted role as the world's only tripartite organization designed to better conditions of work and life of workers and their dependents the world over.

Efforts were made, Mr. President, to amend the actions which ultimately have brought us to this juncture in the appropriate committee. But these good faith efforts were spurned, making the action which has taken place offensive to my delegation.

On that regrettable note, Mr. President, it is the intention of our delegation at the proper and appropriate moment to withdraw from any further participation in this 60th conference of the ILO. We shall withdraw our credentials through appropriate channels, as well.

Gains Endangered:

Job Crisis Threatens Outreach Programs

Progress made through outreach efforts to bring minority group workers into higher-paying union jobs is threatened by soaring unemployment and the Ford Administration's policies, the Recruitment & Training Program's national conference was told.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. warned that unless a solution is found for the deepening economic crisis and if the rise in unemployment is not reversed, "all workers—but especially minority workers—will face the loss of gains that took decades to achieve."

Georgine said the deteriorating situation could cause a real division among workers who would battle each other for jobs.

Ernest G. Green, executive director of RTP, pointed out that "along with the mainstream civil rights organizations, the labor movement is the only organized force which has kept the economic issue at the top of the national agenda.

"The program of the AFL-CIO and the program developed by the Black Economic Summit Conference are essentially the same. The similarities are basically due to a sense of mutual interest and political coalition."

Of equal importance, Green noted, is that organized labor has been behind every important civil rights bill.

RTP outreach efforts—with the aid of the Workers Defense League and the A. Philip Randolph Institute—have grown from a modest storefront operation in New York City 12 years ago to 35 major cities across the country. Outreach programs working with unions have been credited with increasing the portion of minority apprentices from 2 percent in 1960 to about 18 percent today.

Donald Slaiman, deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, said that RTP is possibly the best conceived and best functioning outreach operation in existence.

Speaking for AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at the conference's awards banquet, Slaiman noted that RTP has been highly effective in bringing minorities into craft apprenticeships while keeping government costs of the program low.

The value of outreach was also stressed by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, who suggested expansion of the programs to women and rural areas.

"This instrument," he said, "should be extended if only because it is one of the most reasonable ways to get training and job placement to the disadvantaged who would not receive it otherwise. Naturally, its only virtue is not from a cost-benefit point of view, but that is an added reason for the continued expansion of outreach."

Georgine cited the May unemployment statistics showing black unemployment at 14.7 percent and unemployment in the construction industry at 21.8 percent.

He called for full support of the AFL-CIO action program for full employment to head off the danger of polarization.

EXPANSION OF JOBS is essential to all workers during the current high-unemployment crisis, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. stresses at the national conference of the Recruitment & Training Program, Inc. He said the years of progress for minorities made through outreach efforts is threatened by joblessness and Administration policies.

House Fails to Reverse Veto of Strip Mine Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

Democrats who voted for the strip mining curbs. But 28 Republicans who had voted for the bill even in the face of a veto threat switched to support the veto on the override attempt.

Republican leaders have sought to shift the blame for the veto stalemates to the Democrats, contending in effect that Congress should accommodate itself to the President's wishes.

House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes called on the Democrats to "cooperate," and Senate GOP Leader Hugh Scott said a consensus is needed "to break the deadlock caused by an overwhelming Democratic Congress and a courageous and effective Republican president."

House Speaker Carl Albert cited Democratic efforts to meet the President part way, including trimming back the strip mining bill in an attempt to appease the White House. But he said the GOP strategy was "to make it impossible to pass anything but the President's plan."

In other congressional developments:

- The House was struggling with an amendment-riddled energy bill as the AFL-CIO News went to press.

The AFL-CIO had termed the bill brought to the House floor by the Ways & Means Committee "far superior" to the Ford Administration program. A series of amendments, however, weakened or deleted much of the original bill.

- The House passed a bill that would make it easier for Congress to block the President from lifting all price controls on oil. The bill was passed 230-151 and is similar to a Senate-passed measure. It may face a veto when sent to the White House.

- A deadlock over Senate efforts to add funds for rail roadbed repairs had blocked a supplemental appropriations bill. But the Senate finally agreed to the House version in order to clear the $15 billion funding bill before key programs ran out of money. The bill includes funds to carry out a provision of the tax reduction bill and send $50 checks to everyone on the social security benefit rolls. The money was supposed to have been in the mails before now, but the appropriations deadlock held up the payments.

- The Senate began debating the disputed New Hampshire election, in which both Democrat John A. Durkin and Republican Louis Wyman were at various times announced as the winners of last November's contest for the Senate.

Republicans want to hold a new election, which they think Wyman can win. Most Democrats have argued that the Senate should make the decision on the basis of the ballots cast in November.

- The House sent to the Senate a $473 million appropriation to fund summer job programs that were among the casualties of President Ford's veto of the emergency jobs bill.

Ford Urged To Sign New Housing Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

the nation. Also in the bill are provisions for increased funds for conventional public housing for low-income families.

A key section of the bill is a labor-urged program of federal loans to protect people who lose their jobs from also losing their homes because they can't keep up mortgage payments.

The final version of the bill passed the House by 253-155, less than the two-thirds margin that would be needed to override a veto. It cleared the Senate by a bigger 72-24 vote and was sent to the President.

Meany wrote Ford that the lag in housing will continue if the legislation is killed, leading to "additional housing shortages and inflationary increases in home prices and rents."

The nation needs 2 million new housing units a year, but Meany noted that the current annual rate of housing starts is under 1 million and is unlikely to rise above 1.1 million anytime soon.

He cited the current unemployment rate in construction of 21.8 percent—more than double the nation's overall jobless rate. That amounts to 961,000 unemployed construction workers, Meany told Ford, with an equal number jobless in occupations that are affected by housing.

As for the budget deficit argument the Administration has used to attack job-creating bills passed by Congress, Meany said the housing bill would bring about a "net reduction" in the deficit.

"It would increase employment, reduce unemployment relief expenditures and increase tax revenues," Meany told the President.

Airline Union Okays North Central Pact

Chicago—The Air Line Employees ratified a new 30-month contract with North Central Airlines providing for a 41.3 percent increase in wages and benefits.

The agreement, retroactive to Mar. 1, will boost monthly wages as of Jan. 1, 1977, to $1,460 for computer operators and crew schedulers, $1,400 for station agents and $1,150 for secretaries.

ALEA President Victor J. Herbert said the contract also includes improvements in company-paid insurance, the pension plan and in vacation and holidays.

North Central's ground employes approved the ALEA contract in a mail referendum by a vote of 1,175 to 372.

Maritime Union Ratifies New Three-Year Pact

New York—The National Maritime Union has ratified a new contract with major U.S.-flag ship operators that provides substantial wage and fringe-benefit improvements over the next three years.

Meanwhile, the Marine Engineers were in the process of completing ratification of a new agreement covering members employed by many of the same firms.

The Seafarers, the Masters, Mates & Pilots and the American Radio Association were separately engaged in various stages of negotiating new agreements. All have contracts expiring at midnight June 15, as do NMU and MEBA.

NMU's pact covers some 20,000 unlicensed seamen, and provides a three-step pay increase beginning with a 12.5 percent increase effective June 16. Additional 5 percent increases will take effect in the second and third years, plus cost-of-living adjustments.

The monthly base wage for an able seaman on conventional freighters will rise to $759 by the third year of the agreement, compared to the present $612. The present $673 for ABs on automated vessels will rise to $835 over the same time span.

Pension benefits, now at a $300 maximum, will rise to a range of $300 to $400 a month, depending on the retiree's rating. Present pensioners now receiving $250 a month in benefits, who have the age and service requirements, will receive a 10 percent increase.

The contract also establishes a dental benefit plan for members and their dependents, a better hospitilization plan, an improved upgrading and retraining plan, higher vacation payments and other benefits.

NMU President Shannon J. Wall said approval of the new pact at ratification meetings at ports and aboard ships was "overwhelming."

MEBA's new agreement, which is also for a three-year term, will provide stability and protection for MEBA members, Jesse M. Calhoon, the union's president, observed.

Cement Industry Accord Yields Gains for 17,850

Chicago—The Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers have reached agreements with more than a dozen major cement manufacturers on new three-year contracts providing key improvements in wages, cost-of-living increases and fringe benefits.

The basic wage package, retroactive to May 1, would raise hourly pay for 17,850 union members by $1.80 in four steps over the three years.

The agreements call for increases of 60 cents effective May 1, 50 cents next Nov. 1, 50 cents plus a cost-of-living provision with an 8-cent limit on May 1, 1976, and 45 cents with an uncapped cost-of-living provision May 1, 1977.

Union President Thomas F. Miechur said the settlement follows an industry pattern established in negotiations last month with three of the major cement firms.

Miechur noted that of the 173 cement industry locals involved in the negotiations, only three went on strike over local issues. One dispute was quickly settled, while two other strikes continued.

Pension benefits were increased to $11 a month for each year of service beginning May 1 and will go up to $12.50 on May 1, 1976, and to $14.50 on May 1, 1977. Total and permanent disability pension benefits also are increased in three similar annual steps to $12, $13.50 and to $15.50, with a minimum benefit of $350 on May 1, 1977.

Other improvements are in medical coverage, accident benefits, dental care and vacations.

Among the major cement manufacturers involved in the agreements are Alpha Portland Cement Co., General Portland, Inc., Ideal Cement Co., Lehigh Portland Cement Co., Lone Star Industries, Inc., Martin Marietta Cement, Marquette Cement Manufacturing Co., Medusa Cement Co., Penn-Dixie Cement, Universal Atlas Cement, and the Southern California-Arizona Cement employers.

Louis Silverberg Dies, Retired Labor Attache

Louis Silverberg, a former U.S. labor attache with the American embassy in Tokyo who retired a year ago as executive secretary of two employe-management relations boards at the State Dept., died in a Washington hospital following a heart attack.

Silverberg, 59, served as director of information for the National Labor Relations Board from 1941 until 1959 before joining the Foreign Service.

Victory for Whom?

UNEMPLOYMENT IS GOING in the direction that we have been saying for some time. It is up three-tenths of a percent in one month, which means that 360,000 more people were unemployed in May than April.

It is significant that the figures come out a few days after a presidential veto on an emergency employment bill was sustained by a margin of five votes in the House of Representatives.

These figures represent 8.5 million people officially unemployed. This as against the figure of 4.9 million people officially unemployed in August when Mr. Ford took office. So his Administration has managed to up the unemployment figure 3,600,000 people in a period of just nine months.

To me, it adds up to a callous, almost inhuman disregard on the part of the national Administration for the misery and the suffering that goes with unemployment.

I don't think these people in the White House running this show realize what it means to be unemployed.

I don't think they realize what it means to a head of a family trying to send kids to school, trying to pay off interest on a mortgage, trying to pay taxes and trying to keep a roof over the head of his family, clothe and feed them.

I don't think they realize what it means for that fellow to be completely out of work, without a job, and actually as time goes on without any hope for the future.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S own projection is that we are going to have 7.5 percent unemployed four years from now. I happen to think that this country can't stand that sort of unemployment. I don't think the social fabric of this country could stand it. I don't think the cities could stand it.

The unemployment rate for black teenagers now is 39.9 percent —practically 40 percent. Now what does this mean to the cities? What does this mean to life in the cities? What does this mean for jobs? What does this mean for additional welfare families?

We have a very simple theory that the government should stimulate the economy—that the government should add to the national debt temporarily in order to get people back to work. Because, in the final analysis, they are not going to lick this problem unless people get back to work. When you get a fellow back to work he starts paying taxes, he ceases to be a burden insofar as welfare and assistance from federal, state and local agencies is concerned. As long as he is unemployed he is not on the tax rolls, he is not bringing any revenue to the federal government, and he actually is a burden.

There has to be a change in national policy, I think the very weight of events is going to compel a change. This idea that there is some kind of political victory every time the President vetoes a bill that would alleviate this misery, and it's sustained on political grounds over in the House or the Senate, that this adds up to a victory. It may be a victory for the President. It may be a victory for Arthur Burns. It may be a victory for the economists who are running this show.

But it certainly is not a victory for the American people. It is not a victory for the economy, and it is certainly not a victory for the victims of this whole economic mess that we are in with the people who are without jobs.

—From AFL-CIO President George Meany's comments on the May unemployment figures at a press conference in Milwaukee.

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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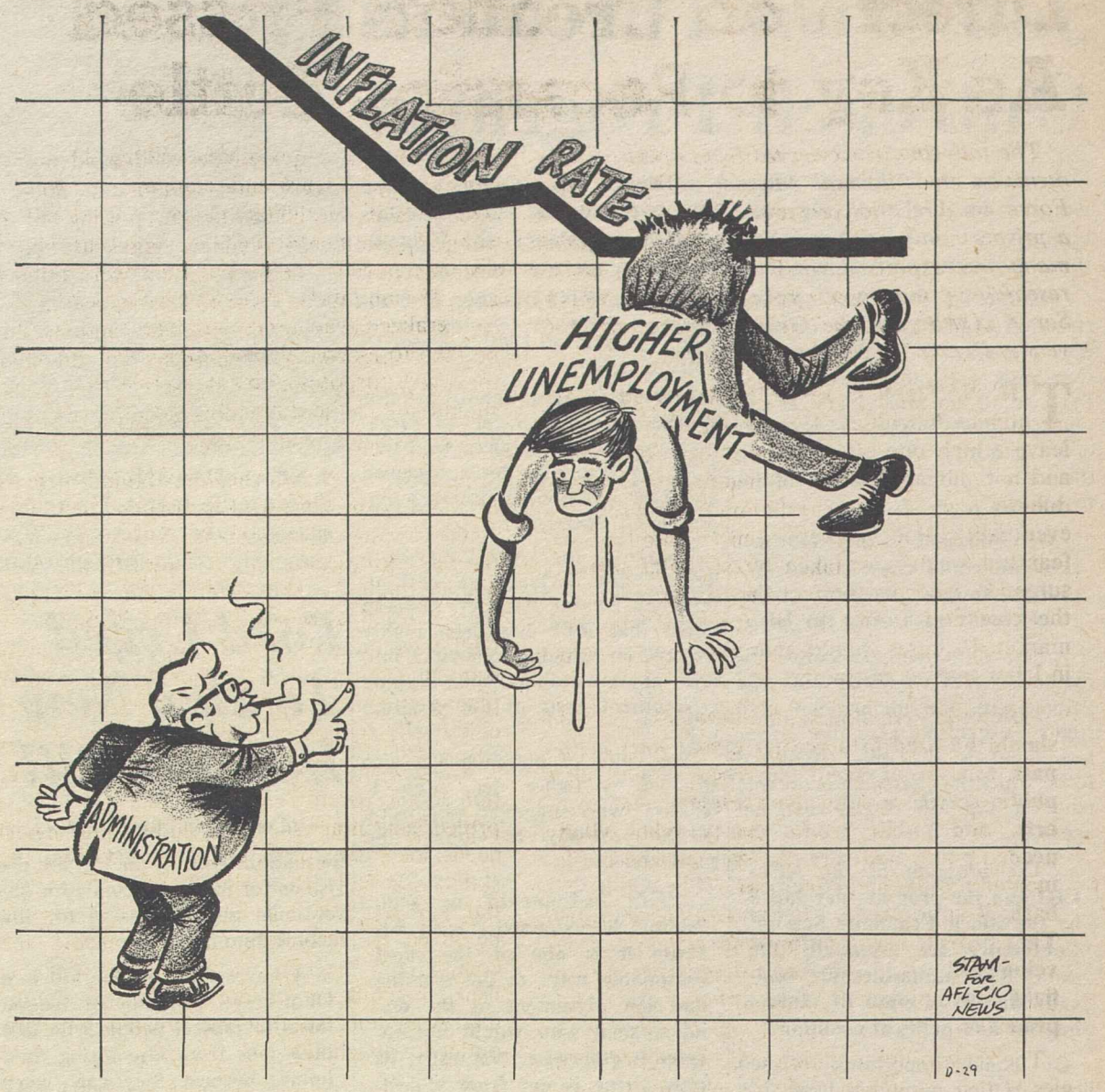

A Word Edgewise:

Switch-Hitting Morality Marks Views on Communist Terror

By John P. Roche

IF IN 1938 an American columnist shrugged off Nazi brutality to Jews as merely an old German custom going back to the First Crusade, decent people of all denominations would have been appalled and enraged. However, if he took the same stance toward Stalinist atrocities ("Russians have always been brutal to each other") or to white-black relationships in the American South ("the blacks have always been treated as inferiors"), the writer could hardly be accused of lack of principle. True, a number of us would have considered the principle despicable, but it was there in all its stark consistency.

However, what we find today is the commentator with a selective sense of principle; one who, so to speak, bats from both sides of the plate. Rarely do you find one as honest as Joseph Kraft who, in discussing Vietnam and the Middle East could flatly observe that "this country will also get along nicely no matter what happens in the Middle East or Southeast Asia." On the contrary, the same columnists who work themselves into moral spasms about racial discrimination in the United States or the evils of our prison system somehow shift gears when the issue is Communist barbarism.

In connection with the horrendous forced evacuation from Phnom Penh of some two-and-a-half-million people by the Red Khmers, we are suddenly told by one high moralist that we should not impose our value system on Cambodians, that, indeed, to do so is to engage in the sin of cultural chauvinism. In fact, to make the statement that this is barbarous is a characteristic symptom of American moral arrogance, the same failing that got us into the business of world policeman and led to dumping a million tons of ordnance in Vietnam and Cambodia.

Or take another case. No one in his senses is prepared to defend the American prison system. The big problem is not that our prisons are run by the operating procedure of the Gulag Archipelago, but—as James Q. Wilson pointed out in his recent book "Thinking About Crime"—that they are run on no conceptual foundation at all. But in comparative terms, whether prisons deter, rehabilitate, or simply keep hard characters off the streets, the fact is that here criminals live to reach prison. And most inmates are eventually released.

Let us take a hypothetical case and consider the reaction it would receive. Overwhelmed by the crime statistics in New York, Gov. Hugh Carey issues instructions that all criminals apprehended are to be killed on the spot and their bodies left "pour encourager les autres" ("to encourage the others," as Napoleon said sardonically when he had a general shot.) Moreover, to help the police in this sanguinary display of law and order, the governor mobilizes the National Guard to provide thorough coverage. In such an event, I could write Tom Wicker's column drunk with a Chinese typewriter.

YET THIS IS PRECISELY what is now happening in Saigon: Evidence? Item 1: A story by Richard Halloran, New York Times, included in passing the news that, "The Japanese (in Saigon) reported that robbery and thievery were widespread in Saigon and that the new government was severe with punishments. Saigon newspapers carry pictures of thieves executed on the spot, and their corpses are sometimes allowed to lie in the streets as warnings." Item 2: George Esper, Associated Press, provided a new and perhaps Aesopian twist (he has just been expelled from Saigon) by noting, "The provisional government is dealing more harshly with crime than the previous regime and publicizing it."

Now when you recall that the previous regime was the "brutal Thieu dictatorship," what Esper is saying comes through clearly. If one of the "white mice," as Thieu's police were called (they wore white uniforms), caught someone robbing a jewelry store, he arrested him and took him to court. If he spotted a kid stealing a Honda, he did not whip out his pistol and shoot —or if he did, he shot at the tires. Larceny, in short, was not a capital offense under the ancien regime. However, Saigon today has a genuine "law and order" regime; it's the kind of place American yahoos would consider ideal.

Generally I don't like to provide topics for other columnists, but this is a special case. When he finishes his Attica tapes, I wish Tom Wicker would turn his moral telescope on Saigon and tell us how he feels about this new progressive order.

Manpower Policy Task Force:

Direct Job Creation Pressed As Key to Recession Battle

The following is excerpted from a policy statement by the National Manpower Policy Task Force on direct job creation. The task force is a private non-profit organization of 16 academic manpower experts devoted to the promotion of research in manpower policy. It is chaired by Sar A. Levitan of the George Washington University Center for Manpower Studies.

THE NATION IS ENGULFED by grave economic difficulties. Even rapid recovery may leave a high rate of joblessness for several years, and a timid application of macroeconomic tools due to fear of future inflation will insure this eventuality. Policymakers seem hypnotized with fear lest we be overtaken by an inflationary resurgence, ignoring the fact that the percentage of the recession is not to be found in the labor market. Its cures should, therefore, not be sought in labor market restraints.

Direct job creation is one tool which can and should be used to a greater extent than in the past. Analysis of recent experience suggests that public service employment, employment projects, and public works can provide vitally needed goods and service. They can be implemented rapidly and effectively. They can be cut back, if appropriate, when conditions improve. They provide useful output and sustain and develop skills. And they are a less costly way to fight unemployment than many other approaches.

The scale of job creation and the mix of strategies depends on economic developments in the future. The most likely scenario, in the absence of appropriate policies, is a very slowly declining unemployment rate, stagnating at a level of 6 percent or higher for the remainder of the 1970s. However, further deterioration or a more rapid than expected turnaround are also possibilities that should not be ignored. Based on the assumption of stagnation, but recognizing the need for flexibility in the case of a quick rebound or a reversal, the National Manpower Policy Task Force makes the following recommendations:

1. Public service employment should be expanded. The task force suggested in December 1972 a triggering formula which would have provided funds to hire one-fourth of the unemployed above a high unemployment level. Assuming a tolerable level of 4.5 percent unemployment, the present 8.9 percent rate means 3.6 million "excess" unemployed and calls for 900,000 public service jobs. Since some 300,000 service jobs are currently available, an expansion of 600,000 jobs is needed, carrying a price tag of about $5 billion. Such an expansion would have been feasible if the recommended trigger mechanism had already been in place. Having lost time, it may be difficult to achieve this goal all at once. Nevertheless, a doubling of present efforts should be feasible.

2. If public service employment is expanded rapidly, states and localities will need more resources for supplies and equipment. Some are already claiming difficulties in putting all their public employment funds to good use because needed materials and equipment were not available. The limitation on non-wage expenses should be liberalized, yet some strict precautions should be taken to assure that money is not siphoned off for other purposes. Public service employment should shift in the direction of employment projects as its scale is increased.

3. It is regrettable that the training provisions of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act are being deemphasized. A recession may be the most propitious time to upgrade the skills of many to better enable them to take advantage of the eventual recovery. Additional funding for CETA would add to total demand while enabling state and local elected officials and manpower planners to take approaches which meet the specific needs of their communities.

4. The pending emergency public works legislation should be strengthened. Greater specificity of project selection criteria, including public service needs, local unemployment rates, and occupational skills required by the proposed projects, are essential, and preference in allocation of funds should be given to early applicants promising speedy completion. Mechanisms should also be established for linking job creation projects with the CETA system, so that the created jobs are an outlet for its clients.

5. The longer-run implications must also be considered. A trigger formula under both public service employment and public works would reduce as well as expand funds automatically. These trigger mechanisms should be coordinated with similar provisions made under the unemployment compensation system. Countercyclical public works and employment projects should be short-term in nature, so that they can be cut off upon completion if this is desired.

These recommendations carry a multibillion dollar price tag. Yet, so does a tax cut, expansion of unemployment compensation, and other "emergency" measures which have been taken with no more guarantee of their potential impact. Despite a fair degree of experience to date with direct job creation which suggests that it can be usefully undertaken in the present conditions, a bias persists against an active employment policy.

Shedding the misconceptions on which this bias is founded is long overdue. Properly designed and triggered job creation programs can play an important role in augmenting macroeconomic measures and preventing repetition of the current deep recession.

Condoning mass unemployment is no way to begin the third century of our nation's history.

40,000 in Decade:

Labor's Outreach Efforts Swell Apprenticeships for Minorities

BUILDING TRADES apprenticeships have been swelled by more than 40,000 young minority group workers, largely because of efforts of unions and other concerned groups to find and prepare youngsters for the training programs.

That progress report was made by Ernest Green, executive director of the Recruitment & Training Program, Inc., which was founded in 1963 as the Joint Apprenticeship Program of the Workers Defense League and the A. Philip Randolph Educational Fund.

Green said that from a modest beginning in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of New York City, the outreach effort has expanded to RTP projects in 35 cities, while the federal government has adopted the model built in New York and expanded it to 105 cities across the country.

Green said the apprenticeship idea should be adopted as "a training model in this country, expanded to other occupations . . . it's viable; it demonstrated its transferability." And, he added, apprenticeship has proved itself an effective route for young minority workers into the mainstream of the workforce.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Green said the rate of progress in placing minority youngsters in apprenticeship programs leading to skilled jobs in the construction industry "is fairly definable." He pointed out that "in 1960, fewer than 2 percent of the youngsters in apprenticeship programs were from minority groups; today, the figure is around 18 percent."

But, he stressed, "none of this can operate fully in an economy that is not running at full steam." Noting that "the construction industry has been one of the hardest hit by this present depression," he said that stepped-up programs of public construction—schools, hospitals, housing—would not only meet the mounting need for such facilities, but would also expand the chances for minority construction workers to find decent jobs with solid futures.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

FOR THE GREATER PART of this century, labor leaders, businessmen and politicians have been debating over how to bring stability to the nation's economy—to sustain steady growth and eliminate the periods of peaks and valleys, the boom and bust.

For almost as long as the debate has been going on, there have been those who have been saying economic stability cannot be achieved without the benefit of long-range economic planning. Others have contended such planning would lead to government domination.

Throughout the years, economic planning has remained an idea not well understood in the United States. As Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop has observed, "It's hard to discuss because almost nobody knows what it means."

Now Senators Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) have introduced a bill to establish a national economic planning process under a federal agency, an Economic Planning Board.

The legislation would create a system that combines policy decisions by government agencies with voluntary cooperation by unions, businesses, state and local interests. Economic planning would be developed by three new government bodies, then scrutinized by Congress. The three would be:

- A three-member Economic Planning Board, appointed by the President and set up in his office. It would have a division of economic information to develop and distribute material on the economy from both public and private sources.
- A Council on Economic Planning, composed of some Cabinet members and other top echelon federal officials.
- An advisory Committee on Economic Planning, with four members appointed by the President, four by the Speaker of the House and four by the President of the Senate.

The planning board, after extensive hearings, would submit a "balanced-economic-growth" plan to the council for its approval. The council would review the plan, possibly revise it, and send it to the President. The advisory committee would help provide the board and council with views of groups and organizations, including labor.

The Joint Economic Committee of Congress would hold hearings on the plan as finally approved by the President. The committee would report to the House and Senate a concurrent resolution approving, disapproving, or amending the plan. Congress in turn would be required to act on the plan. Presumably, a plan might run for four years or longer.

HUMPHREY, AS CHAIRMAN of the Joint Economic Committee, and Javits, as its ranking GOP member, note that Congress last year passed the Budget Act to provide a means of making short-term, economic policy by requiring the Executive to report to Congress.

Humphrey and Javits know that their balanced Growth & Economic Planning Act will not become instant reality. They expect it to spark vigorous debate. But they believe an economic planning law has become a must if the country is to be put "on the road to consistent economic prosperity."

AFL-CIO President George Meany has called long-range economic planning essential to reducing "the degree to which American society has stumbled and fumbled along in the past few years." Planning in the 1950s could have averted the urban crisis of the 1960s, he points out.

President Leonard Woodcock of the Auto Workers has appealed to Congress to focus immediately on the Humphrey-Javits measure. "Rampant inflation, serious recession, massive unemployment and national misery have been the result of our failure to plan the economy in a rational way," he concludes.

APPRENTICESHIPS have put more than 40,000 young minority group workers into building trades jobs during the last decade, but the rate has slowed as the industry sunk into depression, Executive Director Ernest Green of the Recruitment & Training Program, Inc., center, reported. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Charles Flinner of United Press International. The AFL-CIO produced program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual Radio.

Key Vote on President's Job Fund Veto

The key House vote on the emergency $5.3 billion appropriations bill to fund 900,000 jobs is shown in Column II. That's the attempt on June 4 to override President Ford's veto. The 277-145 vote was five short of the two-thirds majority needed.

On labor's scorecard, right votes (R) were cast by the 258 Democrats and 19 Republicans who voted to override the veto. Voting wrong (W) were 123 Republicans and 22 Democrats.

The Column I vote is used here only for purposes of comparison. It shows which House members cast "right" votes for the bill when it was passed in final form on May 14, and then backed away and voted against overriding the veto. In a few cases, switches went the other way. The AFL-CIO considers the Column II vote on overriding the important test.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

	I	II
ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	W	W
4. Bevill (D)	R	R
5. Jones (D)	R	R
6. Buchanan (R)	W	W
7. Flowers (D)	R	R
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	W	W
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W
2. Udall (D)	R	R
3. Steiger (R)	W	W
4. Conlan (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	R	A
2. Mills (D)	A	R
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	R	W
4. Thornton (D)	R	R
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	R	R
2. Clausen (R)	R	W
3. Moss (D)	R	R
4. Leggett (D)	R	R
5. Burton John L. (D)	R	R
6. Burton, Phillip (D)	R	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	R
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Ryan (D)	R	R
12. McCloskey (R)	R	W
13. Mineta (D)	R	R
14. McFall (D)	R	R
15. Sisk (D)	R	R
16. Talcott (R)	W	W
17. Krebs (D)	R	R
18. Ketchum (R)	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	W
21. Corman (D)	A	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Rees (D)	R	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Bell (R)	W	W
28. Burke (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	R	R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D)	R	R
32. Anderson (D)	R	R
33. Clawson (R)	W	W
34. Hannaford (D)	R	R
35. Lloyd (D)	R	R
36. Brown (D)	R	R
37. Pettis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	R	R
39. Wiggins (R)	W	PW
40. Hinshaw (R)	A	W
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	W
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	R
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R
2. Wirth (D)	R	R
3. Evans (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	W	W
5. Armstrong (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	R
2. Dodd (D)	R	R
3. Giaimo (D)	R	R
4. McKinney (R)	R	R
5. Sarasin (R)	R	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	R
DELAWARE		
AL duPont (R)	R	A
FLORIDA		
1. Sikes (D)	R	R
2. Fuqua (D)	R	R
3. Bennett (D)	R	R
4. Chappell (D)	R	R
5. Kelly (R)	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	R	R
8. Haley (D)	R	R
9. Frey (R)	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	R	W
11. Rogers (D)	R	R
12. Burke (R)	W	W
13. Lehman (D)	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	R	R
15. Fascell (D)	R	A
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	R	R
2. Mathis (D)	R	A
3. Brinkley (D)	A	R
4. Levitas (D)	W	R
5. Young (D)	R	R
6. Flynt (D)	A	R
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Stuckey (D)	A	A
9. Landrum (D)	A	W
10. Stephens (D)	A	W
HAWAII		
1. Matsunaga (D)	A	R
2. Mink (D)	R	R
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Metcalfe (D)	A	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	R
3. Russo (D)	R	R
4. Derwinski (R)	W	W
5. Vacancy		
6. Hyde (R)	W	W
7. Collins (D)	R	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	A	PR
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Mikva (D)	R	R
11. Annunzio (D)	R	R
12. Crane (R)	W	W
13. McClory (R)	R	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	W
15. Hall (D)	R	R
16. Anderson (R)	W	W
17. O'Brien (R)	R	W
18. Michel (R)	W	W
19. Railsback (R)	R	PR
20. Findley (R)	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	R	W
22. Shipley (D)	R	R
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	R
INDIANA		
1. Madden (D)	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	R	R
3. Brademas (D)	R	R
4. Roush (D)	A	R
5. Hillis (R)	R	W
6. Evans (D)	R	R
7. Myers (R)	W	W
8. Hayes (D)	R	R
9. Hamilton (D)	R	R
10. Sharp (D)	R	R
11. Jacobs (D)	R	W
IOWA		
1. Mezvinsky (D)	R	R
2. Blouin (D)	R	R
3. Grassley (R)	W	W
4. Smith (D)	R	R
5. Harkin (D)	R	R
6. Bedell (D)	R	R
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Keys (D)	R	R
3. Winn (R)	W	W
4. Shriver (R)	A	W
5. Skubitz (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	R	R
2. Natcher (D)	R	R
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	R
4. Snyder (R)	W	W
5. Carter (R)	R	W
6. Breckinridge (D)	R	R
7. Perkins (D)	R	R
LOUISIANA		
1. Hebert (D)	PW	R
2. Boggs (D)	R	R
3. Treen (R)	A	W
4. Waggonner (D)	W	W
5. Passman (D)	R	R
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	R	R
8. Long (D)	R	R
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	R	R
2. Cohen (R)	R	R
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	R
3. Sarbanes (D)	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	R
6. Byron (D)	R	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Gude (R)	R	W
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	R	W
2. Boland (D)	R	R
3. Early (D)	R	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Tsongas (D)	R	R
6. Harrington (D)	R	R
7. Macdonald (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	R	R
9. Moakley (D)	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	R	R
11. Burke (D)	R	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	R	R
2. Esch (R)	R	W
3. Brown (R)	R	W
4. Hutchinson (R)	W	W
5. VanderVeen (D)	R	R
5. Carr (D)	R	R
7. Riegle (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	A	W
10. Cederberg (R)	W	W
11. Ruppe (R)	R	W
12. O'Hara (D)	R	R
13. Diggs (D)	R	R
14. Nedzi (D)	R	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	R
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Quie (R)	R	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W
4. Karth (D)	R	R
5. Fraser (D)	R	R
6. Nolan (D)	R	R
7. Bergland (D)	R	R
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1, Whitten (D)	A	R
2. Bowen (D)	R	R
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Cochran (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Symington (D)	R	R
3. Sullivan (D)	A	R
4. Randall (D)	R	R
5. Bolling (D)	R	R
6. Litton (D)	R	R
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W
9. Hungate (D)	R	R
10. Burlison (D)	R	R
MONTANA		
1. Baucus (D)	R	R
2. Melcher (D)	R	R
NEBRASKA		
1. Thone (R)	W	W
2. McCollister (R)	W	W
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	R	R
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	R	R
2. Cleveland (R)	R	W
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	W	R
3. Howard (D)	PR	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	R
5. Fenwick (R)	W	W
6. Forsythe (R)	W	W
7. Maguire (D)	R	R
8. Roe (D)	R	R
9. Helstoski (D)	R	R
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	R	R
13. Meyner (D)	R	R
14. Daniels (D)	R	R
15. Patten (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	R	R
2. Runnels (D)	W	W
NEW YORK		
1. Pike (D)	R	R
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	R
4. Lent (R)	W	W
5. Wydler (R)	W	W
6. Wolff (D)	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	A	R
9. Delaney (D)	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	A	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	R
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	A	R
18. Koch (D)	R	R
19. Rangel (D)	R	R
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21. Badillo (D)	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (R)	R	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R
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26. Gilman (R)	R	R
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30. McEwen (R)	W	W
31. Mitchell (R)	R	W
32. Hanley (D)	R	R
33. Walsh (R)	R	R
34. Horton (R)	R	R
35. Conable (R)	W	W
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	W
39. Hastings (R)	R	W
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	R	W
2. Fountain (D)	R	W
3. Henderson (D)	W	W
4. Andrews (D)	W	W
5. Neal (D)	R	R
6. Preyer (D)	R	R
7. Rose (D)	R	R
8. Hefner (D)	R	R
9. Martin (R)	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Taylor (D)	R	R
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	R	R
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	A	W
2. Clancy (R)	W	W
3. Whalen (R)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	R	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	R	R
7. Brown (R)	W	W
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	R	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton, J. William (R)	R	W
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Mosher (R)	R	W
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W
16. Regula (R)	R	W
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Hays (D)	R	R
19. Carney (D)	R	R
20. Stanton, James V. (D)	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	R	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	R	R
2. Risenhoover (D)	R	R
3. Albert (D)	Speaker	R
4. Steed (D)	R	R
5. Jarman (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	R	R
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	A	R
2. Ullman (D)	R	R
3. Duncan (D)	R	R
4. Weaver (D)	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Barrett (D)	A	R
2. Nix (D)	R	R
3. Green (D)	R	R
4. Eilberg (D)	R	R
5. Schulze (R)	R	W
6. Yatron (D)	R	R
7. Edgar (D)	R	R
8. Biester (R)	R	R
9. Shuster (R)	W	W
10. McDade (R)	R	R
11. Flood (D)	R	R
12. Murtha (D)	R	R
13. Coughlin (R)	R	W
14. Moorhead (D)	R	R
15. Rooney (D)	R	R
16. Eshleman (R)	W	W
17. Schneebeli (R)	W	W
18. Heinz (R)	R	R
19. Goodling (R)	R	W
20. Gaydos (D)	R	R
21. Dent (D)	R	R
22. Morgan (D)	R	R
23. Johnson (R)	R	W
24. Vigorito (D)	R	R
25. Myers (R)	W	W
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	R	R
2. Spence (R)	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	R	R
4. Mann (D)	W	W
5. Holland (D)	R	R
6. Jenrette (D)	R	R
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Pressler (R)	R	R
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	W
3. Lloyd (D)	R	R
4. Evins (D)	R	R
5. Fulton (D)	R	R
6. Beard (R)	W	W
7. Jones (D)	R	PR
8. Ford (D)	R	R
TEXAS		
1. Patman (D)	A	R
2. Wilson (D)	R	A
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	A	R
5. Steelman (R)	W	W
6. Teague (D)	R	PW
7. Archer (R)	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	R	R
10. Pickle (D)	W	W
11. Poage (D)	W	W
12. Wright (D)	R	R
13. Hightower (D)	A	R
14. Young (D)	R	R
15. de la Garza (D)	R	R
16. White (D)	R	R
17. Burleson (D)	W	W
18. Jordan (D)	R	R
19. Mahon (D)	R	R
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	R
21. Krueger (D)	W	W
22. Casey (D)	R	R
23. Kazen (D)	R	R
24. Milford (D)	A	R
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	R	R
2. Howe (D)	R	R
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	R	W
VIRGINIA		
1. Downing (D)	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	R	R
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	R	R
2. Meeds (D)	R	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	R
4. McCormack (D)	R	R
5. Foley (D)	R	R
6. Hicks (D)	R	R
7. Adams (D)	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	A	PR
2. Staggers (D)	R	R
3. Slack (D)	R	R
4. Hechler (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	R	R
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	R
4. Zablocki (D)	R	R
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Steiger (R)	W	W
7. Obey (D)	R	R
8. Cornell (D)	R	R
9. Kasten (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Roncalio (D)	A	R

Delegates Draft Alternatives:

CWA Assails Ford On Economic Mess

San Diego—The destruction of the nation's economy and the development of programs to revive it were the overriding concerns of the more than 2,500 delegates to the Communications Workers' annual convention here.

CWA President Glenn E. Watts sounded a call for new national leadership in his opening address, declaring that "the economic mess in this country today is the direct result of 6½ years of systematic deliberate and shameful mismanagement of the economy by the current and former big business administrations."

Watts roundly denounced President Ford's veto of the emergency jobs bill, declaring: "It's absolutely ridiculous for our leaders to speak to us of the federal deficit in terms of household budgetry."

If it takes a budget deficit of 75 to 100 billion dollars to pull the country out of the recession, "that shouldn't frighten anyone," Watts said. He pointed out that total public debt in 1974 was only 27 percent of the gross national product as compared with more than 50 percent during the Eisenhower Administration.

The delegates later adopted a lengthy economic policy statement calling among other things for creation of a major public service jobs program, liberalization of mortgage credit to stimulate housing construction, government regulatory efforts to stop "monopoly price gouging," and a "complete revision of the tax system" to more fairly redistribute income.

The convention paid tribute to CWA's late founder and president for three decades, Joseph A. Beirne, with a special program which included a film highlighting his career and a eulogy delivered by Msgr. George G. Higgins. Beirne died last Labor Day.

The delegates also acted to raise $1 million over 10 years to fund a memorial foundation in Beirne's name, dedicated primarily to promoting educational opportunity for working class and disadvantaged young people—one of Beirne's lifelong interests.

In an address to the convention, former Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter, an announced candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination next year, stressed the need to concentrate on exporting American goods to help improve the U.S. balance of trade. He suggested that companies choosing to manufacture their products abroad at the expense of American jobs should be heavily taxed.

Leadership in solving economic and social problems, Carter said must come from the White House because "Congress has demonstrated that it is inherently incapable of leadership." He cited recent failures of Congress in dealing with energy policy and attempting to override vetoes of public service jobs and strip mining legislation.

Bess Meyerson, former consumer protection commissioner of New York City, discussed the need for a federal consumer protection agency and for more vigorous enforcement of laws against fraudulent business practices and unsafe products.

HRDI Names Bradford To Director Post

Charles E. Bradford has been named executive director of the AFL-CIO's Human Resources Development Institute, HRDI President Alan Kistler announced.

Bradford had been serving as acting executive director of the institute for the past seven months. HRDI has the responsibility of advising unions and management in the development of job and training opportunities for the unemployed, the poor and minority groups.

Kistler said Bradford will continue to direct the day-to-day operations of the HRDI program which is carried out in more than 50 major cities.

Bradford has been active in the labor movement since 1950. He held a number of offices, including the presidency of Machinists Local 41 in St. Louis, before joining the HRDI field staff.

He was appointed St. Louis area manpower representative of HRDI in 1968 and became regional director for the Midwest in 1972. Bradford became assistant director of HRDI for program development, evaluation and training at the institute's Washington headquarters in 1972.

Postal Union Delegates Retain Old Constitution

Kansas City—The Postal Workers will continue to operate under the union's present constitution, at least until the APWU's regular convention in mid-1976.

Delegates to a special convention here debated a proposed overhaul of the constitution that has been in effect since a multi-union merger four years ago, and ended up rejecting all proposed changes.

A draft document drawn up by a select committee was amended during the floor debate so that it ended up greatly expanding the officer structure and adding a new department.

The new posts and salary increases provided in another amendment would have added an estimated $400,000 a year to the union's costs. But delegates decisively defeated a proposed rise in per capita payments to cover the added expenses.

An attempt to reconsider and delete the section creating the new positions mustered a 6,282 to 3,918 majority at a night session on the eve of the final day. But that was short of the needed two-thirds, and the effort failed.

The next day, with President Francis S. Filbey and most other national officers voting against it, the amended constitution failed of adoption. The vote of 5,662 to 4,465 was 1,089 short of the two-thirds needed. The convention then adjourned after voting down a motion to submit the issue to a referendum.

PROBLEMS OF THE ELDERLY are spelled out for the House Select Committee on Aging at the opening session of National Council of Senior Citizens legislative conference. The three-day meeting in Washington drew 3,700 delegates, representing the more than 3 million NCSC members.

Senior Citizens Outline Program For Congress on Needs of Elderly

(Continued from Page 1)

In testimony before the House Select Committee on Aging, NCSC officials and representatives from around the country detailed the steps Congress must take to resolve the problems of millions of older Americans struggling against high living costs and illness.

The occasion was the first field hearing conducted by the new 28-member committee, held at the hotel ballroom where the NCSC was meeting.

Among the key legislative objectives outlined by the NCSC are:

- General revenue contributions to the social security fund.
- Automatic cost-of-living increases in social security benefits at least twice a year.
- Enactment of the National Health Security bill to overcome the shortcomings of Medicare with its deductibles, fees and exclusions.
- An independent Social Security Administration outside the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.
- Reform of nursing home regulations to eliminate inhumane conditions and abuse of patients.
- Reduced fares for the elderly during non-rush periods on national and local transportation systems.
- Property tax relief and development of adequate low-income housing programs for senior citizens.

The delegates took time during their three-day conference to demonstrate at the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development in protest against proposed HUD regulations that have created a crisis in housing construction for low-income retired persons.

HUD rules would require housing sponsors to repay all government loans within 12 months after completion of construction, which would require refinancing through commercial loans at higher interest loans.

As the lead-off witness before the committee, NCSC President Nelson H. Cruikshank noted that retirement for most Americans means that they must live on fixed incomes during a time of high inflation. He pointed out that about 5 million persons over age 65 live in poverty.

Cruikshank said the elderly must pay a disproportionate amount of their incomes for the basic necessities of food, shelter, transportation and medical care.

He also stressed that economic problems are mounting for persons aged 55 to 64, among whom the unemployment rate has increased nearly 75 percent in the past nine months and long-term unemployment has doubled.

"Once out of work, these persons remain unemployed more than twice as long as those under 25," Cruikshank observed.

He said that enactment of Health Security legislation is vital to close gaps in coverage under Medicare, citing in particular the problems of 8 million persons over 74.

Other NCSC witnesses, representing all major sections of the country, described for the committee the wide-spread poverty conditions that exist among the elderly, many of whom after paying their housing expenses don't have enough income to cover the costs of adequate food or medical care.

They cited the shortcomings in the Supplementary Security Income program which was intended to provide the aged, blind and disabled enough benefits to stay above the poverty level.

They pointed out that the SSI federal income floor is so substandard that recipients cannot live decently at that level. And only about one-third of the persons qualified for SSI are actually receiving the benefits, the committee was told.

NCSC witnesses also urged Congress to continue resisting Ford Administration attempts to reduce cost-of-living increases in social security benefits. They cited efforts of President Ford to limit this year's adjustment to 5 percent, instead of the legally mandated 8 percent, in addition to seeking cuts in Medicare to hold down the federal deficit.

Kenneth Young, AFL-CIO assistant legislative director, told the delegates they must make their needs clearly known to a Congress that claims "it only hears from those who want to reduce federal spending and cut the deficit. Remind these members that you can't balance the budget in a vacuum."

Young pointed out that the coalition of senior citizens, labor and civil rights continues to have the support of numerous members of Congress who favor social progress. He noted that of the almost 100 sponsors of the Health Security bill in the House, not one voted to sustain President Ford's veto of the emergency employment legislation to create 900,000 jobs.

President Leonard Woodcock of the Auto Workers called on the NCSC to step up its pressure on Congress for the adoption of Health Security.

Woodcock, chairman of the Committee for National Health Insurance, stressed that Health Security would provide the universal coverage that is needed and halt the waste in the health delivery system.

Other major speakers at the three-day conference included Robert M. Ball, former Commissioner of Social Security; Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Charles McC. Mathias (R-Md.) and Rep. Yvonne B. Burke (D-Calif.).

USWA Members Get 9-Cent COL Boost

Pittsburgh—A 9 cent cost-of-living increase went into effect June 1 for 30,000 members of the Steelworkers employed by three major aluminum companies.

The wage adjustments are part of the USWA 1974 agreements with Aluminum Co. of America, Reynolds Metals Co. and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. Earlier adjustments, based on a 1-cent an hour increase for every three-tenths of 1 percent jump in the government's Consumer Price Index, amounted to 53 cents an hour, the USWA reported.

Solid Union Support:

Site Picketing Right Pressed for Crafts

(Continued from Page 1)

by the secretaries of labor of the past five administrations, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Dunlop suggested some changes in the bill but he stressed his belief that "a construction site should have a common labor relations policy, regardless of how many separate contracts or contractors, prime or subcontractors, are involved."

Georgine strongly backed the bill as introduced by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), chairman of the subcommittee. A companion bill in the Senate is sponsored by Labor Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.).

Because of the picketing restrictions, Georgine said, non-union firms are performing "a much higher percentage of construction work." And national contractor associations have been helping union contractors convert to non-union operations, he charged.

Meany's testimony charged that the 1951 Supreme Court decision on construction site picketing distorted the intent of Congress and "was wrongly decided."

It expanded a protection against secondary picketing that Congress had intended to apply only in the case of truly neutral employers to the "highly interdependent" relationships of a multiemployer construction site.

Further, Meany noted, the present Supreme Court has used the "wrong" decision of the 1951 court as the basis for subsequent decisions that also weaken unions and distort the intent of Congress—as in its recent antitrust ruling.

Meany said denial of traditional picketing rights means that "building tradesmen have, in practical terms, been required to disregard their common interests and break each other's strikes."

The union witnesses all supported a provision of the picketing bill that would make it clear that the legislation does not sanction picketing to bring about or preserve racial discrimination.

Meany noted that this proviso eliminates one of the arguments falsely used by employers opposed to the bill.

His statement noted pointedly that the employers "who show such concern about minorities" when legislation to restore picketing rights is being considered were not allies of the AFL-CIO and the civil rights movement in passing and strengthening the ban on job discrimination in the Civil Rights Act.

Also in the bill is a requirement for a 10-day notice to the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service before picketing in disputes on federal defense or space agency work.

Dunlop suggested a general 10-day notice requirement to enable national unions and contractor associations to seek a settlement during a "cooling off period," but committee members seemed cool to the concept. Dunlop also suggested a 30-day limit on picketing.

Georgine said at the hearing that the building trades supported the bill as Thompson had introduced it.

Clayman told the panel that the IUD considers the ban on construction site picketing a "grievous injury to our democratic system as well as to those workers directly affected."

ECONOMIC RECOVERY and action programs to put unemployed Americans back to work are more responsive to the nation's immediate needs than the Ford Administration's war on the deficit, AFL-CIO Sec.-Teas. Lane Kirkland declared at the Insurance Workers convention in Miami Beach.

White House Callousness Scored As Joblessness Climbs to 9.2%

(Continued from Page 1)

ployed persons do not reflect the true story.

"Add to that the 1.1 million people who are discouraged and no longer look for jobs, and you have 9.6 million people unemployed," he said. "Add in another 1.8 million more people who usually work fulltime but who are partially unemployed, and you get a figure well over 11 million people who are unemployed or underemployed."

While employment increased in May for the second month in a row, the rise was far outstripped by a jump in the civilian labor force. Total employment rose 316,000 to a seasonally adjusted 84,402,000 but the labor force increased 678,000 to 92,940,000 with the resulting increase in the jobless rate.

Meany said it was significant that the new unemployment figures came out only a few days after President Ford's veto of an emergency employment bill was sustained by a slim margin in the House of Representatives. The measure would have provided 900,000 jobs.

"But the President said he vetoed the bill because he felt that it would over-stimulate the economy to put 900,000 people back to work," Meany said. "In other words, the 900,000 jobs were not needed. And now we have 360,000 more jobs that are needed in one month."

The May increases in unemployment were concentrated in construction, finance and service, and government. The rise in joblessness was particularly sharp in the construction industry which has probably been hit hardest of all U.S. industries in the current recession.

At an all-time high of 21.8 percent, the unemployment rate among construction workers was more than double that of a year earlier.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., citing the 2.5 percent increase over the month, declared that workers in the industry "are being buried alive in the tunnel at the end of which the Ford Administration professes to see a light.

"With more than one out of every five building and construction workers now jobless, we can't see any light, nor can we see President Ford's logic," Georgine declared.

The overall jobless rate has climbed steadily since last August. The May rate was double the October 1973 pre-recession low. Since last August, the number of job losers—that is, workers laid off—has risen by 2.9 million, or about 80 percent of the total 3.6 million who have become jobless over the past nine months.

Among the statistical highlights of the monthly BLS report, one that measures "hardship" in a telling way is the number of long-term unemployed—those who have been out of work for 15 weeks or longer.

In May, this number rose by 240,000 to more than 2.6 million. A year earlier the total was less than a million. Those who had been seeking work for six months or more exceeded the 1 million mark for the first time since 1958.

Also, the average duration of joblessness continued to move upward, reaching 13.4 weeks in May, the highest level in more than 10 years, BLS noted.

Since last November, the average duration of unemployment has increased by 3.6 weeks, and the number jobless for 15 weeks or more has risen by 1.5 million.

The average workweek in May dropped by one-tenth of an hour to 36 hours, seasonally adjusted. Average hourly earnings rose two cents over the month to $4.47.

Limit on Aid Extension Opposed as Premature

Unemployed workers should be entitled to 65 weeks of unemployment insurance benefits "until the nation is no longer plagued by large-scale unemployment," the AFL-CIO told the Senate Finance Committee.

The committee is considering a House-passed bill extending the maximum 65-week entitlement for regularly-covered workers under state unemployment insurance laws until June 30, 1976.

"Frankly, we see no reason to limit this extension to mid-1976," the AFL-CIO said in a statement filed with the committee by Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller. The federation noted that most observers believe unemployment will continue to increase in the next few months and remain at high levels for the next few years.

"Temporary stop-gap, 13-week extensions of unemployment compensation benefits triggered 'on' and 'off' by statistical formulas totally unrelated to actual unemployment levels will not solve the problems the nation faces today," the AFL-CIO said.

Noting that 127 of 150 major labor market areas are classified as having substantial unemployment, Biemiller's statement added:

"Attempts to develop local unemployment compensation triggers, as the Administration has recommended, will certainly fail just as the national and state triggers, which have required congressional revision ten times in the past five years, have been a dismal failure."

While urging Congress to act on permanent unemployment insurance reform this year, the AFL-CIO asked the committee to report a bill providing every jobless worker with 26 weeks of regular benefits and at least 39 weeks of extended benefits. Benefits after 39 weeks should be federally financed, it said.

The federation pointed out that workers who exhausted their benefit entitlements in December 1974 and whose benefit year expired on January 15, 1975, are ineligible for emergency benefits. The AFL-CIO suggested making workers who exhausted all benefit entitlement after June 30, 1974, eligible for emergency extended benefits.

6-14-75

Job Losses Bear Heavily On Heads of Households

The sharp increase in the jobless rate for household heads during the current economic recession "has contributed to a growing public concern over the unemployment problem," the Bureau of Labor Statistics notes in a detailed study on the employment status of household heads and members.

At 6.3 percent in May, the rate for household heads is more than double the average rate of 2.8 percent over the 1963-74 period.

Household heads now account for 39.2 percent, or 3,346,000, of the unemployed, up from 34 percent, or 1.4 million, in October 1973, when the overall unemployment rate dropped to a post-1970 low of 4.6 percent, BLS noted.

In most households, the head is the sole or primary earner. Thus, the unemployment of the family breadwinner usually has a serious effect on the economic well-being of the entire household.

"Unless the spell of unemployment is brief, or the household unit has considerable savings, the head's loss of a job almost inevitably lowers the household's standard of living," BLS said.

Railway Clerks Set New Talks With Carriers

The Railway & Airline Clerks will enter marathon mediation talks June 16 in an attempt to resolve the longstanding contract dispute with the nation's major railroads.

BRAC President C. L. Dennis said daily meetings would be held with carrier representatives and National Mediation Board officials. He expressed hope the two sides will find a basis for agreement before a government-imposed, 30-day cooling-off period ends on June 23.

The union has been studying the findings of a special presidentially-appointed panel which recommended last month that BRAC accept the general pattern of settlement approved earlier in the year by seven other rail unions.

The panel was established by President Ford on Apr. 16 under provisions of the Railway Labor Act, blocking a nationwide strike by BRAC that had been set for Apr. 18. The disputants by law must observe the cooling-off period before they are free to take any "self-interest" action such as a strike.

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Ford to Continue Vetoes, Claims Recovery on Way

Financing Shift Urged On Security

The AFL-CIO proposed to Congress changes in the financing of social security benefits designed to meet both short-term and long-range funding problems.

While there is proper cause for "concern" when the social security trust funds pay out more than they take in, the federation's statement to a House Ways & Means subcommittee emphasized that there is no cause for alarm.

To overcome the deficit problem, the AFL-CIO suggested:

- Raising the amount of wages subject to the social security tax and used for computation of benefits, and requiring employers to pay the tax on their total payroll.
- Shifting a scheduled four-tenths of 1 percent increase in the Medicare payroll tax, due to take effect in 1978, to the basic social security program since the rise in the taxable wage base would automatically bring more money into the Medicare fund.
- **Initiating a federal contribution to the social security program from general treasury revenues to amount eventually to at least one-third of the income.**
- Remedying a technical flaw in a 1972 amendment which added automatic cost-of-living increases to retirement benefits and to the benefit schedule. The AFL-CIO proposed to retain the present living cost formula for retired workers but to "decouple" this from the basic benefit table to correct an "unanticipated technical flaw" that distorts the link between wages and pensions.

The statement, submitted by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, said a temporary deficit is not a problem and currently has been helpful in providing purchasing power that the economy needs. But "this deficit cannot continue indefinitely and some action must be taken to insure future financial stability" of the program.

It noted also that the original social security legislation that President Roosevelt submitted to Congress in 1935 contemplated a government contribution to finance past service credits.

Unless the government joins workers and employers in financing the program, the AFL-CIO warned, a significant rise in the payroll tax rate will eventually be needed as a declining birthrate reduces the active work force in proportion to retirees.

U.S. LABOR DELEGATION leaves International Labor Organization conference in Geneva after the ILO voted to give official observer status to the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization. U.S. government and employer delegates joined labor in denouncing the vote. **(Story, Page 3.)**

President Set to Bar Housing Bill

President Ford served notice that he will continue to veto legislation that he considers too costly, too "radical" or too stimulating to an economy whose recovery from deep recession is now "in sight."

The President told an audience of cheering small businessmen that he shares their distaste for "escalation" of government. And he indicated at a White House meeting with Republican congressional leaders that his next veto target will be a labor-backed housing bill.

In every test this year, congressional majorities in favor of overriding Ford's vetoes have been short of the two-thirds vote required.

The housing bill passed by Congress would make it possible for an estimated 400,000 middle-income families to purchase homes and apartments through a system of mortgage interest subsidies. The extra housing construction that would be generated would provide about 900,000 jobs.

An important part of the veto-threatened bill is a federal loan program that would protect persons who lose their jobs from the risk of also losing their homes because they can't keep up mortgage payments.

House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes said Ford indicated that a recent rise in housing starts meant that the legislation would have little impact.

The Commerce Dept. reported

(Continued on Page 8)

Unfair, Unworkable:

Labor Assails Bids To Revive Controls

The AFL-CIO came down hard on congressional proposals to strengthen the powers of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, and let it be known it is opposed to any wage-price legislation which goes beyond a simple extension of the life of the agency.

"All these proposals for strengthening the powers of the Council on Wage & Price Stability would expand the council's activities in the direction of more indirect controls," the AFL-CIO told a House Banking subcommittee considering various bills dealing with wage and price controls. Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller's testimony was presented by Ray Denison.

"Our experience with indirect controls convinces us that such controls cannot be administered in a fair and equitable manner," the AFL-CIO said.

"This belief is strengthened by the pro-business orientation of President Ford's Administration."

Biemiller noted the federation has no objection to the continued existence of the council and to its continued monitoring activities, "but we are opposed to the council having any powers beyond what it now has."

Expressing skepticism over the council's value, Biemiller said its very existence reflects a wrong sense of economic priorities.

While not ignoring the problem of inflation which has seriously eroded workers' purchasing power, the AFL-CIO believes that Congress and the Administration should be giving top priority to job-creating, economy-stimulating measures, Biemiller said.

"The key economic problem today is jobs and the need for jobs," Biemiller said. "We need consumer purchasing power and fundamental to that purchasing power is getting America back to work."

The Senate has already passed a bill to extend the council's authority to June 30, 1976. In addition, the Senate measure would give the council a new power of subpoena. Other bills would authorize the setting of wage and price guidelines, require pre-notification of proposed wage and price increases, and grant

(Continued on Page 7)

Panel Seeks Growth Aid For Utilities

A labor-management panel created last year to advise President Ford on economic matters has proposed a package of tax credits and deferrals to stimulate bogged-down electric utility construction.

The panel's unanimous recommendations, strongly endorsed by Ford, include an increase from 10 to 12 percent in the investment tax credit for construction work already in progress. The credit would remain in effect indefinitely.

The Labor-Management Committee termed it "imperative that there be substantial restoration of construction of electric utilities at once."

Postponement of construction

(Continued on Page 3)

Federation Banquet Set To Honor Solzhenitsyn

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Nobel Prize winning author and Soviet dissident, will be the guest of honor at an AFL-CIO banquet during his visit to Washington on the weekend of June 27.

AFL-CIO President George Meany announced that Solzhenitsyn had accepted a long-standing federation invitation to visit Washington. He wrote presidents of AFL-CIO affiliates that the banquet on June 30 at the Washington Hilton "is a testament to the solidarity of the American trade union movement with the cause of intellectual freedom everywhere."

"We are honored," he wrote, that the author of works that "have laid bare the tragedy of human life under Soviet totalitarianism has accepted our invitation."

Meany had written Solzhenitsyn in February 1974 inviting him to the United States as a guest of the trade union movement to "communicate freely with the American people." The Russian author expressed his great pleasure at receiving the invitation in a letter to Meany in March 1974 and his great respect for the AFL-CIO and its policies, but said he of necessity had to decline at that time, shortly after he was exiled by the Soviet Union.

Coors Rejection Urged For Broadcasting Post

The AFL-CIO has asked the Senate to reject President Ford's nomination of Joseph Coors to the board of directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting because of his "narrow, extremist political views."

Coors, head of the Colorado beer company that bears his name, was originally nominated to the CPB board by President Nixon—on the day before Nixon's resignation. The 93rd Congress didn't act on the nomination, but Ford recently resubmitted it.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said the integrity of public affairs programming would be seriously impaired if Coors brought his views to bear in a policy-making role.

Biemiller wrote Sen. John O. Pastore (D-R.I.), chairman of the subcommittee holding hearings on the nomination, that a diversity of views on the board of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting should be achieved without bringing in either the far right or the far left.

Confirmation of Coors, he said, "would add division, not diversity," to the board and "would portend ideological mischief with this nation's public broadcasting system, which operates on the public air waves with the public's money."

The Colorado-based Coors family has bankrolled such right-wing enterprises as the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress,

(Continued on Page 3)

FAULTY ECONOMIC POLICIES of the Nixon and Ford administrations that triggered the current recession are assailed by Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts at the CWA convention in San Diego.

New Study Refutes Industry Claim Of High Cost of Reducing Job Noise

Companies that refuse to install noise controls may be practicing false economy, a new study suggests. The "savings" may be wiped out by the rising volume of compensation claims and increasing awards to workers who have suffered hearing loss.

That point, recently explored in a scientific paper before the Acoustical Society of America, is likely to have a significant impact at Occupational Safety & Health Administration hearings on a proposed noise standard which open June 23.

Industry and employer groups are opposing a reduction in on-the-job noise levels, claiming that costs for the controls would be excessive.

But the study submitted to the acoustical society pointed out that "the costs of applying noise control or not applying noise control may be approximately equal." And it said new developments have lowered the cost of reducing noise levels.

The study was conducted by acoustical engineers Glenn Warnaka, Gerald Johnson and Hans Sass of the Allforce Acoustics division of Lord Corp., who stressed the economic impact on industry stemming from damage claims for hearing loss.

Although workers in certain specialized industries are faced with severe occupational diseases such as black lung, asbestosis, arsenic poisoning and liver cancer, the authors noted that the noise hazard affects workers in virtually every industry.

"Noise may result in a loss of more money to industry than any other portion of OSHA standards simply because noise seems to affect more workers," the paper observed.

The cost factor affecting industry is illustrated by the spectacular rise in compensation claims for hearing damage in Oregon over a four-year period.

In 1971, state statistics showed two claims on hearing damage. The number increased to 25 in 1972, to 700 in 1973 and to 1,500 in 1974.

The authors also noted that one large company in New Jersey paid $3,250,000 in hearing damage claims last year. This year, the firm expects the amount to increase to $8 million, the paper said.

Occupational safety and health experts in organized labor are pressing for a reduction in noise levels on the job to 85 decibels for an eight-hour period.

But OSHA has proposed in its standard to hold the line at 90 decibels, contending that the lower decibel level would be too costly to industry and unfeasible with present technology.

Both of OSHA's arguments have been refuted in congressional testimony by the Environmental Protection Agency, which is siding with organized labor for an immediate reduction to 85 decibels.

OSHA has estimated that cost of a 10-year program to reduce noise levels in industry to 85 decibels would be $31.6 billion. But the EPA, citing data in the paper presented to the acoustical society, said the levels could be reduced to 85 decibels for $11.7 billion.

The Warnaka-Johnson-Sass paper stressed that innovations in noise control technology would greatly reduce the costs of industry meeting the lower decibel standard.

Noting the economic impact of compensation claims, the paper said that "unless the cost of not applying engineering noise control is carefully defined, the costs of applying engineering noise control have little significance."

Flint Glass Union Hails End of Area Differential

Hollywood, Fla.—Delegates to the 90th biennial convention of the Flint Glass Workers hailed the ending of geographic wage differentials as the achievement of one of the union's longest standing goals.

In negotiations with Corning Glass Co., the union won a five-year program for the removal of all differentials at the company's plants across the nation. About 40 percent of the union's 34,000 members are employed by Corning.

The convention also heard details of a new three-year Corning contract which calls for a 40-cent increase in the first year and 25-cent raises in each of the second two years, plus breakthroughs in pension, life insurance and dental programs. In all, the convention was told, the fringe package now totals $1.08 an hour.

The convention also re-elected President George M. Parker to an eighth two-year term and Ivan T. Uncapher to his second term as secretary-treasurer. Others re-elected were Vice Presidents Robert W. Newell, Harold Gibbons and Eugene Howling. Lawrence Bankowski was elected as the new assistant secretary. Officers' salaries are tied to the negotiations just completed.

Delegates to the 12-day convention narrowed the choices for the 1977 convention to Toronto, Louisville and Las Vegas. That will be just short of the centennial of the union, which was established in 1878.

The union's remaining 1975 bargaining calendar was described as "light," but negotiations will be conducted in 1976 for the entire hand-made industry.

That industry has been severely hit by imports, the convention was told. Imports were a major reason for a slight dip in the union's membership from its 1973 record of 36,000.

R-T-W Bills Beaten Down In Louisiana

Baton Rouge, La.—The Louisiana legislature made it perfectly clear in its current session that it wants no part of a revival of a "right-to-work" law the state repealed back in 1956.

Anti-union forces, tried in both the House and Senate, and struck out.

First, the House Labor & Industrial Relations Committee voted 8-2 against a proposal to ban the union shop.

The sponsor of the anti-union bill then tried to get the House to override the committee and pass the bill. His attempt was rebuffed, 63-15.

Meanwhile, the Senate Labor Committee voted 4-1 to kill another "right-to-work" bill. As in the House, anti-union groups tried to revive the bill on the Senate floor. But the Senate voted 28-7 to postpone "indefinitely" any consideration of the "right-to-work" bill.

Convention Action:

CWA Sets Policies On Major Issues

San Diego—The more than 2,500 delegates to the Communications Workers convention here adopted policy statements and resolutions on a broad range of social and international issues and provided an early forum for prospective presidential candidates.

The resolutions called for adoption of a public employe bargaining law, establishment of a national child care program, comprehensive tax reform and a major national commitment to provide housing for poor and working class families.

In the international area, the convention condemned the new Communist-military dictatorship in Portugal, called for assistance to refugees from Southeast Asia and reaffirmed CWA's support for efforts to promote free trade unionism in all nations.

It called also on the Ford Administration to reassert, rather than reassess, America's commitment to Israel. The union blasted the "oil energy blackmail" by the Arab nations and noted that the "enemies of Israel show no real desire to have peace return to the Middle East."

The delegates listened to four Democrats who have declared their candidacy or are considering a run for the party's nomination in 1976. The speakers included Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona—who delivered a tough condemnation of Alabama Gov. George Wallace and his tactics— along with former Georgia Gov. Jimmie Carter and Senators Birch Bayh of Indiana and Lloyd Bentsen of Texas. Nearly a dozen of the growing roster of presidential contenders had been invited to address the gathering.

CWA President Glenn Watts set the convention's major theme in his keynote speech by urging an all-out union effort to help defeat the "big business Ford administration" next year.

Rep. Udall became the first candidate to publicly declare, "I will not serve on any ticket that includes George Wallace." He went on to say he would "make no deals" with Wallace nor support any candidate who does.

Udall characterized Wallace's campaign strategy as "the politics of negativism," and pronounced it "hollow" and "divisive."

Each of the speakers had strong criticism for President Ford's general economic policies and for his veto of emergency jobs legislation as unemployment climbed to 9.2 percent by the Labor Dept.'s calculations.

The delegates authorized establishment of a union savings and retirement trust fund to give CWA members an opportunity to invest personal savings for "maximum possible returns consistent with maximum safety."

In conjunction with the convention some 1,000 delegates attended a special women's conference featuring an address by California Secretary of State March Fong Eu. Conferees discussed issues of special interest to female members and union officials—who comprise more than half of CWA's membership—and resolved to intensify efforts to win ratification of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. Final ratification of ERA requires approval by four more state legislatures.

Utility Workers Expand Minority Participation

New York—Delegates to the Utility Workers convention voted to provide a stronger voice for minority group members by creating a new position on the union's executive board.

The constitutional amendment calls for the automatic seating of the head of the union's Human Relations Committee on the expanded board of 15 members and four executive officers.

In effect, the action taken makes Elizabeth Daniels of New York the first woman and first black to serve on the board. More than 10 percent of the union's members are from minority groups.

The 422 delegates to the 19th biennial UWUA convention also elected James J. Joy, Jr., an executive board member, as executive vice president. He succeeds William R. Munger, who retired.

Other top officers were re-elected to new four-year terms. They are President Harold T. Rigley, Sec.-Treas. Marshall M. Hicks and Vice President C. Joseph Luciano.

Among the major resolutions adopted at the four-day convention, delegates called for a strong equal opportunity program in employment, passage of the labor-backed National Health Security bill, full enforcement of federal job safety and health standards, and the extension of jobless benefits to all workers.

Turning to problems that directly affect UWUA members, the convention urged the development of a balanced government program to meet the nation's energy needs.

It called for efforts to reduce American reliance on foreign oil, stressing improved policies on the use of coal and nuclear energy for the production of electricity.

Establishment of direct credit allocations and low-cost loans to private utility companies was also cited as vital to ease their financial problems with the increased costs of operations. Delegates reaffirmed the union's opposition to government takeover of private utilities.

Expressing concern over the loss of jobs by workers in heavy manufacturing, the convention called on utility firms to halt the purchase of equipment and components produced overseas by foreign companies or overseas plants of U.S. multinational corporations.

In an address to the convention, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) assailed President Ford's economic policies and questioned the close ties of the Administration with major oil producers.

Jackson said both consumers and utility companies must bear the brunt of Ford's energy program through increased prices.

Other convention speakers included New York Mayor Abraham D. Beame, New York City AFL-CIO President Harry Van Arsdale, State Industrial Commissioner Louis Levine and AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William E. Pollard.

After Seating of Terrorists:

U.S. Labor Left ILO Session With 'Sorrow but Conviction'

Geneva—It was with solemn dignity and regret that the U.S. labor delegation walked out of the International Labor Organization conference when the ILO's fight for social justice for the world's workers was subverted to the political ends of the self-styled Palestine Liberation Organization.

The decision on the PLO "further removes the ILO from its once-vaunted role as the world's only tripartite organization designed to bring about better conditions of work and life for workers and their dependents the world over," U.S. worker delegate Irving Brown told the conference.

It was with "deep sorrow but yet with conviction" that Brown announced to the some 1,500 trade union, government and employer representatives that jammed the three-tiered hall that his delegation was withdrawing from "any further participation" in the session.

With AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and the other advisers on his 14-member team, Brown marched up the aisle leading from the U.S. delegation benches to the outside lobby.

As the American worker group filed up the aisle they were joined by the U.S. government and employer delegates and by the entire Israeli delegation. However, only the Israeli workers, led by Gidon Ben-Israel of the Histadrut's executive bureau, joined the AFL-CIO in quitting the conference.

"We are deeply moved by the AFL-CIO act of solidarity," Ben-Israel told the conference when announcing that his delegation was also leaving.

Joining the U.S. and Israel delegations in the walkout were worker delegates from Finland, The Netherlands, West Germany, Norway and Australia, accompanied in some cases by employer delegates from these countries. A number of delegates from other countries said later that they absented themselves from the conference procedings as a form of protest.

The granting of observer status to the PLO came in a series of confusing and sometimes incoherent votes amending the conference rules to permit the sitting of its delegation with the right to speak but not to vote.

However, the key decision came when the conference rejected a demand by Brown, Joseph Morris, president of the Canadian Labor Congress, and the worker delegates of Sweden, Colombia, West Germany, Britain and Australia, that before any group calling itself a liberation movement could be accepted by the ILO it would have to assure that it "fully recognizes the principles of the ILO and its constitution and the right of all member states to continue in existence and participate in the working of the organization."

In an eloquent appeal to the conference Bert Seidman, AFL-CIO social security director, urged the adoption of the proposal as being "absolutely necessary." It offered the ILO a "last chance of being true to its traditional and fundamental principles of freedom and social justice."

R. J. Hawke, president of the Australian council of trade unions, warned the delegates that by giving the PLO observer status the ILO could be signing its own death warrant. "A tripartite organization which is committed to protecting and advancing the interest of workers all around the world cannot continue if it is to have its noble purposes emasculated by becoming a political forum which is used to advance the destruction of a member state," he said.

But the Communist-backed Arab states, by the simple expedient of abstaining in the vote to prevent the quorum being reached, killed the worker proposal. It received only 74 votes, with 305 abstentions and no one actually voting against it.

The AFL-CIO position was strongly supported at all times by the U.S. government and employer delegations. "This forum and this organization," U.S. government delegate Edward B. Persons said of the PLO admission, "so carefully designed to prevent interference by political dispute, has none the less been diverted from its true and important concerns by a political act."

Vigorously denouncing the PLO terrorist record, Charles H. Smith, U.S. Chamber of Commerce official who speaks for American employers, warned that the admission of the PLO could be the "first link in a chain of events that will result in destroying the usefulness of this organization."

A few scattered cat calls, quickly silenced, accompanied the American and Israeli delegations as they left the hall. They were followed a few minutes later by cheers and loud applause as the PLO delegation marched in waving their arms above their heads with fingers flashing the V for victory sign. Immediately invited to speak by conference president Blas F. Ople, Philippine labor minister, Abdel Aziz al-Wajeh, a high-ranking PLO official, said the Palestinians had proved their desire for peace not only through their "perseverance in the pursuit of armed struggle, but also through the numerous peace overtures they made."

But Gerd Muhr of the West German trade union confederation dismissed the "peace" argument in reply to Arab claims that PLO leader Yaser Arafat had held out an olive branch when he spoke before the United Nations General Assembly.

"He raised the olive branch so high that you could see the pistol in his pocket," Muhr said in recalling the revealing news photo of Arafat at the assembly.

The Palestine issue did not prevent the election of Brown by his fellow worker delegates at the conference to a three-year term on the ILO's Governing Body.

CLOSELY FOLLOWING the final debate at the ILO prior to the vote on the Palestine Liberation Organization are AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Irving Brown, U.S. worker delegate. The vote to admit PLO led to the U.S. labor walkout.

Montana Labor Posts Major Legislative Gains

Helena, Mont.—The Montana legislature enacted a package of labor-backed bills to improve jobless benefits, workers' compensation, the state minimum wage, protection for construction workers and public employes, along with banning the importation of strikebreakers.

James W. Murry, executive secretary of the Montana AFL-CIO, said the legislative gains were a direct result of getting labor-endorsed candidates elected last fall. State voters elected a majority of COPE-backed candidates in both houses of the legislature—27 in the Senate and 63 in the House.

One of the key measures to clear the legislature was an increase in the maximum unemployment compensation rate from 50 percent of the average state weekly wage to 55 percent in July and to 60 percent next year.

The benefits increase was coupled with a change in compensation fund taxes paid by employers. In effect, this requires companies with a heavy turnover rate to pay a higher share of the taxes.

A major overhaul of the workers' compensation system is designed to eliminate bureaucratic abuses. The law provides for the establishment of a workers' compensation judge to handle appeals for claims. The judge would have the authority to award attorney fees in addition to the claimant's award for injury. Previously, lawyers deducted fees from any award or settlement.

For workers employed by businesses too small to be covered by the federal minimum wage law, the state's wage floor will be raised from the current $1.60 an hour to $1.80 on July 1 and to $2 on July 1, 1976.

A new classification and wage plan instituted by the legislature will provide higher salaries for public employes in Montana. Workers' compensation is also being extended for the first time to public employes, including teachers.

The legislature strengthened enforcement powers of the state's "Little Davis-Bacon Act" to insure prevailing wages to construction workers on public projects and adopted regulations for contractors to post performance bonds to cover wages and benefits.

To halt the abuse of fly-by-night operators, general contractors are required to withhold final payments to subcontractors until unemployment taxes are paid. This would prevent a contractor from running off with the unpaid taxes, leaving construction workers ineligible for unemployment benefits.

In other key bills, the legislature made Montana the 17th state to prohibit the importation of professional strikebreakers, guaranteed 180 days leave of absence with rehiring rights for all public employes on temporary service, established a procedure for assured maternity benefits and continuation of benefits for public and private employment, and set the regulation of private employment agency fees.

The legislature also enacted postcard registration of voters with the cut-off date set 10 days before an election.

Margaret Goetzinger Dies, AFL-CIO Retiree

Margaret F. Goetzinger, who worked in the accounting department of the AFL and the AFL-CIO for 42 years from 1919 to 1961, died June 16 at the age of 83 at a Hyattsville, Md., nursing home.

Miss Goetzinger served as administrator of the federation's health program from 1953 until her retirement in 1961.

Tax Credits Proposed To Aid Utility Growth

(Continued from Page 1)

schedules of coal and nuclear power plants that are needed to meet the nation's energy demands for 1980 and 1985 "seriously jeopardizes" the country's goal of reduced dependence on imported oil, the committee declared.

"It also threatens continued economic growth, promises to restrain essential job creation and inhibits measures to reduce unemployment," the 15-member panel added.

The committee noted that, as of the end of 1974, electric utilities had deferred or cancelled construction of 106 nuclear power plants and 129 coal-fired plants.

Besides the higher investment-tax credit, the panel proposed:

- An increase in equity capital by deferral of taxes on utility dividends which are reinvested in new common stock of electric utilities.
- An extension of the fast write-off of pollution control facilities beyond Dec. 31, 1975, when the tax provision is set to expire. The fast write-off of pollution control facilities reduces the financing costs of the construction of electric utility units. The panel also would extend the write-off to fuel-conversion costs.
- In view of the length of time required to complete the construction of electric-utility installations, the federal government should permit depreciation for tax purposes on construction expenditures as made, provided such costs are included in the rate base.
- Extension of the nuclear-indemnity coverage law.
- Establishment of a small labor-management federal task force to study the problem of delays in the completion of utility plants.

The task force could study such matters as unreasonable environmental restrictions, financing, collective bargaining disputes, and regulatory delays.

The committee also recommended consideration of a timetable for the conversion of oil- and gas-fueled power plants to coal. It also urged the nation to make every effort to increase the percentage of electric power derived from nuclear sources by 1980 and 1985.

The committee estimated that 10-15 million construction labor hours are required for each nuclear unit installed.

At a White House news conference in which the committee recommendations were announced, Federal Energy Administrator Frank Zarb estimated that generating capacity from nuclear facilities could rise from 2 to 20 percent of the nation's total energy needs by the late 1980s if the panel's proposals were adopted.

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop estimated the proposed tax reductions would save electric utilities more than half a billion dollars in the new fiscal year.

Labor members of the committee are AFL-CIO President George Meany, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, President I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers, President Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers, President Paul Hall of the Seafarers, President Leonard Woodcock of the Auto Workers, and President Frank E. Fitzsimmons of the Teamsters. Dunlop is chairman of the panel.

Senate Urged To Bar Coors As Extremist

(Continued from Page 1)

which raised funds last year for 71 conservative candidates for Congress and now is trying to raise $2 million to defeat "radicals" elected to Congress last fall.

A profile of Coors by Washington Post reporter Stephen Isaacs noted that he quit the National Association of Manufacturers in 1971 because he considered it too "liberal" but later rejoined and became a member of its board of directors.

He also has financed a money-losing television news service because he considers the network news coverage slanted to the liberal side.

Biemiller suggested that the continuing role of Coors in the operations of the news service would constitute "a real conflict of interest" in the public broadcasting post.

Labor has strongly advocated public affairs programming by public radio and television, Biemiller noted, adding:

"We firmly believe that such programming can only be successful if its integrity is above reproach and it is absolutely insulated against any ideological whim."

Sherburne Chairman Of Minnesota Regents

Minneapolis—Sec.-Treas. Neil C. Sherburne of the Minnesota AFL-CIO was elected chairman of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents for a two-year term.

A resident of Lakeland, Minn., Sherburne has been a member of the board since 1969. He was elected vice chairman two years ago, and has been acting chairman since early this year.

Inflation and Jobs

THE MOST PRESSING issue on the national economic agenda is to achieve as quickly as possible a full-employment, prosperous economy. The way to restore health to the economy is to put America back to work. The AFL-CIO has spelled out a program—including accelerated public works, public service employment, aid to the cities, housing and railbed repair—which would put America back to work.

We do not ignore the problem of inflation. Workers and their families have suffered grievously as inflation has eroded the buying power of paychecks. Real net spendable earnings for private, nonfarm workers with three dependents in April 1975 were down 4.1 percent from April the year before, down 10.1 percent from the 1972 average, and down 2.4 percent below the 1964 average.

We are concerned about the buying power of the paychecks of those workers lucky enough to have a job. We are also concerned about the effects of inflation on elderly and retired people and on low- and middle-income people generally. We want the American consumer to have enough buying power to give the necessary lift to sales, production, and employment. This means that we will not accept an unfair, one-sided, and regressive program to control the wages and incomes of working people under the guise of an "anti-inflation" program.

We oppose any legislation which would sanction direct or indirect controls or would open the door to the same kind of unfair restrictions and limitations on the wages and salaries of working people that we have seen before under different labels—guidelines, guideposts, jawboning, and the direct controls of the late, unlamented Nixon game plan with its freezes and phases. All of these so-called anti-inflation programs, no matter how much they were gilded with the rhetoric of equity, ended up as government campaigns to hold down the wages and salaries of working people—period.

INFLATION CONTINUES at a rapid rate, but fortunately, in recent months, the rate of inflation has somewhat diminished. In 1974 the Consumer Price Index went up 12.2 percent, and for the 12 months ending in April of this year the CPI increase was 10.2 percent. But the increase in consumer prices for the most recent three months has dropped significantly to an annual rate of 5.8 percent. So there is some encouragement to be found in the 1975 consumer price changes.

Likewise there is some encouragement to be found in the behavior of wholesale prices in 1975 when compared to last year. The Wholesale Price Index went up 20.9 percent, almost 21 percent in 1974. In 1975 the wholesale price picture has changed quite a bit and in the three months ending in May the annual rate of increase in wholesale prices was 5.5 percent

However, past increases in wholesale prices will show up later in 1975 in continued high prices paid by consumers. The buying power and living standards of workers and their families will continue to be undermined and eroded by inflation, even if the rate of inflation is diminishing. In April 1975, the buying power of the average weekly after-tax earnings for a worker with three dependents was down 11 percent from the peak in October 1972.

So we have no fear that anybody can say the wage increases we seek in collective bargaining are unreasonable. Workers and their unions are trying to catch up with increases in the cost of living, trying to make up for lost buying power and reduced living standards.

—From AFL-CIO testimony before House Banking subcommittee on wage-price controls.

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'This Meeting Is Called to Order!'

A Word Edgewise:

Effective External Control Key To Intelligence Operations

By John P. Roche

MAYBE YOU WANT President Ford to declare a week of national humiliation, fasting and prayer as collective penance for the misdeeds of the Central Intelligence Agency, but frankly I think we have a better intelligence agency than we deserve.

When you realize that since 1947 the CIA has operated without any effective legislative or executive regulation, has been provided with almost unlimited funds and done its work virtually hidden from public or press scrutiny, the miracle is that we don't have a monster, that 15 foreign heads of state were not disposed of, and that all mail entering the United States was not read.

What has been uncovered demonstrates beyond a shadow of a doubt that the CIA went well beyond its mandate in a number of areas, but there is no evidence of a malignant conspiracy to turn the United States into a police state.

On the contrary, there is no pattern: as problems arose, solutions were improvised—some illegal. And, of course, once a "solution" gets established in the bureaucracy, particularly one protected from observation, it remains like a fly in amber. If someone asks, "Is it legal?" the answer is, "Sure, we've been doing it since 1952." In short, a body of common law grows up around the original charter.

In retrospect, for example, I am convinced that unknowingly I was a witness to the beginnings of the CIA "Operation Chaos," which involved infiltrating anti-war and other militant groups and domestic surveillance. In 1967, as the anti-war movement became noisier and noisier, President Johnson became madder and madder. His fury was fed by the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, who could find a conspiracy in a nursery school. In the White House, Special Counsel Harry McPherson and I became the backboards. We were both profoundly skeptical of the conspiracy theory, and LBJ set out to convince us we were a couple of barefoot innocents.

His technique was to call either of us in and triumphantly hand over some documents that, he felt, were proof positive of his pet thesis—that the militants were led and financed by the Communists abroad, and that they were tightly coordinated. One that I recall vividly was a memo from J. Edgar carefully documenting how anti-war militants in 15 cities across the United States had employed the same protest techniques within the space of three or four days.

Following my addiction to the simplest possible answer, I suggested that in each of these cities there were television sets, which could explain the chain reaction. A group in New York would see a new wrinkle playing in San Francisco and employ it the next day. The President was unimpressed and called on the government for a full-court press.

NOW WHEN A PRESIDENT, particularly a volcano like LBJ, calls for a full-court press, the troops really hop. In fact, they are very likely to become more Catholic than the Pope—that is, engage in marginal and illegal acts to impress the Man. When Army counterintelligence got the word, for instance, it launched an absolutely outrageous campaign of surveillance, bugging trees at anti-war meetings and setting up dossiers on roughly a quarter of the population of the United States. The President knew nothing of this, nor did the Secretary of Defense; down in the depths of the Pentagon, however, some colonel was bucking for a star.

Let us shift to CIA Director Richard Helms and his possible reaction to President Johnson's booming orders. Like other human beings, he did not want to disappoint his boss.

I hypothesize the following scenario: Helms held a council of war and somebody suggested infiltrating radical groups, someone else perhaps asked, "Can we do it legally?" and the common law was invoked, "We did it for Kennedy (or Eisenhower)." That settled, "Operation Chaos" went into business. And when Director Helms proudly handed the President a letter from one militant in Havana to one in Detroit, one doubts if the President's first question was, "Did you obtain it legally?"

In any case, our reaction to the exposures should skip flagellation in favor of effective external control. No agency, particularly a secret one, can be trusted to police itself.

Rebuff to Tyranny:

Labor Movement Steadfast In Opposing Totalitarianism

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

THE LEADERSHIP of the British Trades Union Congress (the English equivalent of the AFL-CIO) recently entertained Comrade Alexander Shelepin, then chairman of the Congress of Trade Unions in the Soviet Union—a man who, earlier in his career, had been chief of the KGB, the Soviet secret police apparatus.

It is impossible for me to understand how the TUC could justify showing official hospitality to the leader of a totalitarian workers' movement which is a trade union federation only in name and stands in complete opposition to everything the British labor movement claims to represent in terms of freedom and democracy.

In any event, you can be absolutely certain that if Shelepin ever comes to the United States, he will not even be received, much less welcomed or entertained, by the AFL-CIO.

Organized labor in the United States, as labor economist and labor historian Philip Taft points out in a recent study, "Defending Freedom: American Labor and Foreign Affairs," has always taken the position that "the unions of the free world had to oppose Communist totalitarianism because it denied men the right to choose their governors, their organizations of labor, and took away the rights of freedom of association, speech, and press. . . . Its adamant opposition to exchanges with the 'unions' of the eastern bloc has always been based upon the view that these organizations are neither autonomous nor independent and that nothing can be gained by meeting with what are in fact government-controlled organizations."

Prof. Taft, a close student of labor affairs in this country and abroad for more than half a century, takes note of the fact that many members of the liberal community in the United States look with intense disfavor on labor's rigidly anti-Communist stance. Taft himself has no sympathy with the views of his liberal colleagues on this matter. He says it would be futile to review the misinformation and the half truths they have circulated about labor's foreign policy. One of their favorite ploys, he points out, has been to attribute labor's policy to some sinister influence "without noting that the opposition to all forms of totalitarianism has been a consistent position."

It should also be noted that labor's liberal critics frequently contradict one another. Some of them allege, for example, that labor, having become part of the establishment, slavishly echoes the foreign policy of the United States when that policy is anti-Communist. Others have criticized the AFL-CIO for not falling in line behind the U.S. government when the government happens to be on friendly terms with a particular Communist regime.

In response to the latter type of criticism, Taft points out that "the labor movement is not sponsoring or promoting what might be described as realpolitik, which is the task of governments, but democracy and social and economic justice. It is not obliged to shake the bloody hand of the tyrant even when the American government finds it necessary to do so."

Taft also reminds labor's critics that the AFL-CIO refusal to deal with government controlled unions is not confined to the Communist bloc. The same criterion, he says, has been applied to the so-called "unions" in Spain and in Argentina during the Peronist period. "There are those," he says, "who, because of their socialist sympathies or other reasons, seek to distinguish between totalitarianism in socialist clothing and the fascists. American labor has, on the whole, not been receptive to these distinctions, and it finds both types of dictatorship evil and repulsive.

LABOR'S STAND-OFF POLICY with regard to the so-called "unions" in Franco Spain has been criticized at times in certain Catholic circles, but unjustifiably so, in my opinion.

The fact is that the AFL-CIO's policy on this matter was clearly echoed by the Spanish bishops in their recent pastoral, "Reconciliation in the Church and in Society." With specific reference to the trade union situation in their own country, the Spanish bishops said that "If our society is to reach true reconciliation, workers must be able to exercise their rights and defend their interests and aspirations without fear of reprisals. This means legal recognition of labor unions which are truly representative." The bishops also supported efforts within the cabinet of Premier Carlos Arias Navarro to legalize labor strikes.

The Franco government recently approved a law granting Spanish industrial workers the right to strike, but only under strictly controlled conditions. This represents a very tiny measure of progress, but it really doesn't begin to meet the requirements of justice as outlined in the recent pastoral of the Spanish bishops. Nor does it meet the traditional standards of the AFL-CIO with respect to trade union freedom.

Until these standards are legally acknowledged by the Spanish government, the AFL-CIO will refuse, as it has in the past, to recognize or to deal with the so-called Spanish unions. I agree with the federation's position on this matter. Whether or not its anti-Communist and anti-fascist policy has always been implemented wisely and prudently is an arguable point. The policy itself, however, is basically sound.

In Wake of Veto:

Public Works Measure Sought To Curb Rising Joblessness

THE FAILURE of Congress to overturn President Ford's veto of the job-creating Emergency Employment Act makes passage of the pending public works measure more urgent than ever, Legislative Director Jack Curran of the Laborers declared.

Curran pointed out that national unemployment figures released after the veto was sustained show that joblessness has jumped again, and the rate now stands at the highest level since 1941. Worse yet, he stressed, unemployment among construction workers is more than double the rate for all industries, and in some areas has soared as high as 60 percent.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Curran scored President Ford's claim that he vetoed the jobs bill because it was inflationary.

"Indeed, it is inflationary to do nothing to stimulate the economy," he asserted, noting that a rise of 1 percent in unemployment is an increase of $16 billion, in terms of costs to the federal government, through loss of revenue and greater expenditures of public assistance programs.

Turning to the issue of some $30 billion appropriated by Congress, but impounded by the White House, Curran said that even though the courts have ruled that certain of those appropriations must be released, bureaucratic indifference in the federal agencies keeps the badly needed monies bottled up. "The agencies are twiddling and diddling, making it almost impossible for the money to filter out into contracts," he charged.

In effect, Curran said, "the Administration has another weapon in its hands," and funds Congress intended be used for water and sewage treatment plants and other waste facilities aren't getting out into the communities where they are needed to help cut the jobless rolls.

Curran was questioned by Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THERE ARE 2.8 MILLION WORKERS in the United States who are being denied the right to engage in any meaningful political activity. And there are several million other workers who cannot hold on to their jobs and run for public office.

All of these workers are "hatched." The 2.8 million federal employes who come under the provisions of the Hatch Act are barred from soliciting campaign funds from fellow workers, from using their offices for political purposes and from taking an active part in a partisan political campaign.

Until last year several million state and local government employes were covered by the Hatch Act but Congress modified their coverage, generally, restricting them from running for public office.

The Hatch Act was enacted in 1939 to correct what Congress felt, at that time, were growing abuses of the merit system. In 1940 the act was expanded to include state and local employes whose principal employment was related to federally financed activities.

While there was general recognition that public employes need some protection against coercion, there has been a growing opposition to the broad area of restrictions imposed by the law.

Congress recognized this in 1966 when it passed a law establishing a bipartisan Commission on Political Activity of Government Personnel to review the Hatch Act and other laws that limit participation of federal employes in political affairs.

After a year's study, the 12-member commission recommended a general easing of restrictions on most federal workers but the writing of strong protections of civil servants against coercion by their superiors.

These recommendations were never adopted but they are now largely incorporated in a bill introduced in the House by Rep. William Clay (D-Mo.). And there is a serious effort being made in Congress to secure passage of the legislation.

Among the political activities which are prohibited under existing Civil Service Commission regulations, and which the Clay bill would loosen, are: being a delegate to a political convention; participating in political meetings, caucuses and primaries; preparing for, organizing, or conducting political clubs; distributing campaign literature or buttons; circulating nominating petitions and running for public office.

SOME PROGRESS was made against the coverage of the Hatch Act last year when Congress passed the Federal Election Campaign Act amendments. Most of the restrictions were lifted on campaign activities of state and local government employes. However, they are still prohibited from running for major office.

For a time it appeared that the battleground for the opposition to the Hatch Act would be the courts. The lower courts frequently upheld challenges to the constitutionality of the act. One district court decision involving the Letter Carriers in 1972 said, "No one can read the act and ascertain what it prohibits."

The decision was reversed in 1973, however, by the U.S. Supreme Court which by a 6-3 vote affirmed the constitutionality of the act. The high court did leave the door open, though, for Congress "to strike a different balance if it chooses."

Congressional Quarterly, which keeps close tab on the legislative picture, says the chances for changes in the Hatch Act are improved, adding:

"A significant precedent was established in 1974 when the new election law removed restrictions on state and local government employes. . . . Perhaps the strongest factor in favor of House action is the aggressive push of the Clay subcommittee."

The Senate is awaiting action on a similar measure introduced by Chairman Gale W. McGee (D-Wyo.) of the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

NEW URGENCY was put on passage of the public works measure now before Congress when the House failed to overturn President Ford's veto of the jobs bill, Laborers Legislative Director Jack Curran, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The program is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

House Vote on Strip Mining Bill Veto

The House failed to muster the two-thirds majority needed to override President Ford's veto of the bill that would require strip mining operators to restore the land they have torn up in surface mining operations. The vote, on June 10, was 278-143.

The AFL-CIO supported the position of the 222 Democrats and 56 Republicans who cast right votes (R) to override the veto. Voting wrong (W) were 86 Republicans and 57 Democrats.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Jones (D) PR
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Mills (D) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) W
2. Clausen (R) R
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) R
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) R
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) R
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) R
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) R
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) R
5. Armstrong (R) R

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) A
5. Sarasin (R) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) R

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) R
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) R
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Haley (D) R
9. Frey (R) R
10. Bafalis (R) R
11. Rogers (D) R
12. Burke (R) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) R
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) PW
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) R
9. Landrum (D) W
10. Stephens (D) W

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) A

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Vacancy
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) PR
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) R
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) R
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) R
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) W
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) R
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) R
2. Cohen (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) PR
2. Esch (R) R
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
5. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) R
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) R
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) R
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1, Whitten (D) R
2. Bowen (D) R
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) W
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) R
6. Forsythe (R) R
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) PR
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) A
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) W
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) W
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) W
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) R
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) W
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) R

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) R

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) R
11. Stanton, J. William (R) R
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) R
16. Regula (R) R
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Risenhoover (D) W
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) PW
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) R
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) R
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) W
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) R
19. Goodling (R) R
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) R
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) R

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) W
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) W
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) W
6. Jenrette (D) W

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) R
4. Evins (D) W
5. Fulton (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) A
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) W
2. Wilson (D) A
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) R
6. Teague (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) R
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Young (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) A
21. Krueger (D) R
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) R
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) A
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) W
4. Hechler (D) W

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) R

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

For Remainder of 1975:

Scheduled List of Union Conventions

Below is a list of conventions scheduled for the remainder of 1975 by AFL-CIO national and international affiliates and state central bodies. Changes and additions will be reported.

DATE	ORGANIZATION	PLACE
June 22-25	Musicians	Shreveport, La.
June 23	Grain Millers	Minneapolis
June 23-27	Aluminum Workers	Las Vegas
July 7-11	Newspaper Guild	Denver
July 10-15	Teachers	Honolulu
July 20-25	Pottery Workers	Miami Beach
July 23-26	Texas	Dallas
Aug. 13-15	Utah	Salt Lake City
Aug. 17-22	Plasterers & Cement Masons	Las Vegas
Aug. 18-20	Nebraska	Scottsbluff
Aug. 18-22	Graphic Arts Union	Toronto
Aug. 21-23	Montana	Great Falls
Aug. 25	Sleeping Car Porters	Chicago
Aug. 25-27	Maryland-D.C.	Washington
Aug. 30-Sept. 5	Typographical Union	Honolulu
Sept. (no date)	Wyoming	Casper
Sept. 3-5	North Carolina	Greensboro
Sept. 4-5	Public Employee Dept.	Washington
Sept. 5	Allied Industrial Workers	Kansas City
Sept. 8	United Transportation Union	Miami Beach
Sept. 8-10	Minnesota	Minneapolis
Sept. 8-12	Oregon	Seaside
Sept. 10-11	Industrial Union Dept.	Pittsburgh
Sept. 10-12	Connecticut	Hartford
Sept. 11-13	Colorado	Colorado Springs
Sept. 11-13	North Dakota	Bismarck
Sept. 15-17	Tennessee	Nashville
Sept. 15-19	Bricklayers	Atlantic City
Sept. 15-19	Woodworkers	Montreal
Sept. 17-19	Iowa	Dubuque
Sept. 22-24	Building & Construction Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 22-25	Illinois	Springfield
Sept. 25-26	Metal Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 28	Amalgamated Transit Union	Calgary, Alberta
Sept. 29-30	Union Label & Service Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 29-Oct. 1	International Labor Press Association	San Francisco
Sept. 29-Oct. 1	Maritime Trades Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 29-Oct. 2	Florida	Jacksonville
Sept. 30-Oct. 3	Massachusetts	Boston
Oct. 1	Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees	San Francisco
Oct. 2-7	AFL-CIO	San Francisco
Oct. 1-4	AFL-CIO National Auxiliaries	San Francisco
Oct. 13-15	Alabama	Montgomery
Oct. 13	Rubber Workers	Bal Harbour, Fla.
Oct. 13	Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers	Hollywood, Fla.
Oct. 15-17	Georgia	Savannah
Oct. 17-19	New Mexico	Ruidoso
Oct. 18-22	Telegraph Workers	Quebec
Oct. 20-22	Train Dispatchers	Chicago
Oct. 20-24	Roofers	New Orleans
Oct. 22-24	Kansas	Overland Park
Oct. 30-Nov. 1	New York	Kiamesha Lake
Nov. 9-14	Flight Engineers	Sydney, Australia
Nov. 19-21	Oklahoma	Tulsa

Labor Assails Bids To Revive Controls

(Continued from Page 1)

authority to the council to delay wage or price increases.

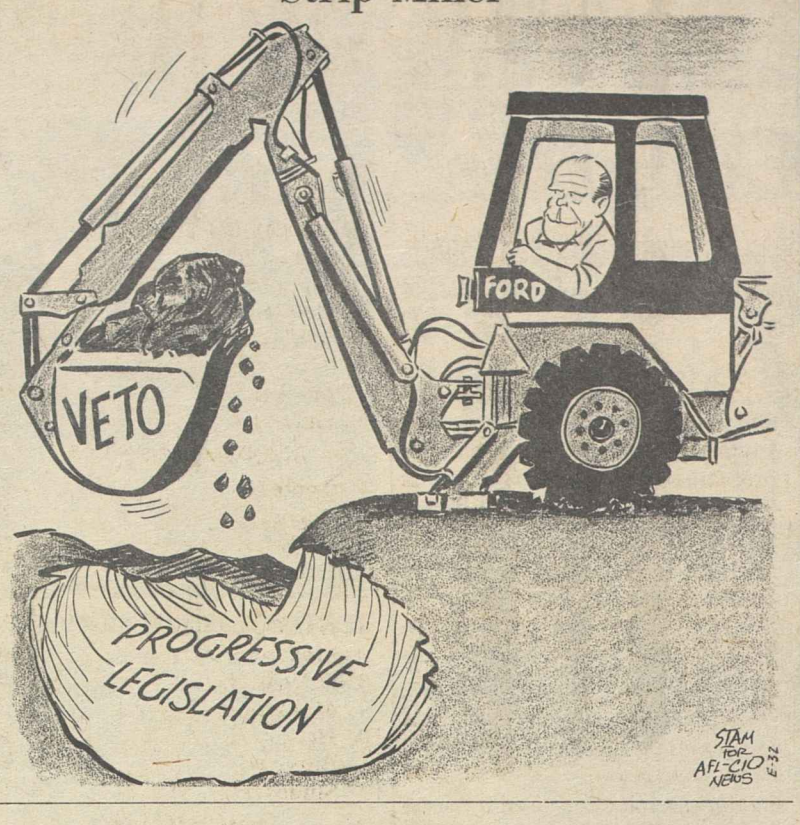
Biemiller declared these proposals would be unworkable, and emphasized the federation's strong opposition to them.

"With the new powers proposed in various bills before this subcommittee, the council would be moving toward indirect controls," Biemiller noted.

"We oppose any legislation which would sanction direct or indirect controls or would open the door to the same kind of unfair restrictions and limitations on the wages and salaries of working people that we have seen before under different labels—guidelines, guideposts, jawboning, and the direct controls of the late, unlamented Nixon game plan with its freezes and phases," Biemiller declared.

The Council on Wage & Price Stability was established last August. Its authority terminates on Aug. 15, 1975.

Strip Miner



Need Stressed to Widen Education in Economics

New York—Expanded economic education at the grass-roots level is essential in an economy as complex as America's, representatives of labor and business agreed at a seminar sponsored by the Joint Council on Economic Education here.

"The need for economic education at all levels was never greater," Sec.-Treas. J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers declared in remarks to the 200 delegates from leading U.S. corporations and trade unions.

"The world economic problems touch every American and our level of understanding is woefully inadequate," Turner observed.

The joint council, a non-profit organization, held the meeting to explore ways in which labor and business mutually could expand current programs on economic education.

Participants were urged to stimulate economic education programs for school systems in plant communities by working with local and state affiliates of the joint council.

"One clear lesson from the economic history of the years since World War II is the necessity of a balanced, full-employment, prosperous national economy," Turner observed. "So, we indeed must expand our economic education programs, and widen the level of understanding on economic problems as soon as possible.

"In the next decade, this nation will be called upon to make hard choices between undesirable alternatives," Turner said. "Our young people, 18 years old and above, are now part of the electoral process.

"They will be called upon to select candidates for public office who, in turn, will be setting new legislative goals on economic questions. The future of America might very well depend upon the quality of that selection."

Turner said he would like to see well-balanced programs in economic education provided all citizens, and suggested that labor should be playing a greater role in this educational process at the state council level.

He noted that the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education is organizing education committees within the federation's local central body structure and that these committees will study ways to link their efforts with the Joint Council on Economic Education. The committees also will attempt to evaluate current economic education programs in their communities.

E. T. Kehrer, southern representative of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights, discussed the program of the Georgia Council on Economic Education.

The council has established six centers at colleges and universities across the state whose chief priority thus far has been to conduct summer seminars for social studies and economics teachers.

Far too little is being done to convey labor's role in the nation's economy in Georgia's textbooks and supplementary classroom and library materials, Kehrer noted.

Boyle Retires, Martino Voted Chemical Head

Akron, O.—The Chemical Workers' executive board has elected Frank D. Martino to succeed Thomas E. Boyle as president of the union. Boyle, who retired for health reasons, had served in the post since 1968.

Martino, the union's secretary-treasurer since 1972, was elected unanimously by the board which then approved the nomination of Vice President J. A. Thomas to fill the post of secretary-treasurer.

In approving Boyle's retirement, the board named him president-emeritus in recognition of his more than 30 years of service to the ICWU.

Boyle, 59, had requested the board's approval of his retirement because of a serious heart ailment that recently required surgery for repair of an artery.

Martino, who becomes the union's fifth president, is 56 and a native of Albany, N.Y. He has held a number of posts with the ICWU since joining Local 61 in Rensselaer, N.Y., after military service in World War II. In 1970 he became a vice president and director of the union's Region 6 in St. Louis.

Thomas was a former special assistant to the late ICWU President Walter Mitchell and was director of research and education under Boyle.

The Chemical Workers board also approved the appointment of Angelo A. Russo, a union representative, to the post of vice president and regional director formerly held by Thomas.

Terms of the officers run until the union's next convention, in September 1976. The union has 85,000 U.S. and Canadian members.

Max Steinbock Dies, Editor, ILPA President

Max Steinbock, a veteran labor editor and trade union leader, died in Washington, D.C., on June 17 of a heart attack. He was 58.

Editor of the RWDSU Record since 1954 and administrative assistant to Max Greenberg, president of the Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union, Steinbock was serving as president of the International Labor Press Association.

AFL-CIO President George Meany wired his wife, Mildred Steinbock, that as president of ILPA "he was a strong and consistent force behind improving and strengthening the labor press which is so vital to this movement." He served his union and the labor movement "with talent and devotion," Meany said.

Born in New York City, Steinbock attended Cooper Union Art School and worked as an organizer for the union. After wartime service in the Air Force he became executive director of the New York County Liberal Party before joining RWDSU Local 388 as editor of its paper.

In 1954 he became editor of the RWDSU Record and made it into one of the outstanding labor papers in the country, winning numerous ILPA and other awards. He was elected a vice president of ILPA in 1965 and served six years in the post before being elected the organization's president in 1973.

John M. Barry, ILPA secretary-treasurer, writing on behalf of the organization, called Steinbock's "loyalty to the labor movement an inspiration to all of us." As an "outstanding labor editor" he had time for encouragement and help to all editors, Barry said. The ILPA, he added, deeply feels "this tragic loss."

Steinbock, who lived in Valley Stream, N.Y., served at the time of his death on the executive committee of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut and on the board of directors of the Workers Defense League. In addition to his wife he is survived by his mother, Bertha Steinbock, two children, Daniel J. and Jean M. Steinbock. The family has asked that any contributions be made to the Histadrut Scholarship Fund in his name. They can be sent to the RWDSU.

MAX STEINBOCK

In Salvage Operation:

Job Program Funds Voted by Congress

Congress acted to salvage at least a part of the $5.3 billion emergency job funds that President Ford vetoed last month, giving priority to appropriations bills that will translate quickly into paychecks.

The House voted 400-16 approval of a funding bill that includes $2 billion for job-creating programs and the Senate approved an even bigger funding bill, 90-0.

Both bills include an Administration-supported $1.6 billion to continue federal funding of 310,000 public service jobs through the new fiscal year. But most of the other items go beyond the President's original budget requests.

The House bill includes $120 million for college work-study grants for part-time student jobs, $150 million for rural water and sewer construction grants, $70 million in work incentive job training funds, $19 million for the Youth Conservation Corps and $12 million which, when added to existing funds for the Older Americans Act, will provide part-time community service jobs for about 12,700 persons 55 or older.

Quick House-Senate conference agreement is anticipated.

Meanwhile, President Ford signed into law the $473 million appropriation Congress rushed through to fund an estimated 840,000 summer jobs for needy youth this year and other special programs. The amount is more than $60 million above the President's budget request.

The House ended an intermittent two-week debate and passed a much-amended energy conservation bill intended as an alternative to Ford's proposed high tariff on imported oil.

In other Capitol Hill developments:

- The Senate approved a "sense of Congress" resolution that asked the Federal Home Loan Bank Board not to approve mortgages that carry variable interest rates pending further congressional consideration of the issue. The House earlier passed a labor-supported bill directing the agency not to allow federally-chartered savings and loan associations from issuing mortgages whose rates would fluctuate with the market price of money. The AFL-CIO said it would be inflationary and hurt homeowners hardest when other costs were also going up.

- The AFL-CIO called on the House to override President Ford's veto of a bill authorizing funds for promotion of tourist travel to the United States. Four million Americans work in jobs affected by travel and tourism.

- A bill to raise the government payment on life insurance for federal employes from one-third to one-half the premium cost won a 245-145 endorsement in the House, but this was short of the two-thirds needed to pass it under a time-saving "suspension of the rules" procedure. It is expected to be brought to the floor again under the normal legislative procedure requiring only a majority vote.

Senate Rejects New Election For N.H. Seat

The Senate refused to give up its effort to determine the winner in New Hampshire's contested senatorial election and voted 55-43 against a Republican motion to declare the seat vacant and direct that a new vote be held.

Its task now will be to reach a decision on a number of contested ballots—some of which can be displayed without revealing whether their acceptance would benefit Democrat John A. Durkin or Republican Louis C. Wyman. Both candidates at various times had been declared and certified the election winner by New Hampshire authorities.

Republicans recruited only four southern Democrats to vote with them to void the election—Harry F. Byrd, Jr. (Va.), James O. Eastland (Miss.), John L. McClellan (Ark.) and John C. Stennis (Miss.).

Later, Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.) proposed to declare the seat vacant if the Senate reached no conclusion by Aug. 1. But that motion was beaten after Republicans refused to agree to a timetable on voting on the election contest. Democratic leaders pointed out that absence of a timetable would clearly invite a filibuster that would ensure no action before the proposed deadline.

6-21-75

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE awards were presented at the fifth annual awards dinner of Consumer Federation of America to Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., right, Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.), left, and Rep. John Moss (D-Calif.), second from left. CFA President Eileen Hoats is shown with the award recipients.

Safety Financing Shift Proposed by AFL-CIO

More effective enforcement of job safety standards can be achieved by shifting $30 million from deteriorating state plans to federal safety and health programs, the AFL-CIO told Congress.

The $30 million is part of the $48.5 million in President Ford's budget for fiscal year 1976 to finance the operations of 25 state safety programs. But in recent months, five states have withdrawn their programs, reverting the enforcement authority to the federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

In testimony before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee, Legislative Rep. Howard McGuigan pointed out that the 20 remaining states represent less than 25 percent of all covered workers. He also said other states might also pull out of the program.

McGuigan, who was accompanied by AFL-CIO job safety specialist George H. R. Taylor, said that the funds budgeted by the Administration could be better used for increasing OSHA's staff and improving federal programs.

Of the $30 million the AFL-CIO wants shifted, $25 million should go for the hiring of 1,040 additional safety inspectors, industrial hygienists and back-up personnel; $3 million for contracts with preempted states for on-site consultive services; $1.5 million to improve OSHA's standards development, and $500,000 to expand needed statistical programs.

McGuigan and Taylor also urged Congress to appropriate an additional $19.1 million for the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health. They said the added funds are needed by NIOSH to reactivate manpower training grants, laboratory facilities, research grants and an industrial carcinogens program.

Turning to other programs under the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, the AFL-CIO said that additional new funds would also be needed in the coming fiscal year to keep the Health Maintenance Organization movement growing.

Joined by Lawrence Smedley, associate director of the federation's Dept. of Social Security, McGuigan said an additional $15 million should be appropriated to initiate a moderate number of HMOs. The minimum budget, including staffing, would require an appropriation of $51.5 million.

Citing the nation's rising unemployment rate, the federation urged the subcommittee to add $68.5 million to the President's budget to carry out the activities of state employment service agencies. It called for a total appropriation for the coming year of $562.1 million to provide 31,035 positions to handle the increased caseload of jobless claims because of the expected continued high unemployment rate.

Supreme Court Rebuffs 'Right to Work' Group

The Supreme Court has refused to interfere with a federal judge's order requiring the National Right to Work Committee and its legal foundation to furnish a list of major business contributors.

Ten unions that are suing the "work" committee have sought a list of employer contributors to document their charge that harassment suits against unions have been illegally financed by employers with an interest in the outcome. The Landrum-Griffin Act bars an "interested employer or employer association" from financing litigation by a union member against his union.

The open shop group last June refused to comply with an order by U.S. District Judge Charles Richey for a partial list of contributors. A unanimous Court of Appeals panel and now the Supreme Court refused to overturn the order, leaving the "work" foundation subject to contempt of court penalties if it defies the ruling.

Unions that have brought the suit are the Machinists; State, County & Municipal Employees; Teachers; Farm Workers; Television & Radio Artists; Sheet Metal Workers; Laborers; Communications Workers; Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and Auto Workers.

In another area, the Supreme Court indicated that it was not likely to back away from its position that at least some state and local employes can be covered by the federal wage-hour law.

The court refused to review and thus let stand lower court decisions affirming enforcement through court suits of the federal minimum wage guarantees for workers at state hospitals and other institutions brought under the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1966.

Still pending, awaiting new oral arguments in the fall, is the attempt by the National League of Cities to curtail additional wage-hour coverage enacted last year, and particularly overtime pay standards set for police and fire fighters.

The Supreme Court also cleared the way for payment of retroactive salary increases for 180,000 state employes in California, whose pay had been limited by the now-defunct Cost of Living Council. The state had put the rejected funds in escrow, the state Supreme Court ordered the money paid, the federal government sought to block the payment but the Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals ruled that the money could be paid. The Supreme Court refused to overturn that decision.

Credit Unions Post 7% Membership Rise

Madison, Wis.—Membership in the nation's credit unions increased by almost 7 percent in 1974, the Credit Union National Association reported. CUNA said membership increased nationwide from 27.5 million in 1973 to 29.4 million last year.

The number of credit unions last year remained about the same as in the previous year, a national total of nearly 23,000. Assets in 1974 rose to a total of $32 billion, a growth of 12 percent.

Shanker Raps Profiteering On Child Care

Profit-making organizations should be excluded from carrying out federally funded early-childhood and day-care programs, and the operations of any such system of programs should be primarily sponsored by the nation's public schools, Teachers President Albert Shanker told a joint congressional hearing.

Shanker said profit-making agencies would "guarantee a fragmentation of effort and duplication of services."

He cited an AFL-CIO Executive Council statement attacking "the sorry record of profit-making organizations in the provision of human services, especially in the nursing home, health care and education fields."

Shanker testified at a joint hearing of a Senate subcommittee on children and youth, chaired by Sen. Walter Mondale (D-Minn.), and a House subcommittee on special education, chaired by Rep. John Brademas (D-Ind.).

Shanker told the joint committee hearing public schools have the facilities, administrative capabilities, personnel and public support necessary to provide a nationwide system of early childhood education and day care "that will meet the common needs of all."

"The whole trend of declining enrollments in education has produced a situation where the school system can now begin to provide and coordinate needed services for children in the pre-school age group," Shanker said.

He urged that public schools be the presumed prime sponsor of programs provided in legislation being considered by the panels, except where a school system is unwilling or unable to assume responsibility.

Ford Serves Notice Of More Vetoes

(Continued from Page 1)

May housing starts were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,126,000 units, up from 986,000 units in April.

The rise in homebuilding in May turned out to be less than anticipated and left the industry at its lowest level for the month in 28 years.

There were other figures, too, to cast doubt on the Administration's determined optimism, including another downturn in industrial output and a new rise in initial unemployment insurance claims.

Industrial output last month fell three-tenths of 1 percent from the previous month, the eighth consecutive monthly decline.

Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. reported a huge increase in new claims for jobless insurance benefits. Initial claims during the week ended June 7, the latest reporting period for which figures are available, totaled 549,000, up 135,000 from the week before.

Nevertheless, the President assured the National Federation of Independent Business that "we are at the bottom of the economic slide, and we will soon be on our way up."

He suggested that the real problem is to suppress "the tendency of our government to do all things for all humanity."

Ford promised his business audience to do his part "to help each and every one of you make it big by getting government off your back."

Ford's Housing Veto Called Senseless

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Alternative Won't Help, Says Labor

By David L. Perlman

President Ford's alternative to the labor-supported housing bill that he vetoed "won't do the job," the AFL-CIO charged.

AFL-CIO President George Meany said the vetoed bill would have meant more homes built and sold to middle-income families, and more jobs for American workers. But under the Administration plan, interest rates would stay high, "houses won't be built, rents and prices will rise and no new jobs will be created."

The vetoed bill would have provided a federal interest-rate subsidy that would have brought monthly payments on new housing within the reach of average-income families. It also would have established a federal loan program so that persons who lose their jobs won't lose their homes through foreclosure.

After the House failed to override the veto, the Senate voted quick 94-0 approval of a substitute bill that was largely tailored to the Administration's specifications. It did, however, include the protection against foreclosure that was part of the vetoed bill.

Ford said the bill he vetoed would be too costly and wasteful, especially since "there are clear signs of recovery" in the severely depressed housing industry.

He proposed to expand a little-used government program of purchasing home mortgages from banks at slightly below market rates and said he would go along with some sort of mortgage foreclosure protection, but not one dependent exclusively on the federal government.

As for the President's reliance on government purchases of mortgages to stimulate new housing—a key feature of the Senate-passed substitute bill—Meany commented at the time of the veto:

"Additional billions in mortgage-purchasing authority are meaningless. For 18 months the government has followed such a policy and only $3 billion out of the $13 billion committed have been used."

The interest rates under the program are still so high, he said, that "most families can't afford the monthly payments."

"The President's veto of the housing bill makes no sense from

(Continued on Page 2)

Jobs Funding Bill Cleared By Congress

Congress sent to President Ford a job-creating $2.4 billion appropriations bill that includes important elements of the legislation he vetoed last month.

Added to the package in a last-minute Senate amendment that was accepted by the House was $375 million to complete financing of a $500 million public works construction program the 93rd Congress voted last December.

The full funding is designed to create 50,000 direct construction jobs, with many thousands more finding employment through the ripple effect.

Also in the bill is an Admin-

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Blasts President's Do-Nothingism on Jobless

THE TRAINS are models but the railroaders are full-size in the Working Americans section of the Smithsonian Institution's Festival of American Folklore on the Mall in Washington, D.C. Both W. G. Lee, foreground, and Roy Reed are members of Local 600 of the United Transportation Union and work for the B & O. Nine other unions are also featured in this year's festival.

Scores Callous Views On 'Human Recession'

By James M. Shevis

AFL-CIO President George Meany, charging the Ford Administration is running a "government by veto," accused the President and his economic counselors of deliberate "do-nothingism" in the face of the nation's worst unemployment crisis since the 1930s, and called for immediate, massive, job-creating programs to put the country back to work.

He said the attitude of the Ford Administration "adds up to a callous disregard for the misery and suffering experienced by our nation's unemployed."

Meany assailed Alan Greenspan, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, for remarks in a national television interview urging a go-slow policy in reducing joblessness and claiming that the recession "for all practical purposes" has ended.

"Just think of that," Meany declared. "He wants them to go back to work but not too soon. . . . He said, in effect, that this is the price we must pay in order to avoid more inflation."

Addressing some 300 delegates to a national conference in Washington sponsored by the Full Employment Action Council, Meany noted the Administration predicts high unemployment for the remainder of the decade. If the forecast is true, he declared, it could "tear this country apart."

Later, at a White House press conference, President Ford indicated the Administration's willingness to accept spreading joblessness —perhaps as high as 8 million unemployed workers in 1976, according to his own economic advisers.

"As you bring down the inflation, we may have to suffer for a short period of time higher unemployment than we like," he said.

The goal of the action council

(Continued on Page 3)

Prices Still Rising But Pace Slows

Retail prices, while rising at a rate considerably below their year-ago pace, continued to climb in May, lifting the consumer price index 9.5 percent above May 1974, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The May CPI rise of four-tenths of 1 percent was an improvement over the six-tenths of 1 percent increase in April but still high by historical standards.

Real spendable earnings in May —take-home pay expressed in 1967 dollars to remove the effects of inflation — rose 4.4 percent from April. The increase, however, was due entirely to the tax cut and lower withholding rates enacted into law earlier this year. The real gross pay—before taxes—was down two-tenths of 1 percent from the previous month.

For a married worker with three dependents, real spendable average weekly earnings in May were $91.54, still less than they were a year earlier and only slightly higher than the 1965 average. Real spendable average weekly earnings a year earlier

(Continued on Page 8)

Experts Tell Hearing:

Industry Can Afford Lower Noise Costs

By John R. Oravec

Workers can be protected from job-caused loss of hearing at a cost that industry can afford, expert witnesses testified during the first week of Labor Dept. hearings on a federal noise standard.

The hearings will run for several weeks to air all viewpoints on the industrial noise problem which affects workers in virtually every industry.

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration has proposed continuing the present industrial noise limit of 90 decibels over an eight-hour period. Organized labor and the Environmental Protection Agency contend that 85 decibels is the maximum than can be allowed to better protect the hearing of workers.

A 5-decibel difference at that sound range is far greater than the numbers indicate. Noise recorded at 85 decibels is actually less than half as loud as at 90 decibels.

Some experts compare 90 decibels to the roar of a 20-ton truck or a subway train and 85 decibels to the noise of a busy street corner.

A scientific study under OSHA contract warned that if present noise levels in 19 major industries are permitted to continue, 1.7 million workers will suffer handicapping hearing impairment.

The OSHA study disclosed that 36 percent of the nation's production workers are likely by age 59 to have suffered hearing losses of

(Continued on Page 8)

House Rejects Move to Weaken Safety Protection in Small Plants

The House refused by a 231-186 vote to weaken job safety protections for workers in establishments with 25 or fewer employes.

As in past years, the proposal to curb enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act was made by Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.) through an emendment to an appropriations bill carrying funds for the Labor Dept.

In each of the past two Congresses, Findley's amendment carried and only the Senate's refusal to bow to the small business employer lobby salvaged the job safety enforcement program.

Ninety percent of all workplaces and 30 percent of the nation's workers, including many in hazardous occupations, would be excluded under a 25-worker cutoff.

In a letter to House members before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller expressed strong opposition to any "numerical exemption" to job safety enforcement. By making some workers "less than equal," Biemiller said, Congress would be "plainly subverting" the intent of the federal safety law.

Findley's amendment this year was somewhat less severe than his 1974 amendment that had passed the House, 201-194. This year's proposal would have allowed an inspector to enter a small establishment. But he could only warn an employer on a first inspection, and could not cite him for a violation.

Idaho Unions Press Goals In Legislature

Twin Falls, Ida. — The Idaho State AFL-CIO re-elected its present slate of officers, approved a 5-cent monthly increase in per capita dues, and adopted more than a score of resolutions at its 17th annual convention here.

The 150 delegates returned to office President Robert W. Macfarlane, Sec.-Treas. Jim Kerns, Vice President Ed Johnson and six executive board members.

Higher operating expenses were cited to justify the dues increase. Approved unanimously, the increase will raise monthly dues to 35 cents effective July 1.

Among the resolutions approved at the three-day convention were measures to provide unemployment benefits to striking workers and to fight any legislative proposals dictating compulsory arbitration.

The convention also adopted a resolution to set the normal retirement age for workers in hazardous industries at 60 and for those choosing early retirement at 55. This would cover workers in Idaho's zinc, lead and silver underground mines.

One of the convention speakers, Assistant Labor Sec. John H. Stender, lauded the support of organized labor in passing the national job safety and health law, and noted that without the help of the AFL-CIO and its state affiliates such as the Idaho AFL-CIO there would be no Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

Also addressing the convention were Idaho Lt. Gov. John Evans, AFL-CIO Region VI Director William L. Gilbert, and Assistant Director Frank Emig of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

Counties Study Ways to Deal With Unions

Milwaukee—Some 100 officials from county governments throughout the United States met here to determine how best to deal with public employe unions.

Sponsored by the National Association of Counties, the seminars and speeches ran a wide gamut of views and ranged in topics from general comments on legislation to the nuts and bolts of collective bargaining and unit determinations in elections.

Sam Zagoria, former member of the National Labor Relations Board and currently director of Labor Management Relations Service, a consulting agency for municipalities, told the group in a general session that because of the "money pinch" facing local governments, they are seeking to get more work out of fewer workers. He said the financial crisis facing government may require numerous changes in labor-management relations.

Unions came in for some criticism by several of the management spokesmen, with comments that many unions and their leaders seek a "confrontation," and often look for "a martyr" to dramatize their cause.

Bernard F. Hillenbrand, executive director of the National Association of Counties, stressed in an interview that his association supports the principle of collective bargaining for public employes, and the conference was called because of the concern over the implications of the bargaining.

The association has already gone on record as opposing any federal legislation covering public employes and suggests such collective bargaining laws be passed by states.

EXPANDED JOB OPPORTUNITIES for minority workers through labor's outreach efforts are cited by AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William E. Pollard at a Human Resources Development Institute conference in Washington. The three-day session drew 90 staff representatives from AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Councils that operate apprenticeship and journeyman outreach programs under HRDI contracts.

Job Loss Stress Urged In New Trade Talks

The government's foreign trade negotiators are still not facing up to the problems of job losses by American workers caused by expanding imports, labor representatives warned.

The Labor Policy Advisory Committee for Multilateral Trade Negotiations—composed of representatives from 48 AFL-CIO affiliates and other unions — said that the basic interests of workers are not being adequately reflected in trade discussions.

The committee advised that the immediate and future impact of reduced tariffs on low-wage imports from so-called developing countries must be thoroughly explored by the negotiators.

Labor's concerns were expressed in a follow-up meeting with Labor Secretary John T. Dunlop and Special Trade Representative Frederick Dent.

At an earlier meeting, the committee told the government's trade negotiators that a new round of giveaways by further lowering tariffs would worsen the jobs loss of American workers.

The Labor Policy Advisory Committee was established under provisions of the 1974 Trade Act, along with committees representing business, agriculture and the public.

In an organizational session, the committee elected president I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers as chairman and President Harry A. Tulley of the Glass Bottle Blowers as vice chairman.

Also formed were six Labor Sector Advisory Committees, representing workers in various industries, trade groups and services.

Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. has certified 650 workers at two electronics plants and 84 shoe workers eligible for trade adjustment assistance because they lost their jobs due to increased foreign imports. But at the same time, another 225 shoe workers were denied adjustment assistance.

Petitions for assistance were filed by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers for 500 employes who were laid off at an RCA plant at Mountaintop, Pa., and another 150 employes of a Magnavox plant in Jefferson City, Pa.

The United Shoe Workers filed the petition on behalf of the 84 employees who either lost their jobs or became underemployed at Algy Shoes, Inc., of Everett, Mass.

However, the Labor Dept. failed to honor another USW petition for 225 employes of the Brown Shoe Co. plant in Newport, Ark., contending that increased imports of women's fashion boots did not contribute importantly to the closing of the plant last fall.

Recent Labor Dept. figures show that adjustment assistance under the Trade Act was approved on 14 petitions covering 5,000 workers, while three covering 1,800 were rejected.

There are currently 63 petitions on file with the Labor Dept. for adjustment assistance covering more than 50,000 jobless or underemployed workers affected by imports.

Workers certified eligible for assistance qualify for cash allowances, training, testing, counseling, job placement and other assistance.

The cash allowance amounts to 70 percent of the worker's average wage, but not exceeding the national average wage in manufacturing. Benefits are paid for 52 weeks. However, workers age 60 or older may receive an additional 26 weeks in benefits.

Rail Clerks Defer Strike

The Railway & Airline Clerks agreed to a 30-day postponement of a strike date it had set on the nation's major railroads to permit more time for bargaining.

The agreement with the National Railway Labor Conference, the carriers' negotiating arm, came on the heels of an all-night bargaining session attended by federal mediators.

The union had been legally free to strike the carriers June 23, the end of a government-imposed, 30-day cooling-off period required under provisions of the Railway Labor Act.

A month earlier, a special presidentially-appointed fact-finding panel recommended that BRAC's negotiators accept a pattern agreement signed by seven other rail unions calling for a 41 percent wage-and-benefit increase over three years.

Convention Theme:

Musicians Cite Need For New Approach

Shreveport, La.—An organizing campaign geared to the "problems and realities of today," rather than the concepts of the 1930s and '40s was called for by Musicians President Hal C. Davis at the union's annual convention here.

In his keynote address to the 1,200 delegates Davis said that while the AFM has made its share of mistakes, "it has negotiated benefits that are the envy of performers throughout the world. Every serious young musician joining the federation has a right to expect to share in those benefits."

Davis and the union's secretary-treasurer, J. Martin Emerson, were elected to new terms by acclamation along with Vice Presidents Victor W. Fuentealba and J. Alan Wood. Nine candidates were nominated for five other seats on the international executive board and an election held before the convention's end will determine the outcome.

Nancy Hanks, chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts, in the first appearance by the head of the endowment before a union convention, told the delegates that President Ford was supporting the concept of performance-royalty legislation long sought by the arts and entertainment unions.

She announced also that the endowment was establishing "residencies in music" under which musicians and composers will perform and teach in various communities. She called for a joint effort to help solve the economic problems of diverse musical groups and the creation of "innovative musical programs and events."

Davis, in his opening address, also called for passage of the performance-royalty legislation which would provide for the payment of a small royalty for musicians and other artists when their recorded work is used by others for a profit. He said that Congress has succumbed in the past to the phony argument that poorer radio stations would be subsidizing wealthy stars.

The fact is, he stressed, that the proposed royalties are minimal, less than those paid to composers, and small stations would pay nothing. "We don't scratch social security or Medicare because a minority of the people receiving benefits do not need them to survive," he pointed out.

Davis also called for legislation to give taxpayers the opportunity to specify on their tax forms that a portion of the tax payments go directly to support the arts.

A highlight of the opening session of the 332,000-member union's convention was the presentation of the federation's honorary life membership gold card to country music star Roy Acuff for his "unique and continued contribution to country-western music."

Kansas Limits R-T-W Penalty

Topeka, Kan.—Violations of the Kansas "right-to-work" law will be a civil but not a criminal offense under a bill passed at the recent session of the state legislature.

Kansas banned union shop agreements through an amendment to the state constitution adopted in a 1958 referendum. Since then, the "right-to-work" sponsors have been pressing for "enabling legislation" that they claimed was needed to put teeth into the prohibition.

As originally proposed, a union shop could have resulted in penalties as high as a year in jail and a $2,500 fine. In its final form, the law merely empowers a person claiming to have been harmed by an illegal union shop to sue for actual damages and reasonable attorney fees. Further, if the "right-to-work" provision should ever be removed from the state constitution, the enabling law would be nullified.

Ford's Housing Proposal Termed Short of Need

(Continued from Page 1)

an economic or a humanitarian point of view," Meany said. "Once again, the President has put the deficit ahead of the people's need for homes and jobs."

Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., termed the veto "difficult to understand" in view of the need for new housing and the state of the economy.

One million unemployed construction workers and hundreds of thousands of others only partially employed are "totally unable to perceive the light at the end of the tunnel which the Administration's economic experts profess to see," Georgine said.

As with all of the President's other vetoes this year, the Democratic majority in the House was unable to muster the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto.

The actual vote was 268-157 for repassing the bill over the veto—16 short of two-thirds. Voting to override were 249 Democrats and 19 Republicans; supporting the veto were 122 Republicans and 35 Democrats.

The Administration went all-out to hold Republicans in line and sustain the veto, including an unusual personal appeal by the Secretary of Housing & Urban Development, Carla Hills, at a Republican caucus held on the floor of the House before the showdown session began.

She told the House Republicans that the Democratic-sponsored housing bill came too late because a "remarkable housing recovery" is under way.

House Speaker Carl Albert told the House before the showdown that Ford "is building the most monumental record of anti-job vetoes in the history of Congress."

Democrats gave Albert a standing ovation after he took the floor to attack the veto of a bill designed to provide 800,000 jobs. More Democrats but fewer Republicans voted to override the veto than had voted for the bill initially.

Before the Senate pushed through its version of the Administration bill, House Banking Committee Chairman Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) and Rep. William A. Barrett (D-Pa.), chairman of the housing subcommittee, said they would propose a "compromise" between Ford's plan and the vetoed plan.

AFL-CIO Files Objections:

'Clean Slate' Urged On Service Pacts

The AFL-CIO asked the Labor Dept. to scrap its proposed changes in rules covering government service contracts and "begin again on a clean slate."

A federation statement charged that the new regulations were drawn up in "a highly irregular procedure" by government agencies seeking to keep costs down by giving service contracts to firms that pay substandard wages to their workers.

That's what the original 1965 Service Contracts Act and strengthening amendments adopted in 1972 were intended to prevent, the AFL-CIO stressed.

Union objections to the proposed regulations were aired recently at congressional hearings, where both Democratic and Republican members of a House Labor subcommittee ripped into the Labor Dept. for distorting the law and the intent of Congress. The Service Contracts Act was meant as an equivalent of the Davis-Bacon Act which applies to government-financed construction.

It was brought out during the congressional hearings that senior Labor Dept. officials, including the department's solicitor, had written memos declaring that portions of the proposed regulations are contrary to the law and its legislative history.

The changes the Labor Dept. has proposed would:

- Relieve the employer of obligations under a "successor contract" by saying those obligations would apply "only where substantially the same service will be performed at the same place as the previous contract."

The AFL-CIO statement said this would mean that the lowest possible wage scale would unavoidably surface as "prevailing."

- Provide a cutoff date for newly bargained contracts with service employe unions, requiring that terms be filed with the Labor Dept. 10 days before bids are opened.

The AFL-CIO pointed out that the time taken for reaching agreement, obtaining ratification and notification could result in a wage determination based on an old contract, and workers would have to fulfill the government job without benefits from scheduled wage increases.

- Allow the wage and fringe determination to "reflect rates applicable to the ultimate place of contract performance" in cases where the bidder doesn't know where the work will take place.

Labor objected that this would automatically mean the lowest wages paid anywhere. If contractors have no single prevailing wage determination on which to base their bids, it is inevitable that the wage rate will sink to the lowest level," the AFL-CIO said.

- Permit a prospective bidder who has a collective bargaining agreement "to be allowed to bid solely on the basis of that agreement."

This could make a substandard contract the standard. The AFL-CIO said the proposal reads "as if the Dept. of Labor had sat down with one special interest group and allowed that group simply to dictate the language and content of the proposed regulations."

Abel Ties Gain In Productivity To U.S. Role

Progress in labor-management cooperation has increased steadily, Steelworkers President I. W. Abel told a conference on productivity improvement in Washington, but a "new posture" from government could mean even greater strides.

"We here all seem to understand what needs to be done, and we've a willingness to get it done, but we stand in need of a lot of encouragement from the top," Abel observed at the conference, sponsored by the National Commission on Productivity and Work Quality and the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

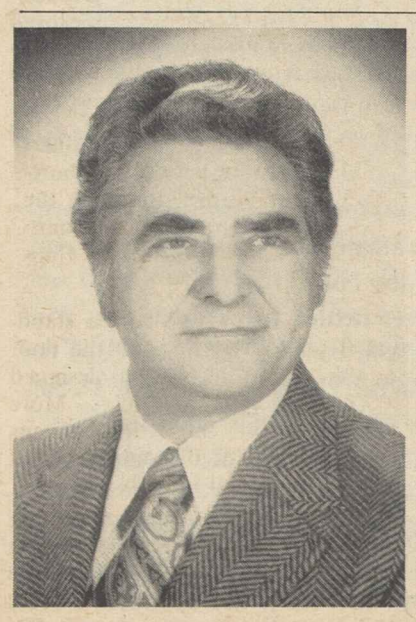
A vice chairman of the commission, Abel called on government leaders to get on with the job of restoring the health of the nation's railroads, developing mass transit systems, and providing low-cost housing.

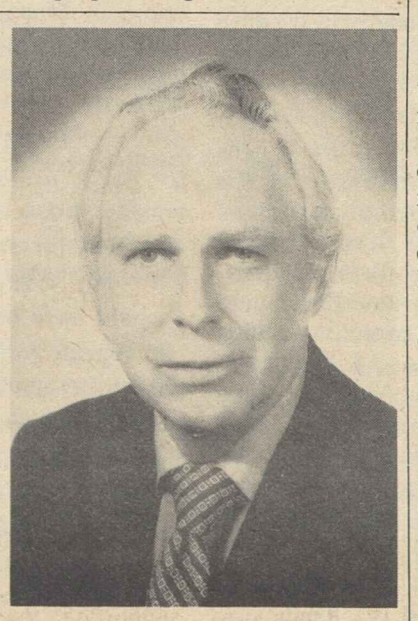
"We've lived to see a tremendous change," Abel said. "Today the leaders of industry are willing to agree that the men on the production floor can help increase production," and contribute to the success of the business that keeps them employed.

Labor representatives at the one-day conference came from the Machinists, the Paperworkers, Steelworkers, Mine Workers and Auto Workers.

AIW Convention Date

The Allied Industrial Workers convention will open September 15 in Kansas City. The convention date in last week's issue of the AFL-CIO News was incorrect.





NEW OFFICERS of the Chemical Workers are Frank D. Martino, left, who became president on the retirement of Thomas E. Boyle, and his successor as secretary-treasurer, J. A. Thomas.

JOBS FOR ALL was the goal of a national conference called by the Full Employment Action Council. Keynote speakers were Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.), right, and AFL-CIO President George Meany. The council is headed by Murray Finley, left, president of the Clothing Workers, and Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Meany assailed the Administration's callous job policies.

Meany Assails President's Policy Of Callous Disregard for Jobless

(Continued from Page 1)

is to get the nation to carry out the Employment Act of 1946, a statute committing the government to creating and maintaining conditions promoting maximum employment.

"No matter when the Administration economists pronounce the official end of the business recession," Meany warned, "the human recession of unemployment will continue for the rest of this decade unless strong actions are taken now."

Greenspan and the Ford Administration have not made a "single suggestion to alleviate the condition of America's millions of jobless workers," Meany said.

He called for a change in government policies and the people who make those policies.

"Maybe if Arthur Burns, William Simon and Alan Greenspan had a personal taste of unemployment, they might be more sympathetic to the problems of the unemployed," Meany said.

Meany singled out Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, as the chief architect of the current economic disaster, brought on in large part by the Fed's tight-money, high-interest rate policies of 1973-74.

Calling on both Congress and the Ford Administration to live up to the terms of the Employment Act of 1946, Meany proposed a large-scale housing program, an accelerated public works program, increased federal aid to the cities, an expanded public-service jobs program and other efforts to put the nation's jobless millions back to work. All are opposed by the Administration.

"No single program can now do the job," Meany added. "America needs an arsenal of economic weapons . . . to end this crisis. He urged the closing of tax loopholes, restoration of railroad trackbeds, a greater concern for social priorities and long-range planning, and a program that would make the government the "employer of last resort," among other measures.

Meany scoffed at the "obsession" with budget dificits by both the Administration and Congress.

"The only sound way to quickly cut the budget deficit is to put the people back to work, so that American workers and businessmen can increase their earnings and pay their taxes," he said.

The idea that the federal government should impose a tight budget straitjacket on itself at a time of the most severe unemployment since the Great Depression is "completely ridiculous," Meany declared.

"Job opportunities at decent wages for all persons able and seeking work—the only definition of full employment we'll accept—is a goal as old as the labor movement," Meany told the delegates who represented trade unions, church and civic organizations, business and minority groups.

The Full Employment Action Council is headed jointly by Clothing Workers President Murray H. Finley and Mrs. Coretta Scott King, widow of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Following a plenary session which heard Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.) outline his bill aimed at reducing joblessness to 3 percent, a series of panel sessions took up various aspects of employment in a full employment economy. The AFL-CIO has not taken a position on the Hawkins bill.

Panelists included Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland; AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger; Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock; Executive Director Jack Conway of the State, County & Municipal Employees; Teachers President Albert Shanker; AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew Biemiller; Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.; President Paul Jennings of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; President Robert Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., and Vice President Dolores Huerta of the Farm Workers.

NLRB Issues Health Care Election Rule

Petitions for employe representation elections in the health-care field now must be filed 90 to 120 days before the expiration of collective bargaining agreements, rather than during the 60- to 90-day period that applies to other employer categories, the National Labor Relations Board has ruled.

The special action was taken to comply with the 1974 health-care amendments to the National Labor Relations Act, and "to promote the stability of labor-management relations in the health-care field," the five-member board said in a unanimous ruling.

Under the amendments, Congress intended that in labor agreements involving health-care institutions any party which wanted to open such agreement must give at least 90 days' notice to the other party, the NLRB noted.

UNESCO's Ouster Of Israel Protested

New York—Musicians President Hal C. Davis, in his capacity as head of the Inter-American Federation of Entertainment Workers (FITE), has protested action by the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization in excluding Israel from its councils and elevating the Palestine Liberation Organization to observer status.

In a recent letter to UNESCO Gen. Sec. Amadou-Mathar M'Bow, Davis urged the agency to "reconsider these unprecedented actions and thus undo the damage to itself which they have caused."

Use Grain of Quirk On July Job Figures

The unemployment rate for June, scheduled to be released by the Labor Dept. on July 3, will not reflect the full extent of the nation's joblessness, Bureau of Labor Statistics Commissioner Julius Shiskin warned.

Shiskin, whose agency compiles the monthly report on employment, said the next report will reflect a statistical quirk based on a seasonal adjustment rate announced earlier this year. It will be distorted because "the proportion of students entering the labor market in June will not be proportionate with unemployment."

When the June unemployment rate is announced, he told reporters, "if you see a sharp drop, defer your celebration until you see the July figures." While he wouldn't predict how far the June rate would drop below May's 9.2 percent, Shiskin said the difference "won't be trivial."

More Than a Slogan

FULL EMPLOYMENT is more than a slogan to the American labor movement. Job opportunities at decent wages for all persons able and seeking work—the only definition of full employment we'll accept—is a goal as old as the labor movement.

We don't look at full employment as one of those philosophically correct things that social workers talk about. Full employment, to us, is an economic necessity. Jobs are the lifeblood of this economy.

From jobs come the wages that generate mass purchasing power. A job is the key measure of a person's place in society—whether that person is a full-fledged participant in society or on the outside looking in. Work is the source of individual fulfillment. It is positive, constructive activity.

And since we in organized labor have been intensely involved in this issue of full employment for years and years, we have some advice to pass along: Full employment is not going to be achieved by wishful thinking, rousing speeches or one-shot gimmicks.

A bipartisan majority adopted the Employment Act of 1946 and on Feb. 20, 1946, President Truman signed that historic statute.

It committed the U.S. government to creating and maintaining "conditions under which there will be afforded useful employment opportunities, including self-employment, for those able, willing and seeking work, and to promote maximum employment, production and purchasing power."

It would be most difficult to improve on those words as a commitment of the U.S. government enacted into law. But it would be easy to improve on the performance.

During much of the past 30 years, the government has walked away from its commitment. In fact, that commitment has been perverted.

Government officials and their academic supporters have been busier in the past few years redefining the goal than trying to meet it. It went from 3 percent to percent, then to 4½ percent. Now it's 5 or 5½ percent. And some so-called economists even talk of 6 percent as "full employment."

It's an old game, if you can get away with it—if you don't make the grade, change the rules. To me, that's fakery, regardless of whether the trickster is a college professor or a government official.

WE ARE CONVINCED that no single piece of legislation will restore the economy to health or achieve full employment. The recession is too deep; the problems too complex for any one magic cure.

We in the AFL-CIO have not taken a position on the Hawkins bill, although we share the commitment of its author—for whom we have deep respect—for his goal of full employment. But we firmly believe other steps must be taken immediately.

The beginning must be a change in government policies and the people who make those policies. It is time the Congress remembered its responsibility to the people who elected them—one in seven of whom are unemployed or underemployed. It is time the President remembered that government by veto means the minority forcing its will on the majority. It is time that this government of, by and for the people kept its commitment to the American people contained in the Employment Act of 1946.

—From an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the National Conference on Full Employment.

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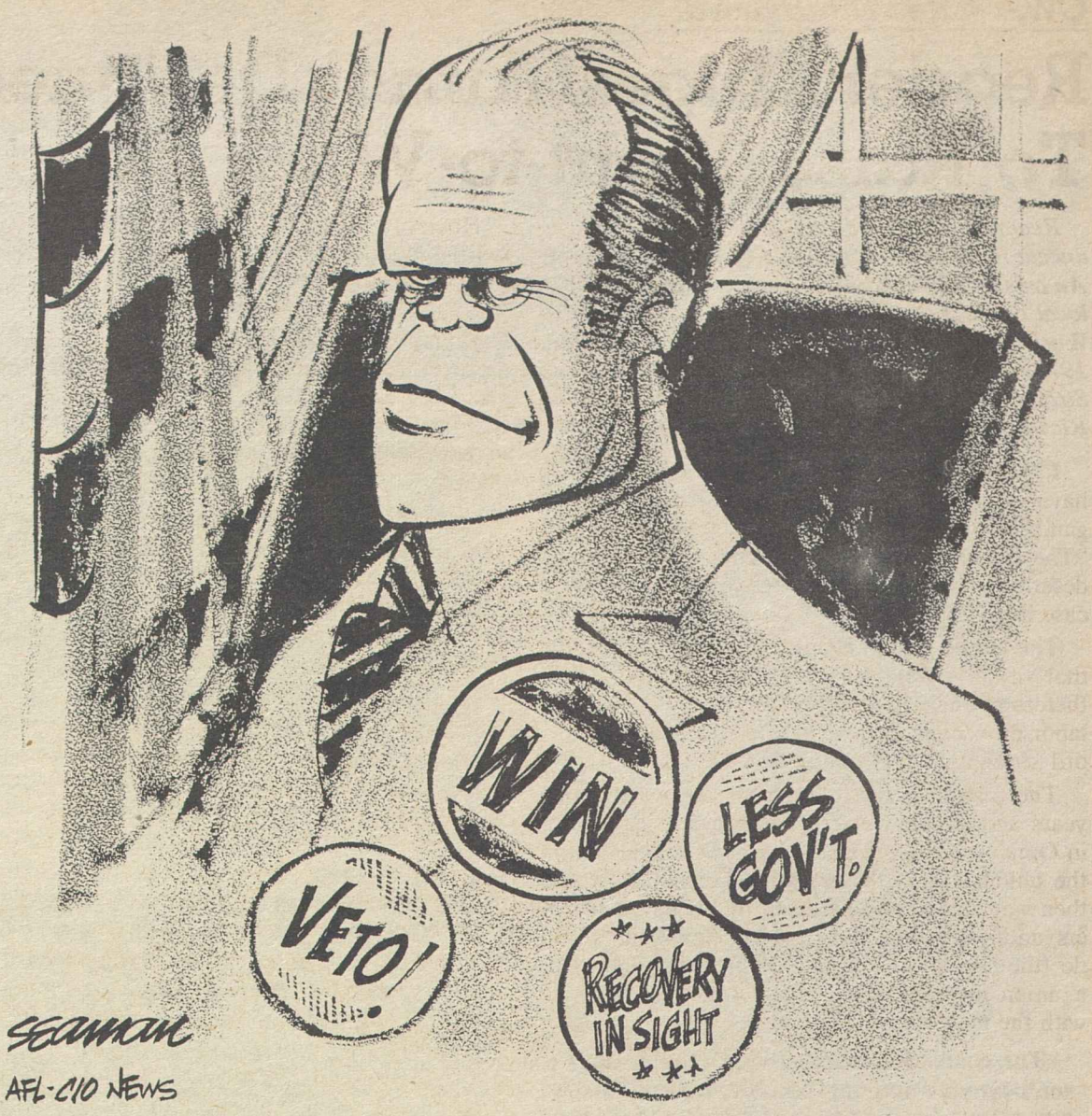


A Word Edgewise:

House Democrats' Problems Stem from Stuctural Flaws

By John P. Roche

BACK IN JANUARY when the new Congress burst into Washington full of new, young liberal enthusiasts, I had one of my unhappy premonitions. As I noted here, it reminded me too much of the huge majority that was swept into Congress with Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1936 landslide. A majority which promptly fell apart at the seams because, given its size, nobody felt any need for discipline.

The Republicans, as now, deliberately laid low and chortled as "Old Whiskers" (as FDR called Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes) gave the President the worst licking of his political career over the so-called "court packing" proposal. Before it was over, there was blood on the floors of Congress—all of it Democratic.

Now Speaker of the House Carl Albert has publicly thrown in the sponge. The allegedly "veto-proof" House has made Gerald Ford look like a strong President, and everywhere you look Democrats are carving up their fellows.

The freshman representatives have allegedly called on Albert to resign—I say allegedly because nobody knows how many of the 75 new faces actually joined in the appeal. The Democratic Caucus, which leaped into life back in January, is in total disarray because it tried to assume policy-making functions and the House committees, once settled into their feudal demesnes, told the caucus to keep off their turf.

In a curious way, the very success of the caucus in deposing some committee chairmen at the beginning of the session contributed to its decline. Flushed with visions of grandeur, it then moved on to try to establish a disguised form of parliamentary government by arguing that the caucus could tell Democrats on various committees what legislation to support or oppose. At this point, those Democrats who had joyfully joined in bouncing some seniors from their chairmanships were already locked into the traditional system: "Nobody can tell the Ways & Means, or Appropriations, or . . . committee what to do!"

It's easy to blame Speaker Albert, who is one of the nicest men in town and incapable of a vengeful act. (If a representative got mean with Sam Rayburn, he would suddenly find his office had been shifted—to a broomcloset.) Albert just doesn't play rough and in my judgment should not be considered the scapegoat—as the old saying goes, "Don't shoot the piano player, boys, he's doing his best." What has to be kept in mind is that the Democrats in the House are suffering from a self-inflicted wound: in their effort to end arbitrary procedures, they virtually destroyed the sense of discipline.

The other day, for example, I got a letter from Congressman Paul Simon, a most talented freshman representative from Illinois, which in part bemoaned the fact that most congressmen don't have enough facts to vote intelligently on issues. They are just supposed to go in and find out from the Whip how to vote. With all respect to Simon, this is the very basis of party discipline. Obviously it is impossible for every member to know everything about every issue. Hence the division of labor among functional committees whose recommendations have in the past been almost routinely accepted by the House as a whole.

THE PROBLEM IN THIS CONGRESS has been exaggerated by the number of new faces. Power in Congress is a function of knowledge and a willingness to work. Sen. Henry M. Jackson, for example, is a dominating figure on the Appropriations Committee because he knows how to read a budget, even a Pentagon budget, and take it apart inch by inch. Wilbur Mills dominated the House Ways & Means Committee for years before his illness, not because he carried a pistol in his pocket, but because he knew more about taxation than any other 15 representatives put together. And was prepared to work twice as hard as most of his peers.

If Lyndon Johnson were now Senate Majority Leader, for example, the Wyman-Durkin controversy over the New Hampshire Senate seat would have been settled two months ago. And to repeat, Johnson couldn't have exercised the power he did in the 1950s unless Senate Democrats accepted discipline; his authority was a function of his brains and his willingness to work a 28-hour day.

Right now there are simply too many unseasoned newcomers who have yet to work out a pecking order. In short, if every man is a leader, there can by definition be no leadership.

So don't shoot the piano player: the problem is structural, not personal.

CWA Cites the Record:

Reader's Digest Attack Designed To Raise 'Right-to-Work' Funds

Reader's Digest magazine is notorious for its unceasing attacks on the trade unions movement. An article in its May 1975 issue involving a CWA local brought the following from Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts in the June 1975 CWA News. Watts' article was entitled "The Strange Case of 'The Lonely Ordeal of Dale Richardson.'"

I'M SURE BY NOW many of our members have seen a piece of blatant anti-union propaganda in the May issue of Reader's Digest entitled "The Lonely Ordeal of Dale Richardson," which describes—or, more accurately, distorts—a legal case involving CWA.

The Digest has a massive circulation, exceeding that of all other American publications, and I therefore think it is important to CWA and the labor movement for me to attempt to set the record straight in this matter.

The case in point stems from an incident nine years ago at the Western Electric Service Center in Omaha, Neb., where Richardson resigned from the union after a dispute with local officials and then was chided and harassed by his fellow workers until—like any red-blooded American would do (the Digest presumes)—he picked a fight with a union member and found himself fired, along with the member.

The contention of the Digest (and Richardson's lawyers over the years) is that the union failed to represent Richardson fairly as a nonmember, and the article goes even further and insinuates that the union encouraged the harassment—a charge which is untrue and which has never been substantiated in court.

Richardson took both CWA and the company to court claiming his firing was unjustified, seeking a backpay award and also an award for "mental anguish." Many years later a jury awarded Richardson $92,000 in back pay and lost benefits, which the court said should be divided 70-30 by CWA and the company; however an award for "mental anguish" was thrown out by the judge, who cited "passion and prejudice" on the part of the jury. In a subsequent trial the new jury also rejected Richardson's claim for "mental anguish" against CWA.

Now, there has never been any question of the basic facts in this case, that Richardson resigned from the union (the unit had been 100 percent union) and then suffered verbal abuse and various forms of harassment, including mischievous telephone calls at his home, and that he started the fight that resulted in his dismissal. And I want to state clearly that some of Richardson's fellow workers behaved in a way which has brought shame and embarrassment to CWA.

However, many facts which were omitted or twisted by the Reader's Digest must be stated. First of all, Richardson himself behaved in a manner calculated to anger and antagonize his coworkers, and which would have caused their resentment under any circumstances. Richardson slandered the local union's officers and on at least two occasions leafleted the plant with anti-union extremist literature published by the John Birch Society.

After his firing, the NLRB declined to process his unfair labor practice charge, and in a letter denying an appeal the NLRB General Council makes reference to Richardson's "repeated recourse to physical violence against other employes."

Harassment of Richardson was undertaken by individuals who resented his bullying and his belligerence, and was not encouraged by the union. At no time did Richardson ever file a grievance, although he was told that the union would represent him even though he was no longer a member. After he was fired, the local did take up his case in grievance procedure along with that of the other employe who was fired. The union sought to protect Richardson even without his asking.

You will find none of these facts in the Digest article. You will however find much malicious innuendo. The article dwells on Richardson's wholly false and irresponsible charges of mishandling of local union funds by its officers. Richardson had been shown the local's financial statement and told that he could contact the Federal Bureau of Labor-Management Reports in Kansas City if he had questions about the local's treasury. This subject has never become an issue in any of the court proceedings over the years, and the reference to it by the Digest without clarification amounts to yellow journalism.

WHY HAS THIS VERY REGRETTABLE yet not-so-remarkable case been blown out of all proportion by the Reader's Digest? The answer lies in the fact that the anti-union National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation has been bankrolling and masterminding Richardson's legal attack for years, and is spotlighting this case along with a few others in its solicitations for funds from right-wing millionaires.

The Reader's Digest is notorious for its support of conservative causes and for consistently flailing organized labor in its pages. Here the Digest clearly has rehashed an old story (there was no current "news peg" to justify it) in order to help out the right-to-workers in their fund-raising efforts, as the "foundation" attempts to battle a costly suit before the courts, brought by CWA and nine other unions, which may put them out of business for violating federal labor law.

As Layoffs Mount:

Seniority System Termed Vital To Basic Rights of All Workers

WEAKENING the long-established seniority system would do nothing to cut the high jobless rate and could backfire later against minority workers entering the workforce under a diluted system, AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William E. Pollard warned.

Unearned or "phantom seniority" based on "discrimination at the hiring gate" in which the union had no part, if used to displace older workers, is unfair, Pollard declared. "The determinant in layoffs ought to be the longevity of an employe on the job," he said.

Pollard stressed that discriminatory hiring practices were the rule with many employers, but that society which was silent and permitted this to happen must bear the responsibility to somehow compensate those who suffered from such employer practices. "The innocent worker," he said, "was not responsible for the managerial prerogative in hiring," and should not now be penalized for what his employer did.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Pollard said that the seniority system is now under attack by some because the progress minorities and women made during the decade since passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 has been seriously slowed by the mountain of layoffs and high joblessness of the recession. The only solid remedy, he said, is jobs for all those who want and need them and a national commitment to full employment.

"We cannot accept the 6 percent to 8 percent unemployment that is now proposed by certain government economists," he declared. "If we do," he said, that would be "giving status to unemployment," a concept the labor movement rejects.

Pollard pointed out that the problems of the recession-tightened job market have been multiplied by the continuing export of U.S. jobs to low-wage nations. He said the labor movement will continue the fight to slow or end that practice through reform of the nation's trade and tax laws and policies.

Reporters questioning Pollard were Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

By Press Associates, Inc.

ASKED AT A RECENT press conference about the 32-year high in the country's unemployment rate in May, President Ford quickly turned the emphasis to an increase in employment "for the second month in a row."

More recently, the Wall Street Journal criticized Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), chairman of the Joint House-Senate Economic Committee, for deploring increasing unemployment and asserting—based upon the May report—"there is no employment recovery in sight."

Humphrey, the newspaper charged, "made no mention of the rise in employment, which . . . tells more about general economic prospects than any change in the jobless rate."

Ford and the WSJ either did not read the Labor Dept.'s report or misinterpreted it. The Bureau of Labor Statistics did announce a rise in total employment in May of some 320,000 jobs but the agency carefully noted that "nearly all of the increase was in the agricultural sector." Analysis shows, in fact, that more than 90 percent of the job pickup was in farm labor.

As BLS clearly explained, total non-farm payroll employment (which accounts for more than nine of every ten jobs in urbanized America) "has risen very slightly in the last two months." Analysis here indicates virtually no change in non-farm employment since March.

Assertions that the recession is "bottoming out" and the unemployment crisis is easing were brought into further question by the BLS report that unemployment compensation claims are moving up again. They increased by 363,100 the week of May 31 over the previous week. And 549,000 initial claims were filed the week ending June 7, an increase of 135,200 over the previous week.

As Humphrey and other members of the Joint Economic Committee contend, "There may be a dollar recovery and a profits recovery, but there is no people recovery, no employment recovery in sight."

Twenty-nine years ago, Congress legislatively declared that this country's goal should be "full employment." However, the nation has emerged from each recession with acceptance of a higher-than-ever rate of unemployment.

THE GOAL OF FULL EMPLOYMENT has been pushed further and further aside. Over the years we have witnessed a changing of the goal instead of efforts to meet it. In 1946, consensus was that full employment meant a jobless rate no higher than 3 percent. The goal was changed to 4 percent, then 4½ percent and now 5 or 5½ percent.

Today an Administration confronted with a 9.2 percent jobless rate speaks in terms of a great achievement if it can be reduced below 8 percent by 1977. And that reference is within the framework of the official government figures which do not account for an additional 1 to 2 percent jobless rate among those who have given up the search for jobs and hence are not included in the labor force. It also does not account for underemployment.

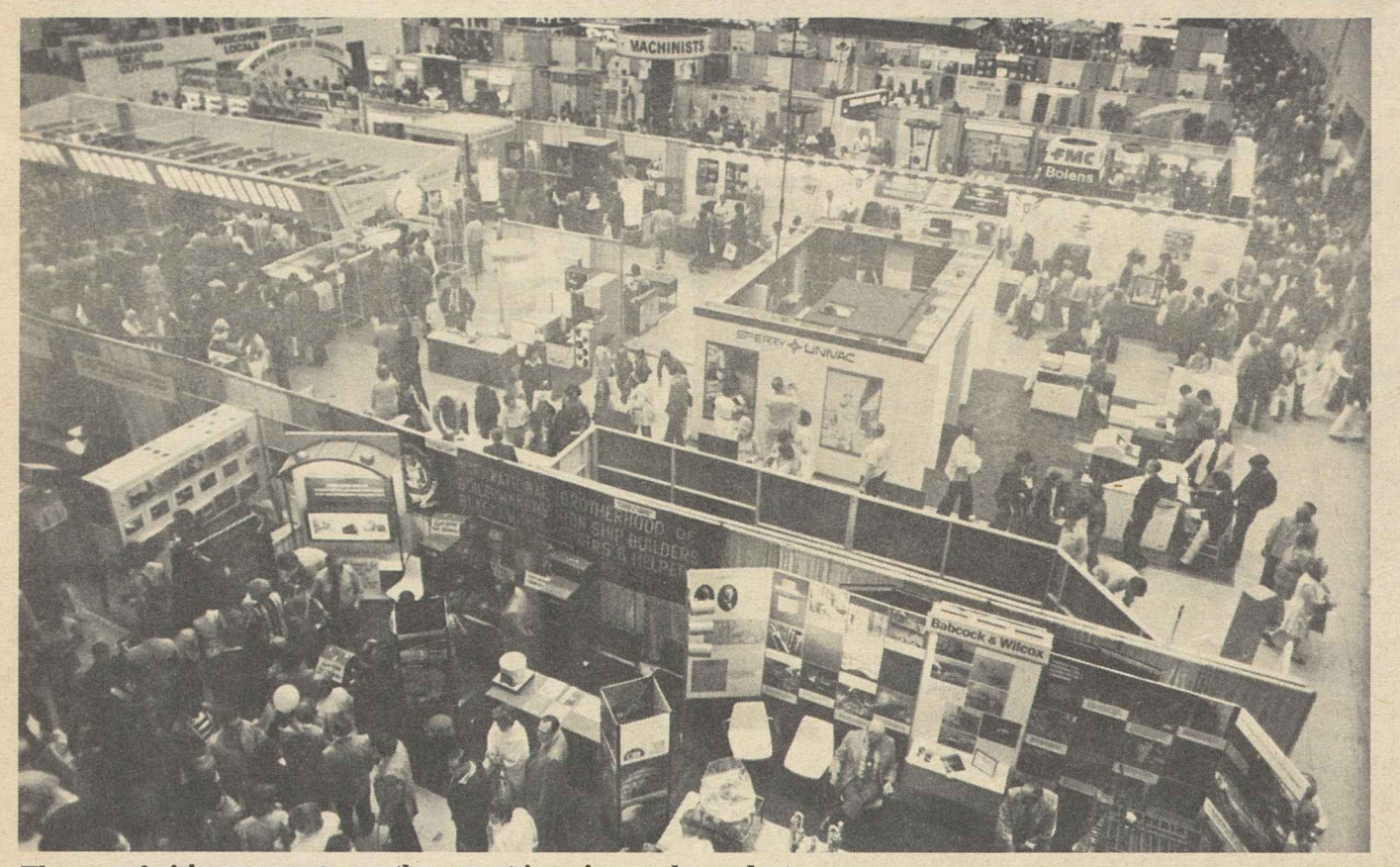
As Humphrey has pointed out, "When discouraged workers and the part-time workers seeking full-time jobs are included, the unemployment rate actually is a socially devastating 12 percent."

Most independent economists appearing before the Joint Economic Committee over the past several months believe that the "official" unemployment rate by 1977 will be even higher than the Administration projects—above 8 percent and possibly higher if Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns continues to dominate the economy with his tight-money policies.

These economists stress that the tragedy of unemployment for more than 10 million Americans who want and need full-time jobs is at least in part the result of the Administration's "obsession" with the fear of inflation at a time when economic stimulus has become the nation's overwhelming need. The nation's biggest single crisis is an economy that cannot produce jobs and the refusal by government to do anything about it.

UNDERMINING the long-established seniority system wouldn't create a single job to roll back unemployment, but it could backfire against minority workers entering jobs with weakened protections, AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William Pollard, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc. and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Union skills on display: tuba-playing, sheet-metal work, hand-rolling cigars, bricklaying and garment-sewing.



Throngs of visitors come to see the newest in union-made products.

Milwaukee Gets a Union Label

Bigger than ever, this year's AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show drew nearly a quarter-million visitors during its six-day stand at Milwaukee's Mecca convention center.

Highlighting the exposition was a wide variety of colorful exhibits and demonstrations—some of them shown here — telling the story of labor's teamwork with industry and government.

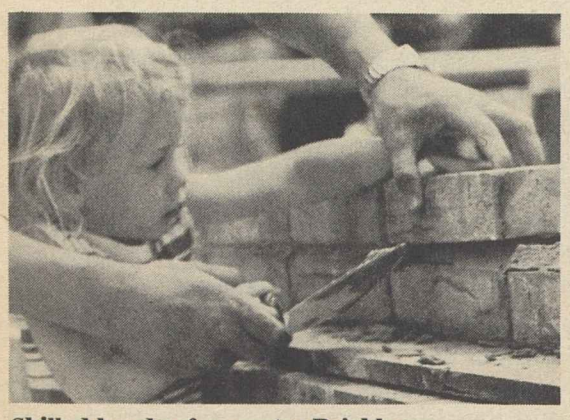
"It highlights the skills of the American worker, as well as the resourcefulness and ingenuity of American management," AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

Close to 400 exhibits were put up and staffed by members of AFL-CIO affiliated unions. Their aim was to promote goods and services produced or offered by firms with which they have labor contracts.

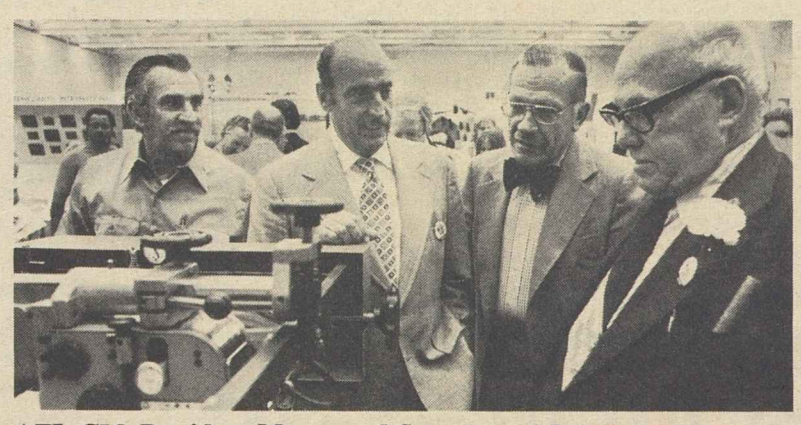
Free prizes, gifts and souvenirs valued at over $100,000 were given out at the show. Sponsor and producer is the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

Department Sec.-Treas. Edward P. Murphy praised the Milwaukee area labor movement for its cooperation and assistance in making the 30th annual Union-Industries Show a huge success.

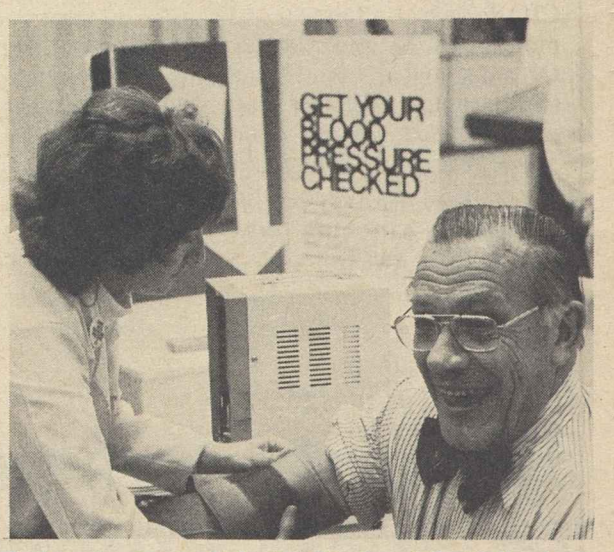
Loaded down with prizes and souvenirs, visitors rest at the AFL-CIO exhibit.



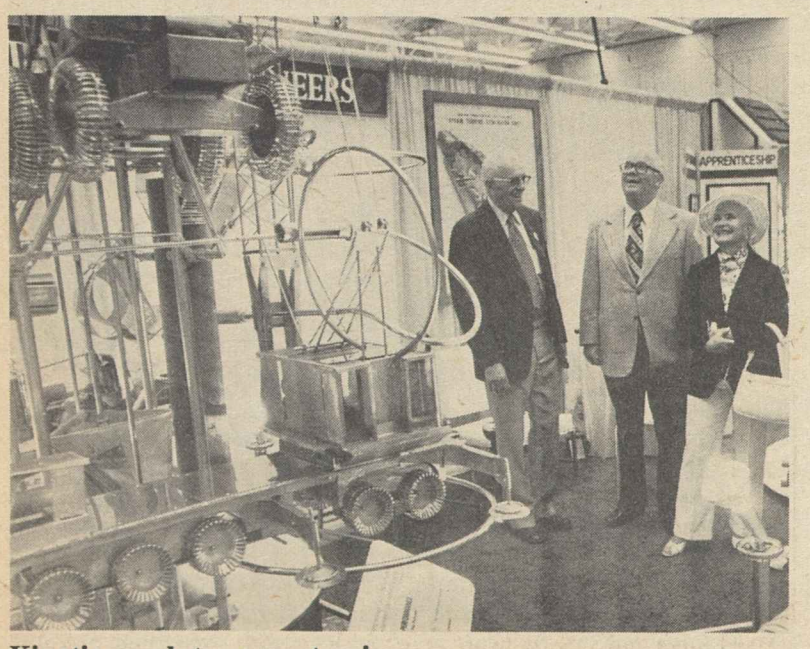
Skilled hands of a master Bricklayer guide those of a willing learner.



AFL-CIO President Meany and Secretary of Labor Dunlop inspect a printing press at the Graphic Arts exhibit.



Labor Secretary John T. Dunlop joined the hundreds who received a free blood-pressure check.



Kinetic sculpture protraying equipment used by the Operating Engineers is admired by Sec.-Treas. J. C. Turner, center.

Show-goers gather at the Retail Clerks' turn-of-the-century country store for a raffle of prizes.

Private Efforts Inadequate:

Federal Commitment Sought For Child Care Programs

Private efforts in child care, no matter how praiseworthy, can't meet needs that are of a scale only a federal commitment can handle, a union authority writes in the Federationist, the AFL-CIO magazine.

Joyce D. Miller, social service director of the Clothing Workers, notes that a federal program was approved by Congress in 1971—and killed by former President Nixon's veto.

The coalition of labor, church and women's groups that helped bring about passage of the vetoed bill is still pressing for federal child care legislation.

Mrs. Miller says the need for child care is now even more urgent because of the presence in the workforce of 45 percent of the nation's mothers — a tremendous increase from the 18 percent of 20 years ago.

In March 1974, about 26.6 million women with children under 18 were in the workforce, she points out, while there are facilities for only about one million children. And while the birth rate is declining, that drop is more than overcome by the additional number of women working or seeking work. By 1985, it is projected, just the mothers with children under six will total 6.6 million.

In addition to meeting the daily needs of families with working parents, a comprehensive federal child care program could help meet the health, nutritional and other developmental needs of small children, the article points out.

Consequently, organized labor has taken the position that "the only real answer is a massive federal commitment to the provision of early childhood development and day care."

Since it would take time to provide comprehensive services to all who need them, the AFL-CIO has proposed a system of gradually increasing federal funds, with the nation's public school system as the prime sponsors. Profit-making operators should be denied eligibility for such funds, labor contends. "There is no legitimate role for profit-making entrepreneurs in child care programs," is the way the AFL-CIO has expressed it.

On the other hand, existing public and private non-profit programs that meet federal requirements should be eligible for federal funds. Mrs. Miller cited promising programs operated by union, church and neighborhood groups that could be built on.

Her own union, the Clothing Workers, has found its child care facilities in Chicago and Baltimore developing into trade union centers of a wider scope, with libraries, programs for older children and a center where union members can learn more about other union programs.

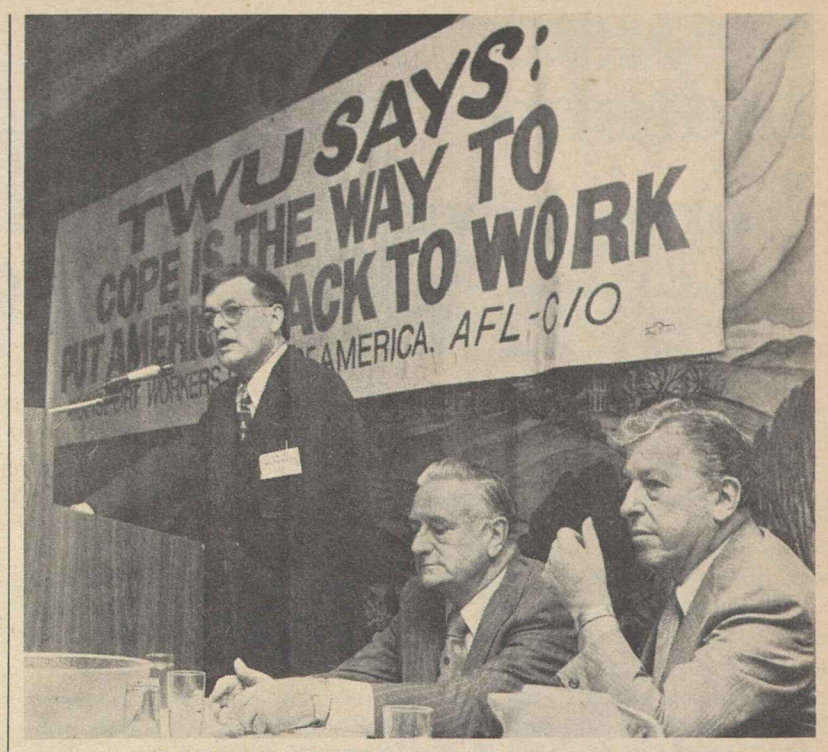
Similar projects from Puerto Rico to Canada are sponsored by a wide variety of unions, she says. And she points out that the United States has had experience with government-sponsored child care.

"When some people question the feasibility of establishing public child care centers on a large-scale basis in the United States, they are usually unaware that this country has earlier experienced one of the most massive, innovative and far-reaching child care programs ever attempted," Mrs. Miller says.

As part of the recovery program during the depression, "the federal government spent $3.1 million on child care and provided services to 300,000 children from 1933 to 1944," she notes. "The second spurt of public child care began with U.S. entry into World War II," when the number of employed women increased by 4 million in three years.

At its height, 39 states were cooperating extensively in the World War II program, which enrolled approximately 1.6 million children and included a federal commitment of $150 million, the article notes.

But that effort was dismantled abruptly after the war — and the constantly increasing percentage of women in the workforce has made the need more urgent ever since then.



FULL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS to pull the nation out of recession were stressed at the Transport Workers legislative conference in Washington. Addressing the 300 delegates at the two-day conference is TWU Vice President and COPE Director Ernest Mitchell. TWU President Matthew Guinan and AFL-CIO COPE Director Al Barkan are seated.

Labor Calls for Action On No-Fault Insurance

The AFL-CIO urged the Senate Commerce Committee to approve a no-fault auto insurance bill that would combine prompt and fair compensation for accident victims with cost savings on auto insurance premiums.

In the last Congress, a Senate-passed no-fault bill died when the House failed to act before adjournment. The same bill is now being considered again by the Senate committee.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller asked committee members to make three changes in the bill so as to achieve greater savings on insurance costs.

He asked that lawsuits for non-economic claims — so-called "pain and suffering" reimbursement — be allowed only when an auto accident has resulted in at least 180 days of total disability.

A Senate floor amendment last year dropped the requirement to 90 days disability.

Biemiller also asked rejection of another amendment dealing with accident cases involving trucks and private cars. As adopted by the Senate last year, he said, it would have lessened costs for commercial vehicle operators and increased costs for consumers.

The most important change needed to hold down costs, Biemiller said in his letter to committee members, is a requirement for "coordination of overlapping insurance coverages, principally in the health and disability income areas so as to eliminate costly duplication of benefits."

With the changes labor has recommended, he said, the legislation would effectively deal with an area of consumer need where the states have "abdicated responsibility."

Biemiller said, "American consumers, particularly the victims of auto accidents, have waited long enough."

Labor Studies Center Sets Schedule for July

AFL-CIO President George Meany will open a five-day institute on International Affairs July 20-24 at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, Silver Spring, Md. Seven other programs are scheduled at the 47-acre campus during the month.

The International Affairs Institute will deal with the AFL-CIO in world affairs, the structure of the international labor movement, the trade secretariates and the International Labor Organization, the world economy and the energy crisis, and a two-day discussion of economic and political trade union concerns.

Discussion leaders will include Irving Brown, U.S. Worker Delegate to the ILO and AFL-CIO European representative; Ernest Lee, AFL-CIO International Affairs director; Elizabeth Jager of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research; and Leo Suslow of the Organization of American States.

Participants will get detailed reports on Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe.

Registration for the International Affairs Institute will begin on the Campus at 4 p.m. Sunday, July 20. The institute will end on Thursday, July 24.

Other programs at the Labor Studies Center during July are:

Organizing—The AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services will bring in 40 representatives from four East Coast regions for a conference. From Sunday, July 6, through Tuesday, July 8.

Political Education—The AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education will sponsor three programs for state federation representatives concerned with data processing, reporting and controls, budgeting, bookkeeping and reporting, election laws and COPE structure. The dates: July 10-12, July 13-15, July 16-18.

Flight Attendants—An institute for local officers of the Association of Flight Attendants, affiliated with the Air Line Pilots, to review the union's policies and procedures and the duties of local officers with special emphasis on grievance processing. From 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, through Friday, July 11.

AFSCME—The State, County & Municipal Employees will sponsor a special educational conference at the center on July 28 and 29.

Black Trade Unionists—The A. Philip Randolph Educational Fund will present a three-day leadership training program for black trade unionists from international and local unions. From Thursday, July 31, through Saturday, Aug. 2.

Further information about these and other Labor Studies programs can be obtained from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Phone 301/431-6400.

New Jersey Convention Pushes Jobs Expansion

Atlantic City, N.J.—More than 1,100 delegates to the New Jersey State AFL-CIO convention here charted an action program to combat severe recession through jobs creation, housing contruction and improved social programs.

President Charles H. Marciante focused on the problems of New Jersey's workers, the elderly and the poor in his keynote address to the four-day convention.

With the official unemployment rate of 11.5 percent in New Jersey, "we have the highest and most persistent joblessness of any state," Marciante said.

Sec.-Treas. John J. Brown and Executive Vice President Richard A. Lynch also focused on the unemployment crisis that has pushed the state's jobless total in one year from 250,000 to 400,000.

In a two-phase effort to help spur employment and meet the demand for housing, the state federation approved the creation of a non-profit corporation committed to construction of housing facilities for senior citizens and low- and middle-income families.

Marciante said that with construction expected to begin soon in a number of communities "our state AFL-CIO housing program will provide thousands of jobs."

Delegates also called for legislation to reduce home mortgage interest rates, urged Congress to enact a new Emergency Employment Act in answer to President Ford's veto, asked improvements in workers' compensation and unemployment benefits, and a halt to job losses caused by "favored nation" imports.

Other resolutions urged:

- Full union rights for public employes, including the right to strike.
- State rent controls on multiple dwellings and the right for tenants to withhold payments to assure proper repairs and services.
- A no-fault auto insurance law.
- Improvements in the prevailing wage law.
- Passage of the labor-backed jobsite picketing bill.

Major convention speakers included Senators Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.), Clifford P. Case (R-N.J.) and Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.), and Executive Director Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

Public Radio to Air Solzhenitsyn Speech

The address by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn at the banquet June 30 in his honor sponsored by the AFL-CIO will be broadcast nationally by National Public Radio.

The broadcast will be available to local stations on a delayed basis and will be heard in Washington, D.C. at 11 p.m. Check local program listings for the time and station.

Rail Carmen Name 2 Vice Presidents

Kansas City, Mo.—Two new vice presidents and a new executive board member have been announced by the Railway Carmen.

W. D. Crawford and C. C. Bevins were appointed vice presidents by President A. K. Krause with the unanimous consent of the executive board. Bevins succeeds J. J. Noonan who retired Apr. 30, while Crawford will succeed Irwin L. Barney who retires on June 30. Until his appointment as vice president, Crawford had served as grand lodge deputy, and Bevins is former general chairman on the Norfolk & Western.

James A. Klimtzak, general chairman of the N&W Nickel Plate Division, is the new executive board member, succeeding Bevins.

Experts Tell Hearing:

Industry Can Afford Lower Noise Costs

(Continued from Page 1)

greater than 25 decibels, which is a handicap by present standards.

Industry and business organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, are challenging any tightening of noise controls largely on the ground that noise reduction would be too costly. One government study set $31 billion price tag on a 10-year program to reduce industrial noise to 85 decibels and $13 billion for the 90-decibel limit.

But other acoustical experts have estimated that effective engineering controls could be installed by industry at about one-third of the earlier estimates.

Lyle F. Yerges, a noise and acoustics consulting engineer testifying on the OSHA panel of experts, said that most engineering controls for noise are feasible in both terms of reasonable costs and technical practicality.

Yerges said that industry's resistance to engineering controls of noise can be traced to ignorance on costs and fear that innovations may interfere with production.

He submitted data showing that acoustical controls could be installed at relatively low costs.

In some cases, Yerges said, industry was actually able to reduce operating costs and to save energy by installing smaller capacity motors and pumps, which run quieter but are still capable of meeting production needs.

Dr. John F. Finklea, director of the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health, expressed concern whether a 90-decibel limit provides sufficient protection.

NIOSH's compromise position is that existing industrial operations should be permitted to operate at the 90-decibel level but new workplaces would be held to an 85-decibel standard. Ultimately all establishments would have to meet the lower noise limit.

Finklea cited the NIOSH criteria document issued three years ago which supported the 90-decibel level for older establishments on the ground of inadequate technological feasibility.

However, in responding to questions by AFL-CIO and EPA representatives, Finklea admitted that NIOSH's capabilities for engineering research were limited.

The NIOSH director also agreed that his agency's capacity for biological research is extensive and that hearing impairment would be significantly less at 85 decibels than at 90.

Hearing loss from excessive noise levels on the job is only a part of the problems workers must face, Finklea said in his testimony. He noted excessive noise exposure can also lead to increased incidence of medical problems, job accidents and worker absence.

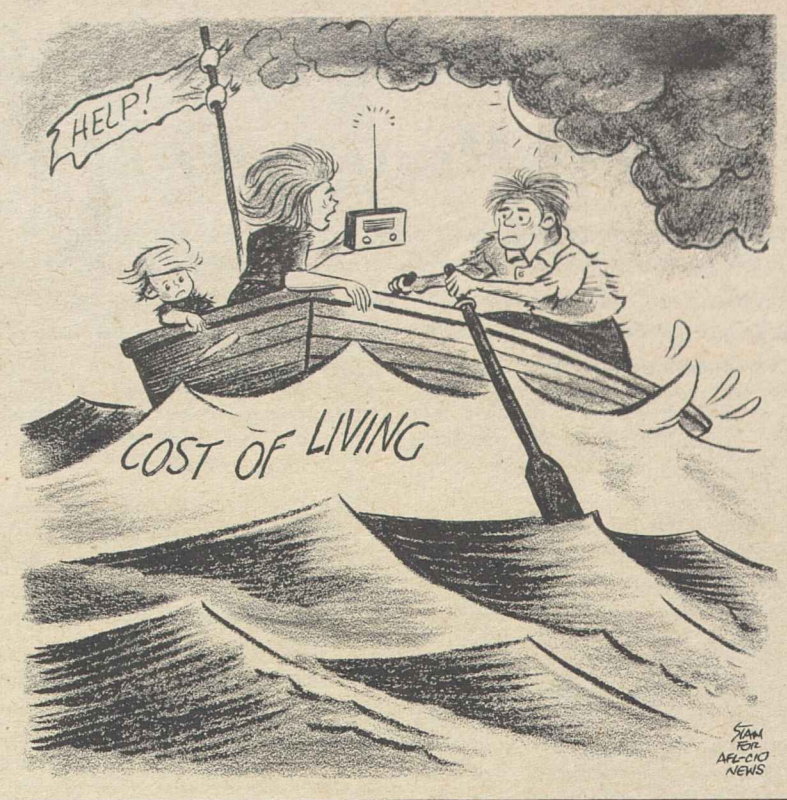
He said that personal protective equipment, such as ear plugs, or muffs, should be only temporary measures and that noise should be abated through the application of engineering technology.

Some key areas in the proposed OSHA standard call for:

- Engineering and administrative controls to hold worker exposure to 90 decibels for an eight-hour period "to the extent feasible," although permitting the use of ear protectors to supplement engineering changes.
- Allowing a "doubling rate" of 5 decibels — 85 decibels for 16 hours or 95 decibels for four hours.
- Limits on noise exposure to peak impulse noise to 140 decibels 100 times a day, permitting a tenfold increase in the number of impulses for each 10-decibel decrease in the peak pressure of the impulse.
- Employers to maintain worker audiograms for their duration on the job, plus five years.
- Worker observation of monitoring programs and access to monitoring records.

Based on the current pace of the hearings, union representatives are not likely to testify before July 7.

'They Say It's Subsiding!'



Congress Sends Ford Cutback Job Fund Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

istration-supported provision for $1.6 billion to continue financing 310,000 public service jobs, plus money for an assortment of other job-related programs, mostly in amounts greater than the President had budgeted. These include college work-study grants, a rural water and sewer grant, the Older Americans program, the Youth Conservation Corps and the Work Incentive program.

Adding in the earlier-approved $473 million appropriation for summer jobs for youths, this totals $2.85 billion of the $5.3 billion that was in the vetoed bill and runs more than $850 million above the total the President had indicated would be acceptable.

The money was added to a continuing appropriations bill which authorizes government agencies to spend at specified levels for the fiscal year that starts July 1 until Congress completes action on their appropriations. Administration supporters in Congress did not actively fight the new funding bill—an indication that the President is expected to sign it. He has until July 4 to act.

In other developments:

- The Senate continued to be stalemated on the controversy over the disputed New Hampshire senatorial election.

Democrats want the issue settled on the basis of the disputed ballots that are before the Senate for a ruling. Republicans want the seat declared vacant and a rerun election held between Democrat John A. Durkin and Republican Louis C. Wyman.

To compel a decision on the merits, Democrats sought to limit debate through a cloture petition. Under the Senate's new rules, this requires 60 votes—three-fifths of the total membership. On two tries, the closest was 57 votes for cloture.

- A House-Senate conference commtitee sought to reach agreement on legislation continuing the present 65-week maximum duration of unemployment benefits and raising the current 26 weeks of federally-funded payments to persons not covered by state law to 39 weeks. The Senate, however, added several labor-opposed amendments, including a triggering system linked to the state's insured unemployed rate and a requirement that jobless persons must take any job, whether suitable or not, after 39 weeks of benefits.
- A scheduled attempt in the House to override the President's veto of a bill authorizing funds for promotion of tourist travel to the United States was cancelled after bipartisan agreement was reached on terms of a substitute bill.
- The House Ways & Means Committee opened hearings in the broad and controversial area of tax policy — with conflicting advice from experts on what "incentives" are needed to stimulate the economy and what "reforms" are needed to achieve fairness. Committee Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) said he hopes to bring a bill to the House floor by October.

Living Costs Increase At Slower Pace

(Continued from Page 1)

were $91.62. In 1965 they averaged $91.32.

Real spendable earnings — the measure of a worker's purchasing power—now have fallen below their year-earlier levels 27 months in a row, BLS said.

If calculated on an annual basis, the four-tenths of 1 percent rise in May would work out to an annual compound rate of 5.3 percent, less than half of last year's 12.2 percent rise in the CPI.

The May increase lifted the index to 159.3 percent of its 1967 base. That means the assortment of goods and services that cost urban workers $100 eight years ago cost $159.30 in May.

Much of the recent slowdown in inflation is due to smaller rises in prices of nonfood commodities. Still, items in this category in May were 10.1 percent higher than a year earlier.

Beef prices rose 7.6 percent over the month — 91.2 percent on an annual basis — while pork prices went up 3.3 percent and poultry, six-tenths of 1 percent. All were contraseasonal increases, and the rise in poultry prices was the first this year.

The overall rise in the food index was five-tenths of 1 percent. Price rises in the nonfood goods category averaged two-tenths of 1 percent over the month, the same as for service charges.

About a fourth of the increase in nonfood commodity prices was due to higher prices for gasoline, motor oil, fuel oil and coals, BLS said. Used car prices rose sharply, and there were also price increases for apparel, houses, furniture, appliances and an assortment of housekeeping supplies.

Prices for gasoline and motor oil and fuel oil and coal also rose steeply in May, following large increases in April.

Among services, May brought higher charges for auto repairs, taxicab fares, physicians' fees and hospital service fees, shoe repairs, movie admissions, dry cleaning and bank service charges.

Supermarket Chain Ordered to Pay $1 Million in Wage-Hour Violations

Jacksonville, Fla.—Winn-Dixie Stores, a southern-based supermarket chain with a longstanding anti-union policy, has been ordered by a federal court here to pay $1 million in back wages and overtime to current and former employes.

The judgment, for violation of minimum wage and overtime payments, is the largest in the 37-year history of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

U.S. District Court Judge Gerald Bard Tjoflat, Jacksonville, ordered that $500,000 be paid to 466 employes named in the action. An additional $500,000 will be paid to more Winn-Dixie workers to be listed with the Labor Dept. The workers to be named are, or were, employed in the Raleigh, N.C., division and Savannah and Statesboro, Ga., area stores. This latter group could number several thousand.

6-28-75

The court order further decrees that any employe whose name is not included in the two lists, and who, within the next two years, makes a demand for back wages will be satisfied in addition to the $1 million. The period covered is Feb. 1, 1967, to Mar. 30, 1974.

The order also holds Winn-Dixie in civil contempt of judgments of the court entered on Sept. 12, 1962, and Feb. 1, 1967, enjoining it from violating the minimum wage, overtime and record-keeping provisions of the FLSA, and states that the latter two orders shall remain in effect.

Winn-Dixie is ordered to purge itself of contempt by reimbursing the $1 million in back wages and by compensating the Labor Dept. $48,761 for expenses.

The 466 employes to be paid $500,000 gave depositions, responded to mailed questionnaires, or were personally interviewed by Labor Dept. officials. The individual back-wage amounts range from a high of $9,330 to a low of $6.47.

By stipulation of all parties concerned, the remaining $500,000 will go to employes and former employes the department has been unable to contact. These employes will be paid on a pro-rata formula basis since, according to the stipulation, substantially all of the violations involved "off-the-clock" work, making impossible an exact determination of work performed.

Earlier the Labor Dept. announced that A&P stores in eight southern states have agreed to pay $200,000 in overtime compensation due to 112 employes and have been permanently enjoined from further violations of the wage-hour law. The company agreed to the court order.

AFL-CIO Convention Slated to Open Oct. 2

The Eleventh Constitutional Convention of the AFL-CIO will take place in San Francisco, Calif., beginning Thursday Oct. 2, 1975.

The meetings of the convention will be in the Civic Auditorium.

Clothing Firm Brings Back 400 U.S. Jobs

New York—The Clothing Workers are hailing the return of more than 400 jobs in the men's apparel industry which had been lost earlier when a suit manufacturer shifted production operations to Colombia.

Intercontinental Apparel, Inc., the American licensee for Pierre Cardin clothing, has now returned production to the United States through the efforts of the ACWA and Mayor Abraham D. Beame.

The action came after the company signed an agreement with the ACWA New York Joint Board. The union said that many ACWA members formerly employed at the Rosenmond-Shiers plant here are being called back to work.

ACWA President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman said the union is hopeful that the action by Intercontinental "will encourage other manufacturers of men's and boys' clothing —who have moved their production facilities to foreign shores—to come home and reverse the export of American jobs."

Mayor Beame said the firm returned because "American workers are still the most efficient and most productive."

Statistics Cloud Unemployment Crisis

AFL-CIO News

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Solzhenitsyn Warns West Detente Imperils Freedom

Meany Sees Job Picture As Bleak

Unemployment officially declined last month, dropping to a seasonally adjusted rate of 8.6 percent from 9.2 percent in May, but because of a quirk resulting from Labor Dept. statistical methods the decrease does not tell the real story, AFL-CIO President George Meany cautioned.

"This is phony good news," Meany declared. "It would be the height of folly for anyone to take satisfaction from these figures for statistically they show that the unemployment crisis has not eased at all."

The decline in joblessness from May to June was not unexpected. The Bureau of Labor Statistics warned in mid-June that a sharp decline was likely due to "a deficiency in the seasonal-adjustment procedures," and noted "the 'true' June rate may be higher than that published."

BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin said the nation won't know whether there was a real improvement in the jobs picture "until we see the July figures" that come out next month.

Meanwhile, Meany ticked off "the cold facts" of the nation's most serious unemployment crisis since the 1930s:

- The number of long-term unemployed workers — those who have been jobless 15 weeks or longer — rose 250,000 over the month to a total of 2.9 million.
- The number of persons too discouraged to seek work jumped

(Continued on Page 8)

LANGUAGE PROVED NO BARRIER for Russian novelist Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, all consistent opponents of compromise between the West and Soviet Communist leaders. The Soviet dissident's address to a Washington trade union audience was delivered in Russian and translated into English.

After the Veto:

Weaker Housing Bill Voted by Congress

Congress approved a half-loaf housing bill acceptable to President Ford after failing to override his veto of a job-creating measure that would have enabled more middle-income families to buy new homes and apartments.

It completed action on the substitute bill in just two days, before closing down for a holiday week recess.

The new law expands a program under which the Government National Mortgage Association agrees to buy home mortgages from lenders that issue them at interest rates below market levels—but not as low as in the vetoed bill. The government would eventually resell the mortgages so there would be little net cost to the Treasury.

Earlier, the AFL-CIO had charged that the Administration program on which the new legislation was based would have only a slight impact on interest rates, new housing or jobs.

The new law does, however, include a popular section of the vetoed bill that the President termed acceptable after having earlier opposed it.

It authorizes federal payments of up to $250 a month for a maximum of two years so that jobless homeowners could avoid losing their homes through foreclosure. Homeowners would later have to repay the loans to the government with interest. The legislation also provides an alternative of avoiding foreclosure through a government guarantee of payment of an overdue mortgage.

Protection against foreclosure had been strongly urged by the AFL-CIO to avert "social and economic disaster."

Interest rates in mortgages purchased by "Ginnie Mae"—the housing industry's term for the

(Continued on Page 8)

Jobless Aid Extension Averts Benefit Cutoff

Jobless workers will continue to qualify for up to 65 weeks of unemployment compensation under a bill rushed through Congress and signed by President Ford in time to avoid a cutoff of benefits to 250,000 persons.

Two groups of unemployed workers are directly affected by the legislation:

- Persons who have used all the benefits available under their state unemployment compensation laws —normally 26 weeks—and have also exhausted the additional 26 weeks provided through two continuing programs of extended federal-state payments.

Last March, as an amendment to the tax cut bill, Congress passed a stop-gap measure to prevent the

(Continued on Page 8)

Soviet Exile Hails U.S. Labor's Stand

By James M. Shevis

America and other Western democracies, apparently blinded to the true goals of worldwide communism, will pay a heavy price if they do not soon abandon their present policy of detente with the USSR, Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn warned at an AFL-CIO banquet honoring the exiled Russian novelist.

Speaking bluntly to his audience of 2,500 labor leaders and government officials including two Cabinet members of the Ford Administration, the Nobel laureate declared that "the Soviet Union has used detente in its own interests, is using it now and will continue to use it in its own interests."

Nothing has changed in Communist ideology, Solzhenitsyn said. The goals are the same as they have been since the Bolsheviks rose to power in the Revolution of 1917-20, he charged—the subjugation of peoples everywhere.

Speaking in Russian, his words translated and simultaneously delivered in English, Solzhenitsyn praised the American labor movement for its continuing anti-Communist position.

"The AFL-CIO has never given in to . . . illusions," he said. "The American workers' movement has never allowed itself to be blinded and mistake slavery for freedom. And I today, in behalf of all of our oppressed people, thank you for this."

He noted that the AFL, in

(Continued on Page 3)

Slump Mars Progress In Civil Rights

Recent economic events prove "we will not fully realize our civil rights goals unless we realize other goals as well," AFL-CIO President George Meany told the national convention of the NAACP.

Meany said the civil rights group's 60th annual convention came at a time when "the forces of decency in American life are being seriously challenged once again—this time not so much by the old familiar faces of racism but by far more subtle and complex economic forces."

The net result, Meany said, is that the civil rights battles in which the NAACP and AFL-CIO have joined in the past "can be virtually neutralized by the disastrous economic policies of this Administra-

(Continued on Page 7)

Labor Law at Age 40 Still Short of Objectives

The National Labor Relations Act, 40 years old July 5, has become "the keystone of industrial democracy" and has enabled the country to achieve greater progress toward the common welfare of all Americans in the past four decades than in any other period, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

But the statute — signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on July 5, 1935—has not fully lived up to expectations, Meany noted.

"All too often the justice this law is supposed to bring to the workplace is delayed and delayed," he said, "until it is in reality denied."

Meany noted also that the law has not yet been extended to cover all who work for a living—particularly farm workers and many others who urgently need protection under its provisions.

But even if the law's coverage were broadened and its administrative pace quickened, Meany said, "for the millions who have no jobs, the legal rights to organize and bargain collectively are shallow indeed."

He called for a new commitment on the part of the federal government to assure the millions of currently unemployed workers their

(Continued on Page 8)

DELEGATES REPRESENTING unions in the performing arts meet for the biennial convention of the 4As, the shorthand for the AFL-CIO's Associated Actors & Artistes of America. President Frederick O'Neal, president-emeritus of Actors' Equity and an AFL-CIO vice president, presides.

Performing Arts Warn Of Non-Union Inroads

New York—Concern over non-union inroads in motion picture production was expressed at the biennial convention of the 4As—more formally, the Associated Actors & Artistes of America.

Delegates to the biennial convention, representing the performing arts unions that make up its branches, backed the campaign by the Screen Extras Guild to end the use of non-union extras in films.

The organization also voiced concern at reports of persecution of Argentine actors, writers and intellectuals by right-wing vigilante groups.

Frederick O'Neal, the 4As president, expressed the group's feelings in a letter to Argentina's head of state, President Isabel de Martinez de Peron.

"If the lives and the professions of performing artists are endangered in any part of the world, we too are affected," he wrote. "We, too, are concerned."

O'Neal, who is president-emeritus of Actor's Equity and an AFL-CIO vice president, was re-elected, along with all other 4A officers.

The officers include: Chester Migden of the Screen Actors Guild as first vice president; DeLloyd Tibbs of the American Guild of Musical Artists as second vice president; H. O'Neill Shanks of the Screen Extras Guild as third vice president; Penny Singleton of the American Guild of Variety Artists as fourth vice president; Donald Grody, executive secretary of Actors' Equity as fifth vice president; Harold M. Hoffman of the Screen Actors Guild as treasurer, and Sanford I. Wolff of the American Federation of Television & Radio Artists as executive secretary.

The convention voted to take out advertisements in trade publications making clear that the Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA) is the only recognized union in its jurisdiction.

O'Neal has sent a letter to Eddie Rio, who has challenged the election of Penny Singleton as president of AGVA and is now reportedly seeking to set up a rival union, that the 4As cannot recognize a breakaway group and will abide by court decisions in any dispute over union elections.

Hospital Clerks Expand SEIU Unit

Some 300 clerical workers at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C., voted by a ratio of nearly 2 to 1 to have the Service Employees as their bargaining agent.

In an earlier election this year, 1,400 other workers at the hospital chose the union as their collective bargaining representative.

Grain Millers Approve Increased Per Capita

Minneapolis—Delegates to the Grain Millers convention approved a $2 increase in the union's monthly per capita tax to help finance expanded operations of a new organizational department and the staffing of full-time organizers.

The additional payments will become effective Aug. 1, with local unions retaining 50 cents of the increase. Part of the revenue increase will cover higher operating expenses of the international, President Roy O. Wellborn said.

Wellborn said the union is encountering "a very determined resistance" to organizing efforts from anti-union management, not only at the plant level, but also through extensive legal maneuvers. He cited additional employer resistance to the union's efforts to improve benefits for members.

In addition to re-electing the union's top officers to new two-year terms, delegates elected Joe Rajcevich as director of organization and to a new executive vice presidency.

The other executive officers of the union are Sec.-Treas. Harold P. Tevis and Executive Vice President Frank House.

Elected to the union's executive board were Vice Presidents Ralph Masters, Donald Watts, Lloyd Freilinger, Peter Rybka, Fred Kunz, Joseph Smisek, Robert Willis, Larry Jackson, Lloyd Ott and Gary Haston.

Plasterers Receive Training Grant

The Plasterers & Cement Masons received a $938,837 Labor Dept. contract to prepare 735 disadvantaged persons for apprenticeships and to upgrade the skills of 200 journeymen.

The union will conduct the training programs in 28 states with the assistance of the Portland Cement Association. Under six previous contracts, 5,084 disadvantaged workers have completed the union's training programs.

IAM Urges Safety Probe Of Railroads

The Machinists have called for an immediate investigation of safety and health conditions affecting the union's members in the entire U.S. railroad industry.

In the first industry-wide complaint filed with the Labor Dept., the IAM accused the railroads of wholesale violations of the federal safety law.

The IAM charged that its 26,000 railroad machinists are being exposed to unnecessary health hazards at 385 locations across the country, including roundhouses, service facilities, repair shops and related work areas.

The complaint, signed by IAM Vice President William W. Winpisinger, stems from the unanimous recommendation of 100 delegates who attended the union's railroad conference last spring.

Workers employed by the railroads, the complaint states, are being exposed to "excessive dusts, fumes, vapors, gases, soot and noise that constitute continuous and cumulative health hazards."

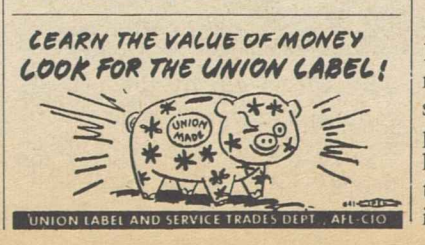
These hazards are affecting the workers' respiratory system, along with bringing potential harm to other parts of their bodies, skin diseases and hearing impairment or loss, the complaint charges.

The seriousness of the health hazards demands an immediate environmental and medical investigation of the entire industry, the complaint states in calling on the Occupational Safety & Health Administration to designate railroads as a top priority target for enforcement.

The IAM said that the railroads have failed to provide their employes in each of the 385 locations "a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm."

Enforcement authority over railroads was shifted to OSHA last January by the Occupational Safety & Health Review Commission in a decision resulting from a complaint filed by the IAM on behalf of workers employed by Southern Pacific's diesel shops in Houston.

Prior to that ruling, the Federal Railroad Administration had claimed exclusive jurisdiction over railroad safety enforcement. But the FRA had been a frequent target of union charges of failure to enforce the Railway Safety Act since it was enacted in 1969.



U.S. Appellate Decision:

Disability Benefits Cover Pregnancy

Richmond, Va.—A federal appellate court here has upheld a union's contention that women unable to work because of pregnancy or childbirth are entitled to the same benefits provided workers with other disabilities.

The 2-1 decision by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals came in a class-action suit brought by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (IUE) on behalf of all women employes of the General Electric Co.

The final word will almost certainly come from the Supreme Court, which has before it a similar verdict in a different case that had been decided by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Both the IUE and General Electric had earlier asked the Supreme Court to consider the two cases at the same time.

In both appellate courts, denial of disability benefits for a condition that affects only women was deemed a violation of the ban on sex discrimination in "compensation, terms, conditions and privileges of employment" contained in the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The GE case was initiated by IUE Local 161 of Salem, Va., and a group of women employes of the company.

The union position was initially upheld in an April 1964 federal district court decision, which has now been affirmed by the appellate court.

As to the company's contention that pregnancy was a "voluntary" disability, the appellate court majority questioned the assumption that pregnancy in all cases was voluntary. But in any event, it noted, disability benefits were paid for absences from work resulting from such "voluntary" disabilities as cosmetic surgery and attempted suicide.

IUE President Paul Jennings termed the decision "an important victory over second-class treatment of women workers" and expressed hope that it will be "finally and favorably resolved by the Supreme Court."

In another case, involving enforcement of an arbitration award, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled in favor of Rubber Workers Local 200 in its suit against the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

The decision affirmed a 1972 arbitration award granting the union's claim that the company's policy of paying benefits for a shorter time for pregnancy-related disabilities than for other disabilities violated EEOC guidelines.

Rubber Workers President Peter Bommarito termed the verdict a big step toward "equality regardless of sex."

Court Widens Discrimination Back Pay Rule

The Supreme Court ruled that trial judges may award back pay to workers who have been victims of discrimination in hiring or promotion, even if there is no evidence that the employer acted in bad faith.

A lower court had found that racial job patterns at a North Carolina paper company which had their origins before passage of the Civil Rights Act hadn't fully been overcome. It ordered changes made, but declined to order back pay because the employes filing the complaint hadn't initially sought it and the employer was not found to have acted in bad faith.

Also in dispute was the firm's use of a promotion test which a federal district judge had accepted as showing a valid relationship to the ability of a worker to do a higher-level job. An appellate court and the Supreme Court disagreed and said the test had not been properly validated.

The Supreme Court did not get into the details of back pay claims. It sent the case back to the trial judge with instructions to consider the issue of back pay in view of the Supreme Court ruling.

Housing Rules Attacked As 'Disaster' to Elderly

Nonprofit sponsors of housing for the elderly will not be able to get construction loans because of proposed "disastrous" regulations of the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, the National Council of Senior Citizens has charged.

NCSC President Nelson H. Cruikshank accused HUD Sec. Carla Hills of "thumbing her nose at Congress and the American people" by refusing to modify the proposed regulations.

Hills had been asked to explain to the Senate why HUD's regulations allowed only short-term construction loans for senior citizen housing when Congress intended that the loans be used for long-term financing. She claimed that major nonprofit sponsors could use endowment or pension funds to finance long-term loans.

Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.), chairman of the subcommittee on housing for the elderly, reminded her that such use of pension funds would be a violation of federal law.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) was unable to get Hills to name even one potential nonprofit sponsor who had agreed that the proposed regulations would create low-income rental units. Kennedy told Hills that it was the clear legislative intent of Congress to provide a means whereby nonprofit sponsors could get long-term loans to operate new rental units for the low-income earners and the elderly.

Cruikshank said it is "clear that the Secretary intends to ignore the wishes of Congress and the wishes of senior citizens." He said unless Congress can rectify the dispute, the senior citizens' group will take the matter to court. He said HUD is already in violation of law for impounding senior citizens' housing funds for eight months.

ILGWU Research Chief Heads Economic Group

New York—Lazare Teper, research director of the Ladies' Garment workers, has been elected president of the Metropolitan Economic Association of New York City. Teper has headed the ILGWU's research department since 1937.

Hails American Labor's Stand:

Solzhenitsyn Warns West Detente Imperils Freedom

(Continued from Page 1)

1947, while liberals of the West were swearing there was none in the USSR, published and distributed a map of the Soviet chain of slave labor camps. The map matched the author's account of the camp system in The Gulag Archipelago, his own account of Soviet internal oppression.

"On our crowded planet there are no longer any internal affairs," Solzhenitsyn said, paraphrasing a passage from his 1972 Nobel Prize lecture.

"Interfere more and more" in Soviet affairs, he urged. "Interfere as much as you can. We beg you to come and interfere.

"Whenever you help the persons persecuted in the Soviet Union," he reminded his audience, "you not only display magnanimity and nobility, you're defending not only them but yourselves as well. You're defending your own future."

"I'm not going to tell you sweet words," the author of The Gulag Archipelago—a detailed account of the inhumane treatment of Soviet prison camp inmates during the Stalin era—told his listeners at the start of his 90-minute address.

"The situation in the world is not just dangerous," he said.

"It isn't just threatening—it is catastrophic. Something that is incomprehensible to the ordinary human mind has taken place," he continued.

"Your statesmen of the West, for some inexplicable reason, have signed one capitulation after another." Starting with United States recognition of the Soviet Communist government in 1933, American leaders have joined European governments in dignifying communism as being "worthy of diplomatic recognition, of friendship and of assistance," Solzhenitsyn said.

He criticized the 1941 military alliance of the United States, Britain, France, Australia and other countries with the Stalin regime, which he said served to strengthen Soviet totalitarianism and helped bring into existence another oppressive government, Red China. And he cited other diplomatic sell-outs by the West in the post-World War II period.

"All this finally precipitated the present world situation," the 56-year-old novelist observed. "How could the Western democracies have done this?"

The result of these capitulations and compromises — "the constant retreat, the surrender of one country after another, to such a point that there are Soviet satellites even in Africa and almost all of Asia is taken over by them" — has been terrible, unspoken human tragedy, Solzhenitsyn declared.

SOLZHENITSYN

"One cannot think only in the low level of political calculations. It's necessary to think also of what is noble, and what is honorable—not only what is profitable."

"We already hear voices in your country and in the West—'give up Korea and we will live quietly; give up Portugal, of course; give up Japan; give up Israel; give up Taiwan, the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand; give up 10 more African countries; just let us live in peace and quiet.'

" 'Just let us drive our big cars on our splendid highways; just let us play tennis and golf in peace and quiet; just let us mix our cocktails in peace and quiet.' "

But these are voices of people who do not understand the true nature of communism, Solzhenitsyn declared.

"The Communist leaders respect only firmness and have contempt and laugh at persons who continually give in to them," he added. "I can tell you that only firmness will make it possible to withstand the assaults of Communist totalitarianism."

The noted Russian author, an outspoken defender of basic human rights, appealed to American leaders to take a tough stand toward the Communists. First, though, it is necessary for them to admit their nation's mistakes over the past 40 years, he said.

Recalling the political philosophy of Aristotle, Solzhenitsyn observed: "One cannot think only in the low level of political calculations. It's necessary to think also of what is noble, and what is honorable—not only what is profitable."

In 1933 and again in 1941 during World War II, he charged, "your leaders and the whole Western world, in an unprincipled way, made a deal with totalitarianism" by aligning themselves with Communist Russia against Hitler's Germany.

"For 30 years we have been paying for it, and we're still paying for it," Solzhenitsyn said.

He cited a Russian proverb, "Do not call a wolf to help you against dogs," explaining:

"If dogs are attacking and tearing at you, beat the dogs. Fight against the dogs, but do not call a wolf for help."

Because, Solzhenitsyn said, when the wolves come, "they will destroy the dogs, but they will tear you apart as well."

Solzhenitsyn's address was his first major speech in the West since he was deported and deprived of his Russian citizenship by Soviet leaders in February 1974. His exile followed publication of The Gulag Archipelago.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, who had invited the noted author to make a federation-sponsored lecture tour of the U.S. shortly after his deportation, introduced Solzhenitsyn as "the single figure who has raised highest the flame of liberty."

"The American trade union movement," Meany noted, "from its beginnings to the present, has been dedicated to the firm unyielding belief in freedom—freedom for all mankind, as well as for ourselves.

"God knows, the world needs to think more about human freedom. The world needs to think more about those who are losing their freedom every day," Meany said.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland introduced the head-table guests. They included members and former members of the federation's Executive Council; Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop; Defense Sec. James R. Schlesinger; Director W. J. Usery, Jr. of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service; Chairman Betty Southard Murphy of the National Labor Relations Board; Daniel P. Moynihan, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations; former Sec. of State William P. Rogers; former Under Sec. of State Robert Murphy, and former Defense Sec. Melvin Laird.

DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION as currently conceived and carried out by the United States, is a fraud, exiled Russian novelist Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn told a gathering of some 2,500 labor and government officials at an AFL-CIO banquet in his honor. Praising the American labor movement for opposing U.S. policy toward the USSR, he called upon the trade union movement and its members to maintain their strong anti-Communist position.

GOLD CARD AWARD providing an honorary life membership in the Musicians is presented to country and western music star Roy Acuff by AFM President Hal C. Davis, right, at the union's convention in Shreveport, La.

Dutch Workers Assail ILO Role for Terrorists

Geneva—Dutch trade union leaders have expressed the indignation of non-Communist European labor movements over the recognition by the International Labor Organization of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Arab terrorist group.

Cees N. Commandeur, the Dutch worker representative, wrote the president of the ILO's annual conference, Blas F. Ople, Labor minister of the Philippines, to put on record the "grave concern" of his delegation at the granting of observer status to the PLO.

"In addition," Commandeur continued, the delegation "wishes to state that it strongly disapproves of the procedure followed prior to the invitation to the PLO to attend and address the conference, the admission ceremony itself and the statement of the PLO representative."

The Dutch trade union leader denounced the flouting of the ILO rules by Abdel Aziz al-Wajeh, the PLO representative, who strutted to the rostrum to deliver a propaganda spiel when he was supposed to be speaking on the report of ILO Director Gen. Francis Blanchard.

Ople had no other recourse but to inform the 126-nation ILO session of trade union, government and employer delegates of the Dutch protest from his chair at a plenary meeting.

The American worker delegation's walkout from the conference was followed by a second boycott staged by the U.S. government and employer delegations. These had left the hall with the labor representatives led by U.S. Worker Delegate Irving Brown and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland when the PLO admission was voted, but they did not quit the conference.

However, the government group, headed by Edward B. Persons of the Labor Dept., and Employer Delegate Charles H. Smith and his advisers boycotted a conference sitting to protest procedural decisions by Ople that they saw as further violations of ILO rules of the same order that opened the doors to the PLO.

Because of the boycott, Persons was not present to hear Ople apologize for having adjourned the previous sitting without, as he explained it, having noticed that the American official was calling for recognition to raise a point of order.

In the course of its hectic three-week session the conference approved a budget of $143,982,000 for the next two years, an increase of $33 million over the 1974-75 budget that was attributed to inflation and related factors.

The conference also elected for a three-year term a new Governing Body, or executive council, that was expanded to give 28 seats in all to governments, 14 to workers and 14 to employers.

Having been elected to this Governing Body by the conference's worker delegates, Brown attended the one-day session it held immediately after the conference's close. Philip H. Cook, Australian government delegate, was elected chairman for a one-year term, while Joseph Morris, president of the Canadian Labor Congress and leader of the worker group, was re-elected as the council's worker vice chairman.

House Votes To Hold Back ILO Funding

The House voted to hold up future U.S. payments to the International Labor Organization as a protest against admission of the terriorist Palestine Liberation Organization to official observer status at the recent Geneva conference.

The money was cut from an appropriations bill on the motion of Rep. John M. Slack (D-W.Va.), chairman of the subcommittee that drew up the funding bill before the Geneva conference.

Despite perfunctory Administration opposition, the House deleted $22.3 million from funds for dues and assessments to international organizations. That left in the bill only the $5.6 million needed to pay up the U.S. obligation through June of this year, representing past participation in the ILO. The deleted money was for the balance of 1975 and the 1976 calendar year.

During the brief debate, Rep. John P. Murtha (D-Pa.) termed the cutoff of funds a means of showing support for the delegations that walked out after seating of the PLO and a condemnation of the welcome given to the terrorist band.

Rep. Elford A. Cederberg (R-Mich.) spoke with "reluctance," he told the House, in opposition to the cutoff as the senior Republican on the committee.

Cederberg said Sec. of State Henry Kissinger is "very concerned that this kind of an action, taken now, would certainly not make it any easier for him when he is trying to do the best he can."

The funding bill now goes to the Senate.

The Invisible Movement

WHEN WE THINK of the historic srtuggles and conflicts of this century, we naturally think of famous leaders: Men who governed nations, commanded armies and inspired movements in the defense of liberty, or in the service of ideologies which have obliterated liberty.

Yet, today, in this grave hour in human history, when the forces arrayed against the free spirit of man are more powerful, more brutal and more lethal than ever before, the single figure who has raised highest the flame of liberty heads no state, commands no army, and leads no movement that our eyes can see.

But there is a movement—a hidden movement of human beings who have no offices and have no headquarters, who are not represented in the great halls where nations meet, who every day risk or suffer more for the right to speak, to think and to be themselves than any of us here are likely to risk in our entire lifetime.

Where are the members of this invisible movement? As we prepare tonight to honor the presence of one of them among us, let us give some thought to the rest: To the millions who are trapped in Soviet slave labor camps. To the countless thousands drugged and straitjacketed in so-called "insane asylums." To the multitudes of voiceless workers who slave in the factories of the commissars.

To all those who strain for bits and pieces of truth through the jammed frequencies of forbidden broadcasts, and who record and pass outlawed thoughts from hand-to-hand in the shadows of tyranny.

But if they remain invisible to us, we can hear them now, for there has come forth from under the rubble of oppression a voice that demands to be heard; a voice that will not be denied.

We heed this voice not because it speaks for the left or the right or for any faction, but because it hurls truth and courage into the teeth of total power when it would be so much easier and more comfortable to submit and to embrace the lies by which that power lives. What is the strength of this voice? How has it broken through to us when others have been stilled? Its strength is art.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn is not a crusader. He is not a politician. He is not a general. He is an artist. Solzhenitsyn's art illuminates the truth. It is, in a sense, subversive: subversive of hypocrisy, subversive of delusion, subversive of the Big Lie.

No man in modern times and very few in all of history have demonstrated as dramatically as Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn the power of the pen coupled with courage to free men's minds.

We need that power today desperately. We need it to teach the new and the forgetful generations in our midst what it means not to be free. Freedom is not an abstraction; neither is the absence of freedom. Solzhenitsyn has helped us to see that, thanks to his art and his courage.

His art is a unique gift. It cannot be transmitted to another. But let us pray that his courage is contagious. We need echoes of his voice. We need to hear the echoes in the White House. We need to hear the echoes in the Congress and in the State Department and in the universities and in the media, and if you please, Mr. (UN Ambassador Daniel P.) Moynihan, in the United Nations.

The American trade union movement, from its beginnings to the present, has been dedicated to the firm unyielding belief in freedom. Freedom for all mankind, as well as for ourselves. It is in that spirit that we are honored to present our speaker of this evening.

—George Meany at the Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn dinner.

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A Word Edgewise:

Police State Actions in India Cover Up Failure, Corruption

By John P. Roche

ALMOST EXACTLY two months ago I ruminated here on the extent to which the Soviet Union was providing Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi with technical assistance on how to run a police state. Now we know the answer. Accused of corruption and found guilty by a lower court, Mrs. Gandhi has forestalled a Watergate by locking up every honest politician in India, by censoring the press, and for a time cutting off all communication with the outside world.

It had all the earmarks of a KGB-chaperoned operation. For example, the arrest in the middle of the night—actually before the internal emergency was declared by the figurehead President—of the truly saintly Jaya Prakash (J.P., as he is known) Narayan, of my old social democratic friend Asoka Mehta, of the 79-year-old conservative ascetic Morarji Desai, and others. These former comrades of Mahatma Gandhi and Nehru were summarily packed into taxis and taken to unknown destinations.

Then there was the "accidental" break in the cable from Bombay which links India with the world and a similar cutting of the Associated Press's land line to London. And the "power failure" that stopped the presses. This was not planned in half an hour—it was carefully orchestrated. At the risk of sounding unkind, I doubt if the notoriously inefficient Indian government could have handled the mop-up without external guidance. At any rate, Mrs. Gandhi has adopted the slogan of the old Bolshevik Nicolai Bukharin: "I believe in the two-party system: one in office, the other in jail." One can only hope that like Bukharin she will live to regret her sentiments.

Objectively, locking up the opposition and muzzling the press (under that internal emergency powers act inherited from the British) does not accomplish a thing as far as the needs of the Indian people are concerned. India can best be described as the world's largest outdoor slum: roughly two-thirds of the population are on the verge of starvation at any given moment. Yet agronomists have estimated that under proper cultivation the land in two provinces could feed the population.

For years the United States provided aid without strings under Public Law 480 ("Food for Peace") until President Johnson forced a reappraisal. In his view, sending food and collecting rupees (most of which were recently given back to India) could go on indefinitely without stimulating the Indians to pull up their socks and develop an efficient agricultural sector.

The Indians, of course, got annoyed at this intervention in their internal affairs, but Johnson's policy did bring notable improvements. However, it did nothing to cut the birth rate. Thus in the 28 years of Indian independence the gap between rich and poor has increased, per capita consumption of the necessities of life has decreased, and virtually no progress has been made in educating the estimated three-quarters of the population that are illiterate. Throughout this entire period the Congress Party has been in power, but once its original goal—independence—was achieved, it lost its idealism and took up stealing.

Suddenly in the last year it has been terrified: J. P. Narayan at 72 returned to politics and launched a great anti-corruption crusade, preaching to hundreds of thousands. And worse, Desai went on a hunger strike to force elections in his home state of Gujarat; Mrs. Gandhi capitulated, and when the votes were counted the Congress Party had been clobbered.

HERE WE HAVE the tragic irony: Prime Minister Gandhi has declared an emergency to make India safe for corruption. Naturally she is talking darkly about plots, conspiracies, sedition and other activities frowned upon by all right-thinking people. The fact is she can't take the heat so she closed down the kitchen.

What is a state of internal emergency, for example, going to do about illiteracy or grain distribution? Nothing. Except that now, instead of getting savaged by the free press and the opposition for incompetence, corruption and inertia, the Prime Minister can soothe herself by reading government press releases.

This is a bitter column, but it is heartrending to see the world's largest democratic government go into the abyss of authoritarianism. Particularly if, like me, you marched around the British Consulate in New York in 1940-41, picketing for Indian freedom. You know that your Indian friends are on ice indefinitely—and nothing can be done.

As Critics Fade Away:

NAACP Builds on Past Gains By Upholding Its Basic Ideals

By Bayard Rustin

IT IS IRONIC that, just as America's bicentennial celebration draws near, this nation finds itself engulfed by a sea of indecision and self-doubt. Never before have Americans been less sure of their goals. Confronted with a rapidly escalating economic crisis—with over 9 million unemployed—our political and intellectual leadership appears immobilized by a lack of purpose and loss of will.

The stagnation of leadership has not, fortunately, infected all of society. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is currently holding its 65th national convention in Washington. For most of this century the NAACP has been a leading force for moral, social and political change. Other organizations, of course, have contributed to social and racial progress. But far too many are notable today more for their mistakes and weaknesses than for the very real results they achieved.

Indeed, with the single exception of the labor movement, no other organization can be said to have achieved the level of enduring and far-reaching change as has the NAACP.

I point this out because I believe there is something in the traditions and philosophy of the NAACP from which all society can learn, particularly when that society suffers from a thoroughgoing crisis of purpose.

The most fundamental point is that the NAACP was founded by individuals who had a particular vision of the kind of society they wanted to create. They were inspired by the conviction that a racially equal society could be forged through the use of every available democratic process: the courts, the political system, and the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech and assembly.

These principles, moreover, were the benchmark for NAACP activism over successive generations. The militancy of its leadership did not diminish when they were denounced as anti-American by racists and damagogues. Nor was the courage of its local activists affected by threats and murders.

By the same token, the NAACP's commitment to integration and non-violence enabled it to survive what was perhaps its most difficult period—the turbulent sixties. This was a time when Roy Wilkins was dubbed "Uncle Tom Number One" by archmilitants and separatists and when the NAACP, because of its refusal to abandon its integrationist ideals, was dismissed as irrelevant to the changing tide of black struggle.

Today, one seldom hears of the advocates of what was erroneously characterized as a movement for "black power." Few are actively engaged in the serious business of working for racial change; most dropped out of the civil rights movement altogether or drifted into any number of marginal causes, ranging from Republican business conservatism to forms of nationalism entirely inappropriate to the American situation.

Roy Wilkins has remained as probably the most important black leader because, unlike his critics, he believed that prejudice was not an inevitable part of American life and that American society could indeed be transformed. The causes that he and the NAACP refused to embrace—separatism, black studies programs that exclude whites, violent action—are today no longer seriously debated.

What we have experienced, in fact, is a return to the ideals on which the NAACP was founded. And that is that basic institutions must be reformed so as to serve human needs, and not profits, and that black people must be full participants in all aspects of society if they are to achieve the benefits of and exert maximum influence on that society.

ITS ADHERENCE to these principles has given the NAACP a renewed significance, while their abandonment led to the demise of others. The NAACP can count over 440,000 members in 1,700 active chapters, a substantial increase over even a decade ago. The NAACP has also adjusted its strategy: where once it sought change primarily through the courts, today it is increasing its legislative activities in recognition of the fact that economic change must be achieved politically.

There is an important lesson to be learned from the history of the NAACP, and it is our political leadership which would profit most from the experience. Social change is advanced by those who have a personal stake and philosophical commitment to its achievement. Those who in frustration would as soon bring society down, and those who resist the democratization of society are doomed to failure.

The NAACP's accomplishments are an enduring part of our history: its critics and those who ignored its call for a more decent human order will soon be forgotten.

Gradual Import Quota Needed:

Self-Sufficient Energy Policy Essential to Nation's Economy

FAILURE TO DEVELOP self-sufficiency in energy could lead to ransom-like oil prices and all that portends for the nation's economy, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison warned.

Noting that the OPEC nations plan to boost oil prices in September, Denison called for a price rollback on U.S.-produced oil to offset the impact of the OPEC action and maintain, approximately, current import quotas, he said, but not a sudden ban on oil imports.

That would be "disastrous to our economy," he declared. He said it would force a 37 percent reduction of U.S. energy consumption, whereas the 1973 embargo that hit the U.S. economy so hard forced only only a 5 to 7 percent consumption reduction.

Denison said on Labor News Conference the energy crisis is real, even though the long lines at the gasoline stations have ended and some economists contend there is a glut of oil in the world market. He said that Congress is aware of the crisis, and that recent House rejection of a limited energy measure reflected a political situation, not rejection of the fact that there is an energy crisis. He said the vote on that bill might well have been different if certain provisions had been structured differently.

Denison said the AFL-CIO is encouraged that the House Commerce Committee has now reported out an energy bill that goes to many of the same areas, including creation of a federal purchasing agency that would handle all purchases of imported oil and re-sell it to U.S. distributors.

"We feel that such action is absolutely necessary, if we are going to come to grips with the oil cartel," he asserted.

Denison also noted that the AFL-CIO would be prepared to support an equitable rationing system to develop a comprehensive energy program. Unfortunately, he said, rationing is no more popular than increased gasoline taxes and "it is a hard concept for the people to accept."

Reporters questioning Denison on the AFL-CIO produced public service program were Roberta Hornig of the Washington Star and Michael Posner of Reuters News Agency. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Full Measure of Quality!

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

REMEMBER this blue-chip list?

● W. Clement Stone, the millionaire Chicago insurance executive who contributed $2 million to Richard Nixon's 1972 presidential campaign.

● Richard Scaife, heir to the Mellon oil and banking fortune, who gave the Nixon campaign $1 million.

● John A. Mulcahy, president of a steel furnace subsidiary of a pharmaceutical company, who gave the Nixon committee $547,559.

● Steward Mott, an heir to the General Motors fortune, who gave George McGovern's campaign $729,000.

● Arthur K. Watson, former chairman of the IBM World Trade Corp., who gave the Nixon committee $300,000.

If the 1974 campaign spending law was designed to do anything it was to take control of American elections away from these fat cats and give it back to the people.

The law, itself, is complex as it spells out the limits on contributions, the limits on spending, the limits on party spending, public financing and disclosure of contributions and spending.

An eight-member, bipartisan, full-time Federal Elections Board, controlled by six voting public members, is charged with enforcement of the law. The board only recently set up shop, and none to soon since spending for 1976 campaigns is already under way.

On the presidential level, the law sets a $10 million spending limit, with an additional $2 million set aside for fund-raising costs. And it provides for partial public financing of presidential primary spending up to $5 million.

To qualify for that money, a candidate has to raise $5,000 in each of 20 states in contributions of no more than $250, for a total of $100,000. Once he has raised that amount, contributions he receives will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to $250 per contribution.

More than 30 states, including the 10 largest, will have presidential primaries in 1976. Estimates of the costs of such campaigns for individual candidates range all the way up to the $12 million overall prenomination campaign spending limit set by the law.

All federal money for public funding of campaigns will come from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. The fund is being built from check-offs of $1 or $2 on federal income tax forms.

To date, it seems that the new kingpins of campaign financing are not the fat cats of 1972 but, rather, professional fund raisers. Along with them, the accountants and managers are important since they must plan their actions to stay within the new law.

THE DAY AFTER the law took effect it was challenged in the courts by Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.), former Sen. Eugene A. McCarthy (D-Minn.), Rep. William A. Steiger (R-Wis.) and the New York Civil Liberties Union. Their 34-count complaint alleges the law violates the freedom of speech, equal protection and separation of powers clauses in the Constitution. The Supreme Court is not expected to act on the case until December.

Although there is no public financing on the congressional level, the new law is expected to have a direct impact on campaigns for the Senate and the House.

Overall contribution limits include both congressional and presidential candidates. This limits contributions per individual for each primary, runoff and general election and to an aggregate contribution of $25,000 for all federal candidates annually, $5,000 per organization, political committee and state party organization.

A candidate and his family can contribute a maximum of $50,000 if he is running for President, $35,000 for the Senate and $25,000 for the House.

Candidates for the Senate can spend no more than $100,000 in the primary, or 8 cents per eligible voter, whichever is greater. The Senate limit goes up to $150,000, or 12 cents per voter, in the general election. The limit in House primaries is $70,000 and the general election is also $70,000.

A number of questions have been raised about the law. Does it give the incumbent unfair advantage? Does it undermine third parties? Are the disclosure requirements too severe? The answers will begin coming early next year.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY in the nation's energy consumption is essential to the U.S. economy, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison declared on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Michael Posner, left, of Reuters News Agency and Roberta Horning of the Washington Star.

Rollcalls on Housing Veto, Job Safety

Both of these June 25 rollcalls were on key labor issues—housing and job safety.

***Column I** shows the 268-157 vote in favor of overriding President Ford's veto of the housing bill. It fell short of the needed two-thirds majority. Right votes (R) for overriding the veto were cast by 249 Democrats and 19 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 122 Republicans and 35 Democrats.*

***Column II** is the 231-186 vote rejecting an attempt to bar the Occupational Safety & Health Administration from penalizing any establishment with fewer than 26 workers for first violations of job safety regulations. Right votes against this exemption from enforcement were cast by 194 Democrats and 37 Republicans. Voting wrong were 104 Republicans and 82 Democrats.*

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

	I	II
ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	R	W
4. Bevill (D)	R	R
5. Jones (D)	R	R
6. Buchanan (R)	W	R
7. Flowers (D)	R	W
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	R	W
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W
2. Udall (D)	R	R
3. Steiger (R)	W	W
4. Conlan (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	R	R
2. Mills (D)	R	R
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	R	W
4. Thornton (D)	R	R
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	R	R
2. Clausen (R)	R	W
3. Moss (D)	R	R
4. Leggett (D)	R	R
5. Burton John L. (D)	R	R
6. Burton, Phillip (D)	R	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	R
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Ryan (D)	R	W
12. McCloskey (R)	W	R
13. Mineta (D)	R	R
14. McFall (D)	R	R
15. Sisk (D)	R	R
16. Talcott (R)	W	W
17. Krebs (D)	R	R
18. Ketchum (R)	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	W
21. Corman (D)	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Rees (D)	W	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Bell (R)	W	W
28. Burke (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	R	W
31. Wilson, Charles H (D)	R	R
32. Anderson (D)	R	R
33. Clawson (R)	W	W
34. Hannaford (D)	R	W
35. Lloyd (D)	R	W
36. Brown (D)	R	R
37. Pettis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	R	A
39. Wiggins (R)	W	R
40. Hinshaw (R)	W	W
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	W
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	W
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R
2. Wirth (D)	R	R
3. Evans (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	W	R
5. Armstrong (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	R
2. Dodd (D)	R	R
3. Giaimo (D)	R	R
4. McKinney (R)	W	R
5. Sarasin (R)	W	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	R
DELAWARE		
AL duPont (R)	W	R
FLORIDA		
1. Sikes (D)	R	PW
2. Fuqua (D)	R	W
3. Bennett (D)	R	W
4. Chappell (D)	R	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	W	R
8. Haley (D)	R	W
9. Frey (R)	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	R	W
11. Rogers (D)	R	W
12. Burke (R)	W	W
13. Lehman (D)	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	R	R
15. Fascell (D)	R	R
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	R	W
2. Mathis (D)	W	W
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W
4. Levitas (D)	W	W
5. Young (D)	R	R
6. Flynt (D)	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Stuckey (D)	W	W
9. Landrum (D)	W	W
10. Stephens (D)	W	W
HAWAII		
1. Matsunaga (D)	R	W
2. Mink (D)	R	R
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Metcalfe (D)	R	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	R
3. Russo (D)	R	R
4. Derwinski (R)	W	R
5. Vacancy		
6. Hyde (R)	W	R
7. Collins (D)	A	PR
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	R
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Mikva (D)	R	R
11. Annunzio (D)	R	R
12. Crane (R)	W	W
13. McClory (R)	W	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	PW	A
15. Hall (D)	R	R
16. Anderson (R)	W	R
17. O'Brien (R)	W	R
18. Michel (R)	W	R
19. Railsback (R)	W	R
20. Findley (R)	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	W	R
22. Shipley (D)	R	R
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	R
INDIANA		
1. Madden (D)	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	R	W
3. Brademas (D)	R	R
4. Roush (D)	W	W
5. Hillis (R)	W	R
6. Evans (D)	R	R
7. Myers (R)	W	W
8. Hayes (D)	R	R
9. Hamilton (D)	W	R
10. Sharp (D)	R	W
11. Jacobs (D)	R	R
IOWA		
1. Mezvinsky (D)	R	R
2. Blouin (D)	R	R
3. Grassley (R)	W	W
4. Smith (D)	R	R
5. Harkin (D)	R	W
6. Bedell (D)	R	W
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Keys (D)	R	R
3. Winn (R)	R	W
4. Shriver (R)	W	W
5. Skubitz (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	R	W
2. Natcher (D)	R	R
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	R
4. Snyder (R)	W	W
5. Carter (R)	W	W
6. Breckinridge (D)	R	R
7. Perkins (D)	R	R
LOUISIANA		
1. Hebert (D)	R	PW
2. Boggs (D)	R	R
3. Treen (R)	W	W
4. Waggonner (D)	W	W
5. Passman (D)	R	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	R	W
8. Long (D)	R	R
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	W	W
2. Cohen (R)	W	R
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	R
3. Sarbanes (D)	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	R
6. Byron (D)	W	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Gude (R)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	R	R
2. Boland (D)	R	R
3. Early (D)	R	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Tsongas (D)	R	R
6. Harrington (D)	R	R
7. Macdonald (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	R	R
9. Moakley (D)	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	W	R
11. Burke (D)	R	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	R	R
2. Esch (R)	W	W
3. Brown (R)	W	W
4. Hutchinson (R)	W	W
5. VanderVeen (D)	R	R
5. Carr (D)	R	R
7. Riegle (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W
10. Cederberg (R)	W	W
11. Ruppe (R)	W	W
12. O'Hara (D)	R	R
13. Diggs (D)	PR	PR
14. Nedzi (D)	R	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	R
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Quie (R)	W	R
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W
4. Karth (D)	PR	PR
5. Fraser (D)	R	R
6. Nolan (D)	R	R
7. Bergland (D)	R	R
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1, Whitten (D)	W	W
2. Bowen (D)	W	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Cochran (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Symington (D)	R	W
3. Sullivan (D)	R	W
4. Randall (D)	R	W
5. Bolling (D)	R	R
6. Litton (D)	R	W
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W
9. Hungate (D)	W	R
10. Burlison (D)	R	W
MONTANA		
1. Baucus (D)	R	R
2. Melcher (D)	R	A
NEBRASKA		
1. Thone (R)	W	W
2. McCollister (R)	W	W
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	R	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	R	W
2. Cleveland (R)	W	W
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	R	R
3. Howard (D)	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	R
5. Fenwick (R)	W	R
6. Forsythe (R)	A	A
7. Maguire (D)	R	R
8. Roe (D)	R	R
9. Helstoski (D)	R	R
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	R	R
13. Meyner (D)	R	R
14. Daniels (D)	R	R
15. Patten (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	W
NEW YORK		
1. Pike (D)	R	W
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	W
4. Lent (R)	W	W
5. Wydler (R)	W	W
6. Wolff (D)	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	R
9. Delaney (D)	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	R	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	R
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	R	R
18. Koch (D)	R	R
19. Rangel (D)	R	R
20. Abzug (D)	R	R
21. Badillo (D)	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (R)	R	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R
25. Fish (R)	W	A
26. Gilman (R)	R	R
27. McHugh (D)	R	A
28. Stratton (D)	R	W
29. Pattison (D)	W	R
30. McEwen (R)	W	W
31. Mitchell (R)	R	W
32. Hanley (D)	R	R
33. Walsh (R)	R	W
34. Horton (R)	W	R
35. Conable (R)	W	R
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	W
39. Hastings (R)	A	W
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	R	W
2. Fountain (D)	W	W
3. Henderson (D)	R	W
4. Andrews (D)	W	W
5. Neal (D)	R	W
6. Preyer (D)	R	R
7. Rose (D)	R	W
8. Hefner (D)	R	W
9. Martin (R)	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Taylor (D)	R	W
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	W	W
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	W	R
2. Clancy (R)	W	W
3. Whalen (R)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	W	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	R	W
7. Brown (R)	W	W
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	W	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton, J. William (R)	W	R
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Mosher (R)	A	A
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W
16. Regula (R)	W	R
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Hays (D)	R	R
19. Carney (D)	R	R
20. Stanton, James V. (D)	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	R	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	W	W
2. Risenhoover (D)	R	W
3. Albert (D)	Speaker	
4. Steed (D)	R	R
5. Jarman (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	R	W
2. Ullman (D)	R	R
3. Duncan (D)	R	R
4. Weaver (D)	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Barrett (D)	R	R
2. Nix (D)	R	R
3. Green (D)	R	R
4. Eilberg (D)	R	R
5. Schulze (R)	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	R	R
7. Edgar (D)	R	R
8. Biester (R)	W	R
9. Shuster (R)	W	W
10. McDade (R)	W	R
11. Flood (D)	R	R
12. Murtha (D)	R	R
13. Coughlin (R)	W	R
14. Moorhead (D)	R	R
15. Rooney (D)	R	R
16. Eshleman (R)	W	W
17. Schneebeli (R)	W	W
18. Heinz (R)	W	R
19. Goodling (R)	R	W
20. Gaydos (D)	R	R
21. Dent (D)	R	R
22. Morgan (D)	R	R
23. Johnson (R)	W	W
24. Vigorito (D)	R	R
25. Myers (R)	R	R
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	R	W
2. Spence (R)	R	W
3. Derrick (D)	R	W
4. Mann (D)	W	R
5. Holland (D)	R	W
6. Jenrette (D)	R	W
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Pressler (R)	W	W
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	R	W
3. Lloyd (D)	R	W
4. Evins (D)	R	A
5. Fulton (D)	R	A
6. Beard (R)	W	W
7. Jones (D)	R	W
8. Ford (D)	R	R
TEXAS		
1. Patman (D)	R	W
2. Wilson (D)	R	R
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	R	PW
5. Steelman (R)	W	W
6. Teague (D)	W	W
7. Archer (R)	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	R	R
10. Pickle (D)	R	W
11. Poage (D)	W	W
12. Wright (D)	R	R
13. Hightower (D)	R	W
14. Young (D)	R	R
15. de la Garza (D)	R	W
16. White (D)	R	W
17. Burleson (D)	W	W
18. Jordan (D)	R	R
19. Mahon (D)	W	R
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	W
21. Krueger (D)	R	W
22. Casey (D)	W	R
23. Kazen (D)	R	W
24. Milford (D)	W	W
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	R	R
2. Howe (D)	R	R
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	W	W
VIRGINIA		
1. Downing (D)	A	A
2. Whitehurst (R)	R	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	R	W
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	W	R
2. Meeds (D)	R	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	W
4. McCormack (D)	R	R
5. Foley (D)	R	R
6. Hicks (D)	R	R
7. Adams (D)	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	R	R
2. Staggers (D)	R	R
3. Slack (D)	R	R
4. Hechler (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	R	R
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	W
4. Zablocki (D)	R	R
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Steiger (R)	W	R
7. Obey (D)	R	R
8. Cornell (D)	R	R
9. Kasten (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Roncalio (D)	R	R

Kelley New President:

Aluminum Workers Elect New Officers

Las Vegas, Nev.—The Aluminum Workers elected new top officers as President Henry S. Olsen and Sec.-Treas. Patrick J. Reilly announced their retirements at the AWIU's 21st convention.

The more than 400 delegates elected Vernon E. Kelley by acclamation to succeed Olsen and H. Max Webster was elected secretary-treasurer.

Kelley, who has served as the executive assistant to the union president since 1967, will complete the remaining two years of Olsen's four-year term. Olsen held office as acting secretary-treasurer and assistant to the president before being elected president of the union in 1967.

Webster, a vice president and regional director, was elected to a full four-year term as secretary-treasurer. Reilly held the post since 1961.

Among the 19 resolutions adopted at the four-day convention, delegates called for congressional action on legislation for tax reform to close loopholes for the wealthy, postcard registration of voters and national minimum standards for workers' compensation.

The convention also reaffirmed the AWIU's opposition to "ban-the can" laws sponsored by "some well-meaning, but ill-advised groups," and called for the total rejection of any efforts to impose compulsory arbitration in labor-management disputes.

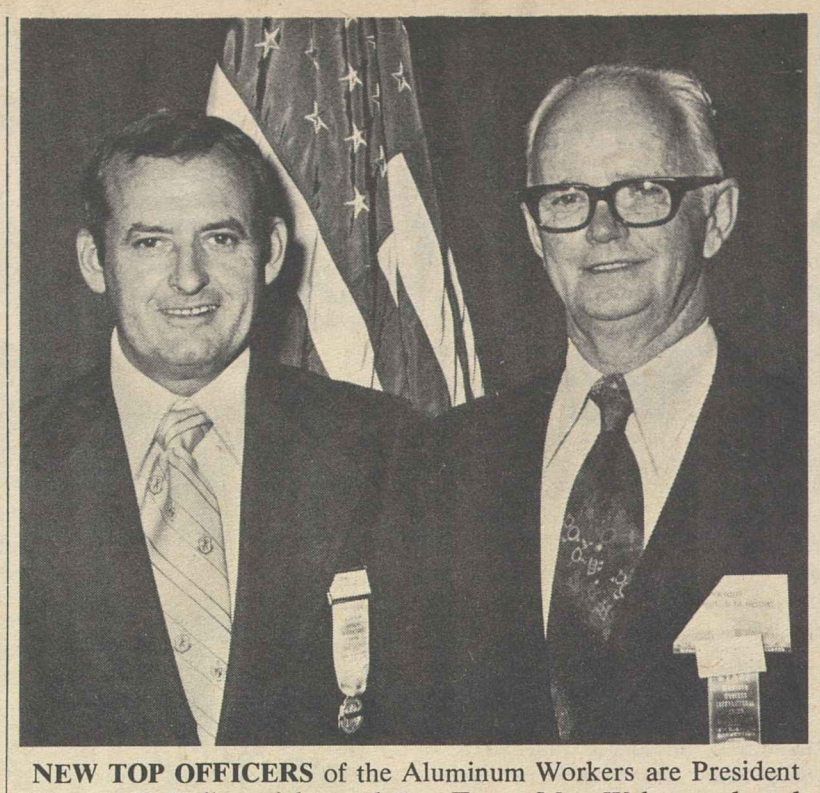
LaMar Gulbransen, area COPE director, stressed in an address to the convention the importance of labor political action programs on local, state and national levels. He also explored the economic problems of workers, noting that the Ford Administration has failed to come up with any effective answers to bring economic recovery or reverse the climb in unemployment.

Howard Chester, executive director of the AFL-CIO Stone, Glass & Clay Coordinating Committee, detailed the efforts of organized labor to halt the "dumping" of products from low-wage countries on American markets to erode U.S. jobs.

Delegates also approved an increase in salaries of the union's top officers, raising the president's annual salary from $28,500 to $31,880 and the secretary-treasurer's from $24,000 to $27,380.

Other major speakers at the four-day convention included President John McNamara of the Firemen & Oilers and Elmer Chatak, organizing director of the Steelworkers.

The convention approved the selection of New Orleans as the site of the union's 1977 convention.



NEW TOP OFFICERS of the Aluminum Workers are President Vernon E. Kelley, right, and Sec.-Treas. Max Webster, elected at the union's convention following the retirement of President Henry S. Olsen and Sec.-Treas. Patrick J. Reilly.

Rubber Union, OCAW Recess Merger Talks

The Rubber Workers and the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers have recessed merger discussions after committees from both unions were unable to reach agreement on certain points.

The unions had been conducting serious discussions since February, when the officers of the URW and the OCAW agreed in principle to merge. The cessation of talks was announced separately by URW President Peter Bommarito and OCAW President A. F. Grospiron.

Grospiron and Bommarito said the areas of disagreement include the per capita tax arrangement, the manner in which vacancies in elective offices would be filled, appointment of convention committees, establishment of districts in terms of numbers and geographic lines, duties of the secretary-treasurer, staff salaries of the merged union, the manner for the selection of the Canadian district director, and uniformity of local union bylaws.

Both unions are scheduled to hold conventions beginning Oct. 3 within a few miles of each other in Florida.

Basic Seniority System Seen Withstanding Test

New York—Solicitor of Labor William J. Kilberg doesn't think that the basic "last hired, first fired" concept of seniority is going to be thrown out by the courts every time it results in reducing the percentage of blacks or women at an establishment.

Despite one lower court decision that Kilberg thinks will be reversed at the appellate level, most court rulings have required modification of seniority systems only when necessary to remedy discriminatory practices.

He told the New York City Bar Association that the concept of superseniority to compensate for a past generation's prejudices is "alien" to American legal concepts. And to attempt to install such a concept, Kilberg suggested, is to invite violation of other anti-discrimination policies such as the ban on discrimination because of age.

Citing a number of court cases, Kilberg said the key decisions have held that persons who have been discriminated against in the past—such as being denied opportunities to transfer to a better-paying department because of race or sex—should be entitled to claim their "rightful place" in terms of job rights and pay that they would have enjoyed if they hadn't met with discrimination.

But he stressed that this is quite different from the argument that seniority should be disregarded so that younger workers in effect would be compensated for past discrimination against "their parents or grandparents."

That, he said, would require replacement of long-service workers by members of "protected classes in order to achieve an allocation of persons of various racial, sexual, age, ethnic, physical and other backgrounds throughout the workforce to achieve some mythical notion of where persons with these backgrounds would have been but for some prior discrimination."

Meany Elected Trustee of Eisenhower College

Seneca Falls, N.Y.—AFL-CIO President George Meany has been elected to the board of trustees of Eisenhower College.

Meany is one of nine new trustees who took office July 1. His term runs through June 30, 1979.

Labor Spurs Passage Of Texas Voter Law

Austin, Tex. — A bill providing for permanent registration of voters—instead of the present three-year period—passed the Texas legislature with strong backing from organized labor to highlight the 1975 session.

Regarded as "an excellent piece of legislation" by the Texas AFL-CIO, the measure provides that once a voter registers he is registered permanently unless he moves. Then he would be notified of the need to re-register.

The bill also provides that the Texas secretary of state will maintain a computerized central file of regisered voters in Austin, and retains the provision under the old law that permits voters to mail in post card registration applications.

Under the old system, voters were automatically re-registered when they voted in a general or primary election. If they did not vote at least once every three years, however, their names were dropped from the rolls of registered voters.

The State AFL-CIO, which is planning a massive voter registration campaign beginning in November, expects registration to increase by 20 percent as a result of the bill. Plans for the voter registration drive will be outlined this month at the State AFL-CIO's annual convention in Dallas.

Other significant bills to clear the 1975 legislature with strong labor backing included one establishing a three-member public utilities commission, something which already exists in most states.

First proposed by the State AFL-CIO in 1951 and supported by it each year since, the commission will have jurisdiction over electric, telephone and water-sewer utilities. It will have a planning component, and an independent legal counsel.

As part of its efforts to secure passage of the bill, the state federation sponsored a 30-minute, statewide television program featuring Texas Attorney General John Hill. Viewers were urged to contact their representatives in the legislature and request them to support the measure. The bill cleared the legislature by a more than 2 to 1 margin.

A proposed new state constitution will go before the voters Nov. 4 without a "right to work" provision. The Texas Senate rejected an amendment that would have upgraded the state's ban on union shops from a law to part of the constitution.

Another bill adopted by the legislature sets campaign spending limits for statewide candidates, including those seeking the office of governor and lieutenant governor.

URW Organizing Chief Robert Hill Retires

Akron, O.—Robert L. Hill, organizing director of the Rubber Workers since 1967 and on the URW staff more than 35 years, retired July 1. Hill has been a member of the URW since its founding in 1935.

Longshore Act Benefits Go to Boat Builders

Employes of recreational boat builders and marinas now are covered by workers' compensation under the Longshoremen's & Harbor Workers Compensation Act, the Labor Dept. announced.

Herbert A. Doyle, Jr., director of the department's Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP), said his agency has concluded on the basis of recent interpretations of 1972 amendments to the law that its coverage extends to such workers.

As amended in 1972, the Longshoremen's Act substantially expanded coverage beyond the navigable waters of the United States to include maritime employment performed in shoreside areas adjoining the navigable waters. There had been some question whether the expanded coverage applied to recreational boat builders and marinas.

OWCP now has concluded that workers employed by such operations come under the statute's jurisdiction if they are injured in a shoreside area that meets the "adjoining area" criterion established by the broadened definition of "navigable waters" in the 1972 amendments.

The expanded area of navigable waters of the United States includes any adjoining pier, wharf, dry dock, terminal, building way, marine railway or other adjoining area customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, building or repairing a vessel.

Civil Rights Gains Keyed To Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

tion." He said Martin Luther King's message of "give us the ballot" of a dozen years ago could now be paraphrased "give us jobs — jobs for all — and we shall overcome."

He noted the recent success of a black-labor coalition in winning a 10-year extension in the 1965 Voting Rights Act, but said it was the kind of victory which can be "neutralized" by a declining economy, rising unemployment and an Administration that is willing to accept 7 percent unemployment for years to come.

"The American labor movement cannot and will not accept this cruel and fraudulent definition of 'recovery,'" Meany said, accusing the Ford Administration of "an economic philosophy that would sacrifice on the altar of unemployment so much of what so many have struggled so hard and so long to achieve."

Similarly, Meany recited the improving figures of Negro apprentices in the construction trades, but noted:

"As proud as we are of these efforts, we cannot pretend they are the answer to the economic plight of millions of black families. In the final analysis, the only answer to their plight is a full-employment, full-production economy combined with diligent application of our civil rights laws."

More than 37,000 minority group youngsters are now enrolled in outreach apprenticeship programs, he said, and AFL-CIO unions have issued journeymen cards to more than 11,000 minority youngsters, an increase of several thousand over last year, when 29,000 were enrolled in the programs.

Still, Meany noted that the construction unemployment figure, 21.9 percent, is one of the few that is higher than the figure for all black Americans, which is 14.7 percent while black teenagers are 40 percent unemployed.

Meany's message to the Washington, D.C. convention included high praise for the legislative work of Clarence Mitchell, the NAACP legislative representative, and an expression of condolence on the deaths of Dr. John Morsell and Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood, NAACP officials who died in the last year.

Roy Wilkins, the NAACP executive director who has been with the group for 40 years, told reporters on the eve of the convention that the civil rights movement has suffered from recent Supreme Court decisions, including the refusal to strike down zoning laws that are used for racial discrimination.

William E. Pollard, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights, is a member of the board of directors of the NAACP and a delegate to the convention.

IUE Gets Grant For Job Training

The Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers were awarded a $470,694 contract by the Labor Dept. to provide on-the-job training for 600 workers.

Under the 15-month contract, IUE will train 300 persons in entry level jobs and the remainder will be either employed or laid-off workers moving to higher level jobs and new product lines.

The IUE has trained more than 5,500 workers through its OJT programs under five previous Labor Dept. contracts.

For Nation's Unemployed.

Congress Expands Duration of Benefits

(Continued from Page 1)

cutoff of payments to large numbers of workers who had used up a year of benefits and were still jobless. It voted them 13 additional weeks of federally-funded eligibility, for a total of 65 weeks in all. But this emergency legislation ran only until June 30.

The new legislation continues the program at least through this year, and through March 1977 if unemployment stays near present levels.

- Those whose jobs had not been covered by state unemployment compensation—a group that includes many public employes and farm workers.

Under a law passed last December, they were entitled to up to 26 weeks of federally-funded benefits in the same amount that would have been paid if they had been covered by state programs.

The new law increases that entitlement to 39 weeks through 1976, with payments not phased out until Mar. 31, 1977.

The legislation sent to the President was a compromise between House and Senate versions. It emerged somewhat closer to the Administration plan, with its complex system of unemployment rate "triggers," than to the AFL-CIO proposal.

Starting next January and until the legislation expires on Mar. 31, 1977, the maximum number of weeks of unemployment compensation available would depend on the rate of insured unemployment in each state.

This refers to the percentage of unemployment among persons whose job or last job is covered by the state program. Since it excludes persons entering the workforce or those who hadn't recently been employed in covered jobs, the insured unemployment rate runs about one-third below the more widely used Bureau of Labor Statistics compilation of unemployment as a portion of the total labor force. A 4 percent insured rate is close to a 6 percent overall jobless rate.

Under the new law, the 65-week maximum duration of benefits would drop to 39 weeks in any state with an insured unemployment rate of less than 5 percent, and to 52 weeks in any state with an insured rate of between 5 and 6 percent.

The AFL-CIO had urged Congress to provide 65 weeks of eligibility for all workers "until the nation is no longer plagued by large-scale unemployment" and termed the system of off-and-on "triggers" that have marked extended unemployment compensation programs "a dismal failure."

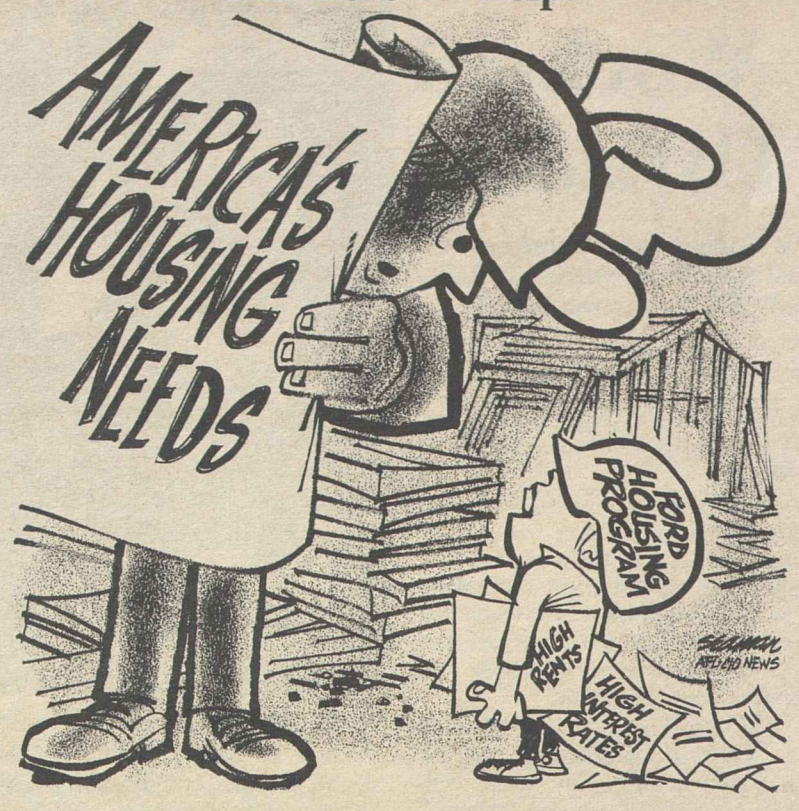
The final version of the bill did drop a labor-opposed Senate amendment that would have denied more than 39 weeks of benefits to anyone who refused an "unsuitable" job that was too far below his past level of pay and skill. However, it provides that a person claiming more than 39 weeks of benefits can be required to take any available free training that the state may determine is necessary to upgrade or broaden his skills.

For the 39 weeks of federal benefits for persons not covered by state programs, the trigger is the same as in the present program—a national unemployment rate (not an insured rate) of 6 percent or higher, or local area unemployment of at least 6.5 percent.

The legislation directs the Secretary of Labor to study the two temporary programs of extended benefits and report recommendations to Congress by Jan. 1, 1977.

The AFL-CIO has urged Congress to follow up the emergency temporary legislation with a permanent overhaul of the nation's "outmoded and fragmented" unemployment compensation system.

'I'm Here to Help!'



Weaker Housing Bill Enacted After Veto

(Continued from Page 1)

Government National Mortgage Association—will come down slightly under the new law.

Currently, mortgages issued with a promise that Ginnie Mae will purchase them from the lending institution carry an interest rate of 7.75 percent. The new law sets a maximum of 7.5 percent interest on a Ginine Mae mortgage.

The vetoed bill would have given middle-income home purchasers an option of a flat 7 percent interest rate for the life of the mortgage or a temporary 6 percent rate that would gradually rise to the market level.

Also in the vetoed bill were provisions expanding contract authority for public housing construction and extending a home ownership subsidy for lower-income families that the Administration had sought to end.

Congress did write into the new legislation one item of the vetoed bill the Administration opposed—an extension of the direct, low-interest government loans for rehabilitation of housing owned by persons with limited incomes.

In another area, Congress acted to expand the number of new homes that will be eligible for the 5 percent tax credit—up to a $2,000 ceiling—that was provided in the tax cut bill enacted earlier this year.

To avoid profiteering by builders, the law required that a house couldn't be priced above the lowest level at which it had previously been offered for sale.

A compromise attempt to deal with legitimate cost increases, such as those incurred in constructing a new section of homes in a development where earlier models had been built and sold at lower prices, was made through an amendment to an unrelated unemployment compensation bill the President signed into law. It modifies the earlier legislation to require only that the new homes may not have been offered at a lower cost since last Feb. 28.

President Ford's ability to make his vetoes stick despite attempts to override them may be tested again.

The Senate passed a $7.6 billion aid-to-education appropriation bill despite an Administration warning that it faces a veto. The measure, which now goes to a House-Senate conference, is $1.5 billion over the Administration's budget request and $340 million more than the House had voted.

The Administration's biggest objection is the continuation of federal "impact" aid to schools in communities with large numbers of federal military and civil service families.

In another possible funding clash with the Administration, the House boosted the President's budget request by $862 million in passing an appropriations bill for the Labor Dept., the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare and some other agencies. It included additional health funds and a substantial increase in poverty program funds through the Community Services Administration.

Federal Labor Law Still Shy Of Objectives

(Continued from Page 1)

"human rights of opportunity to match their legal rights."

Meany said the success of the institution of collective bargaining in establishing equity and peacefully resolving disagreements between employers and workers has made it "the keystone of industrial democracy."

Chairman Betty Southard Murphy of the National Labor Relations Board noted that the NLRA has been "a key factor in our country's immense economic growth" over the past 40 years.

"It is difficult to imagine what this country would be like had there been no National Labor Relations Act and no NLRB," she said, pointing out that the statute was born in a time of extreme economic disruption.

"The discord and discontent that swirled up into the storm of labor-management conflict in the mid-1930s required a reasoned, systematic method framed by law to produce economic progress through a just balancing of economic power," she said.

The NLRB chairman noted that since 1935 union membership has grown sixfold and there are now more than 160,000 collective bargaining relationships, covering some 23 million workers.

She said the agency's goal for the current 1976 fiscal year is to trim one month from the time it takes to process those unfair labor practice cases which move all the way from the filing of a charge to the issuance of a board decision.

The median length of time is currently 327 days, or about 11 months, for the 1,000 or so cases that fall into this category. In addition to these, many thousands of others are settled, dismissed or otherwise closed in earlier stages.

AFL-CIO Hits Bid to Nullify Appeals Rule

The AFL-CIO is "adamantly opposed" to weakening federal standards that require states to act promptly on appeals filed by jobless workers who have been denied unemployment compensation.

Federation President George Meany termed it "shocking" that the Labor Dept. has proposed to nullify a federal standard that just recently has gone into effect requiring states to decide at least 75 percent of appeals within 30 days and at least 85 percent within 45 days.

In a letter to Assistant Sec. of Labor William H. Kolberg, Meany pointed out that the time-limit standard resulted from "continued and repeated criticisms of the appeals system and appeal delays found to be unacceptable to the courts."

Since the time limit was announced in 1972 and did not take effect until this year, "the states have had three years to prepare for the implementation . . . and they should be required to meet it fully."

Meany noted that the proposal to weaken the appeals procedure stemmed from the recommendation of the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies. This "employer-dominated" body has consistently opposed improvements in the unemployment compensation system, Meany charged, and its members were responsible for the unreasonable delays in processing appeals that led to establishment of the standard.

Seasonal Quirk Clouds Job Figures, Meany Warns of Continuing Crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

to a record high of 1.2 million during the April-June period.

- The average duration of unemployment in June reached its highest level in 13 years, climbing from 13.4 to 15.4 weeks.
- Construction unemployment still stands at 21 percent; factory joblessness is 12 percent; unemployment among heads of households is 6.1 percent, and black male adults have a rate of 11.9 percent.
- In the 12-month period from June 1974 to last month, the number of unemployed rose 3.1 million, a jump of 65 percent.

7-5-75

What's more, Meany noted, the unemployment outlook for the '70s is bleak. The failure of the Ford Administration and Congress to do enough to meet the unemployment crisis is "deplorable," Meany declared.

In an explanatory note, BLS pointed out that changes in unemployment in June are strongly affected by large numbers of students and graduates entering the labor market.

"The seasonal adjustment method currently used assumes that the number of young jobseekers who enter the labor market between May and June is proportional to the level of unemployment," BLS noted.

"However, when the unemployment level becomes exceptionally high, as in 1975, the proportional relationship does not hold," BLS added.

As a result, the seasonal adjustment factors overcorrected in June and brought about a seasonally adjusted decline of 640,000 in the overall level of unemployment.

"The rate was probably overstated in May and understated in June," BLS observed, "so that an average of the two months provides a better estimate."

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger noted that in 1971, a recession year, the jobless rate in May was reported by the government as 6.2 percent. The next month, due to the same statistical quirk in adjusting the jobless figures for seasonal fluctuations, the rate dropped to 5.6 percent. In August, the rate was back up to 6.1 percent.

Because of the problems of seasonal adjustment, BLS said it was difficult to interpret changes in joblessness among those worker groups that typically experience sizable labor force inflows in June.

Total employment in June was unchanged at 84.4 million. However, the figure represents a fall-off of nearly 2 million since last September.

The jobless rates for adult men and women were 7 and 8.1 percent, respectively, BLS reported. The rate for white workers was 7.9 percent and for blacks, 13.7 percent. The jobless rates for household heads, 6.1 percent, and married men, 5.7 percent, were about the same as in May.

The total of "discouraged" workers was about 100,000 more than the first-quarter level of 1.1 million, seasonally adjusted. The greatest incidence of discouragement continued to be among those hardest hit by rising joblessness — younger and older workers, women and blacks.

McNamara of USWA Heads University Board

Madison, Wis.—The University of Wisconsin Board of Regents has unanimously elected Bertram N. McNamara, director of Steelworkers District 32, as its new president.

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Unions Call for Stiff Curb On Harmful Noise Levels

House Unit Backs Site Picketing

A drive by the AFL-CIO and its building trades unions to legalize picketing at multi-employer construction sites advanced on two fronts in Congress.

The House Labor Committee approved the job-site picketing bill introduced by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), 31-7. The bill is expected to reach the House floor later this month.

Meanwhile, a Senate Labor subcommittee opened hearings on a companion bill carrying the bipartisan sponsorship of Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.). Williams is chairman of the full Senate Labor Committee and Javits is its ranking minority member.

The legislation is aimed at overcoming a 1951 Supreme Court decision which held that a union having a dispute with a subcontractor can't picket the job site if employes of the prime contractor or other subcontractors are working there. The court reasoning was that this created an illegal secondary boycott against supposedly "neutral" employers.

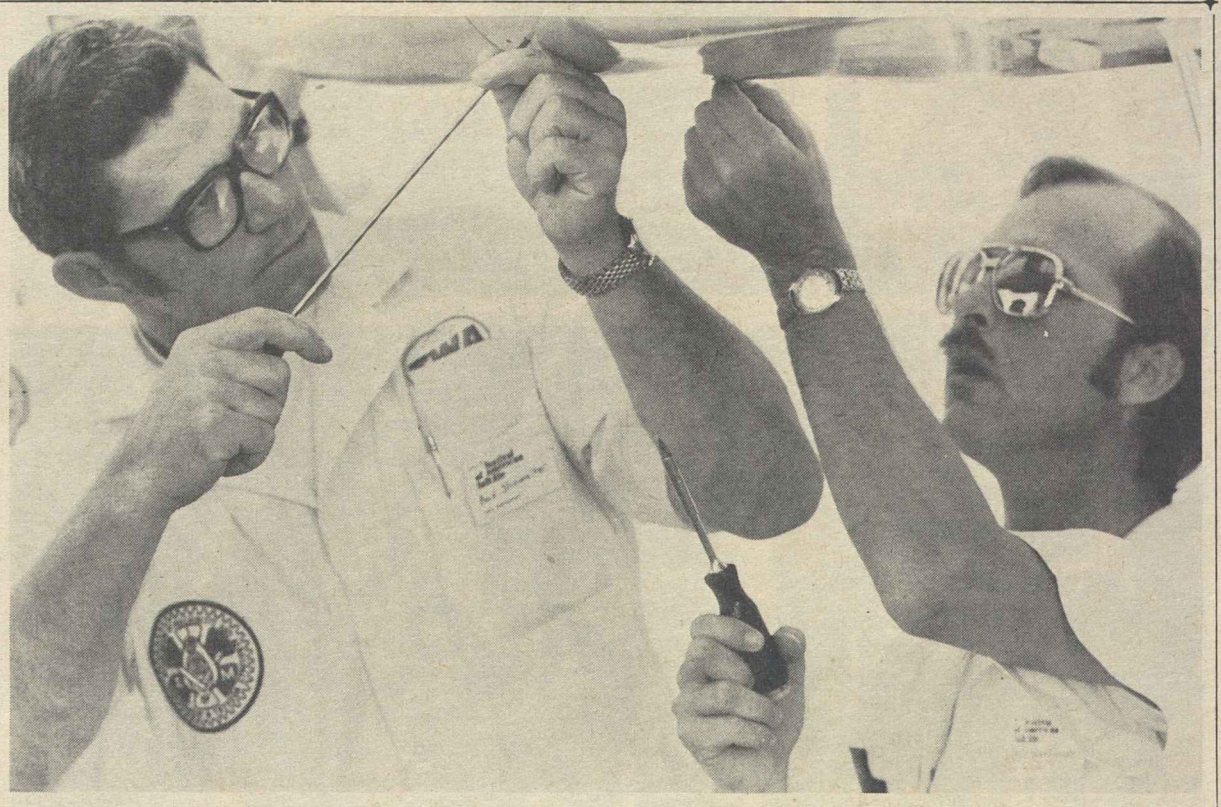
At the Senate hearings, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. stressed that contractors working together on the same construction job are not arms-length "neutrals" in terms of labor relations.

There would be no bar to picketing if all the workers at the site were employed by the prime contractor, he noted, or in a factory situation where members of one bargaining unit struck a common employer.

But because of the unique nature of the subcontracting system common to construction jobs, union construction workers have been denied basic rights, Georgine said.

The House Labor Committee wrote into the Thompson bill one change that had been proposed by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop—a requirement for a 10-day notice of intent to picket to be given to the unions and general contractor at the construction site and to the international union of the local planning to picket. The parent union would have to approve the picketing, but could not be held liable in any lawsuit arising out of the picketing.

Acceptance of the amendment was seen as broadening bipartisan support for the measure. But it still faces opposition on the House floor.



FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL VISITORS found out what commercial aircraft — and the workers who build and maintain them — are all about. Machinists Bud Showalter, left, and Bill Hoffman put together a mockup of a 747 jet airliner at the Working Americans exhibit area. This year's festival in Washington focused on the skills and lore of transportation workers. **(Other photos, Page 6.)**

Abel Cites Obligation Of OSHA

America's unions demanded that the Labor Dept. and its Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) protect workers from on-the-job noise levels that can damage their hearing.

AFL-CIO Vice President I. W. Abel, the leadoff union witness at Labor Dept. proceedings, termed OSHA's proposed noise standard a "direct violation" of the agency's legal obligation to protect workers against job hazards.

Medical experts have warned that twice as many workers will suffer hearing impairment at the 90-decibel continuous noise level OSHA wants to allow than at an 85-decibel level.

Industry contends it would be too costly to reduce the noise volume below the 90-decibel level—the equivalent of listening to roaring subway trains for eight hours a day.

Speaking for America's workers, Abel said it would be "irresponsible and immoral" not to do so.

Abel, who is president of the Steelworkers and the Industrial Union Dept., presented the opening argument for labor's case as the designated spokesman for the AFL-CIO and three big unaffiliated unions—the Auto Workers, Teamsters and Mine Workers.

"The unions of this nation speak with one voice," Abel said, in rejecting the concept that workers must pay with their hearing for the jobs they hold.

He cited the language of the Occupational Safety & Health Act directing the Secretary of Labor to "set the standard which most adequately assures to the extent feasible, on the basis of the best avail-

(Continued on Page 8)

Fiscal Woes Mount:

City, State Workers Battle Cuts, Layoffs

By David L. Perlman

The bargaining table faceoffs between mayors and governors on the one side and unions of public workers on the other are in grim earnest, sometimes erupting into picket line confrontations.

Witness the strike by virtually all of Pennsylvania's state employes to break an impasse over wages. And that same week, mass firings of city workers in New York set up a counterwave of job action protests.

The settlements were at best an uneasy truce.

In Pennsylvania, where 76,000 members of the State, County & Municipal Employees work for state agencies, it took a three-day strike to obtain what AFSCME Vice President Gerald McEntee termed "the best contract that could be negotiated under difficult circumstances." A union proposal to submit the dispute to arbitration had been rejected by Gov. Milton Shapp.

After an all-night bargaining session, the state's pre-strike offer of a 3.5 percent raise was upped to 12 percent over a two-year period. This was endorsed by the union's 600-member policy committee and ratified by the membership.

An additional 10,000 state workers, members of the Service Employees, remained on strike and continued to negotiate with state officials.

In New York City, some but not all of the 18,000 furloughed workers—including fire fighters, police and sanitation workers—got their jobs back after the state legislature agreed to allow the city to levy new taxes. But the emergency was far from over.

(Continued on Page 8)

Labor Asks Hazard Test Of Chemicals

The AFL-CIO gave a strong endorsement to legislation empowering the Environmental Protection Agency to require testing of both new and existing chemicals for their effects on human health and the environment.

"There is still too little known about occupational disease," Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said in testimony at House hearings. "But we can already see the grim outlines of a national health disaster among working people and their families."

Labor had sought a study of hazardous chemicals as part of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, Biemiller noted. It is unfortunate

(Continued on Page 7)

Lumber Industry Pact Sets Gains for 75,000

Portland, Ore.—Members of two unions have overwhelmingly ratified a two-year contract that includes $1.33 an hour in wage increases for 75,000 lumber industry workers in the Pacific Northwest.

The agreements with all of the major logging, sawmill and lumber products firms in the region were negotiated in coordinated bargaining of the two unions—the Western States Regional Council of the Woodworkers and the Western Council of Lumber, Production & Industrial Workers, an affiliate of the Carpenters.

The settlement provides a 68-cent increase retroactive to June 1, with an additional 65 cents one year later; an additional paid holiday, and higher employer contributions to health and welfare plans.

Among the companies that have signed the agreement are Crown Zellerbach, Weyerhaeuser, ITT-Rayonier, St. Regis Paper, Publishers Paper, U.S. Plywood-Champion, International Paper, Potlatch Forests, Boise Cascade, Georgia Pacific and Louisiana Pacific.

Some smaller firms have still not settled. Members of both unions have voted strike authority in establishments that do not meet the pattern of the major contracts.

About 42,000 members of the Carpenters and 33,000 Woodworkers members are covered by the agreements. They work as loggers, in sawmills, plywood, box plants and other forest products operations.

Elderly Called Victims Of Ford Budget Slash

The Ford Administration "is attempting to balance the budget on the backs of the elderly," a Senate Special Committee on Aging charged.

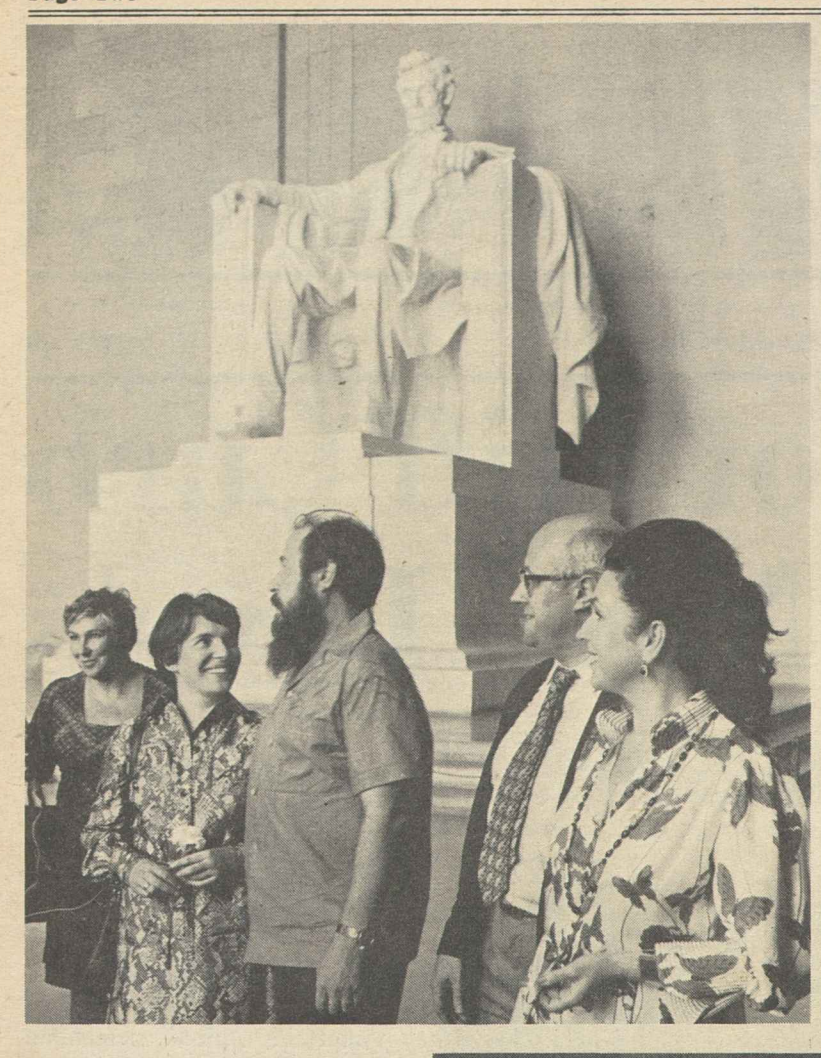
In a 394-page report on developments over the past 18 months, the committee accused the Administration of mounting a "determined and persistent" effort to cut back on essential programs for the elderly to make up for so-called "uncontrollable" expenditures in other areas.

The Senate panel documented several key areas to bear out "what must be regarded as a hardening of Administration attitudes on matters of vital importance to older Americans."

As an example of the Administration's strategy, the report cited attempts to impose a ceiling on social security cost-of-living increases.

The committee's chairman, Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.), noted that Sec. Caspar Weinberger of the Dept. of Health, Education and

(Continued on Page 2)



AMERICAN HISTORY completely engrossed Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn during his visit to the nation's capital. At top left, he and his wife join cellist and conductor Mstislav Rostropovich and the latter's wife at the Lincoln Memorial. A long-time friend who gave Solzhenitsyn sanctuary during his hard years in Russia, Rostropovich takes over as musical director of the National Symphony in 1977. Solzhenitsyn, in Washington to address an AFL-CIO banquet in his honor, drove down to Williamsburg, Va., for a Fourth of July tour of Colonial Williamsburg. Coming upon a primitive colonial smelter, top right, Solzhenitsyn was taken by its similarity to one that he worked with during his prison days in the Soviet Union. The Nobel laureate was confined eight years because of his criticism of Communist leaders. At bottom, a guide in colonial garb recites some early American history for Solzhenitsyn and his wife at the restored 18th Century capitol.

Elderly Seen Penalized By Budget Slash

(Continued from Page 1)

Welfare vehemently opposed the 8 percent COL increase that went out to social security recipients earlier this month. Weinberger insisted it should be held to the 5 percent ceiling urged by the White House.

"The social security position is just one of the many disturbing Administration actions," Church declared.

The report cites a list of "proposed assaults on Medicare, of efforts to cut funds already appropriated for the Older Americans Act, of continuing Administration resistance to genuine nursing home reform, and reluctance to implement a desperately needed program to provide housing for the elderly."

The Administration's game plan is clear, Church said: It is asking Congress to take unacceptable actions on bills related to the elderly, "and then blaming the Congress when Congress will not accept them."

The report paid special attention to the impact of inflation upon today's elderly. It reported that living costs went up by 23 percent between October 1972 and December 1974, but even with the 8 percent increase sent out with this month's checks, social security payments have increased by only about 20 percent over the same period.

"In the four areas where the elderly have their greatest expenditures—housing, food, medical care and transportation—the rate of increases exceeded the rise in prices for all other items in the consumer price index," the committee noted.

Other highlights:

- The report criticized the Housing & Urban Development Dept. for its apparent reluctance to implement the Section 202 direct-loan housing program for the elderly program.
- The committee called for increased funding of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, declaring "new employment legislation to help older workers should be effectively administered and adequately funded."
- Describing a "broadened public concern for problems of the one million frail elderly who inhabit the nation's 23,000 nursing homes," the committee pointed to a gross failure in public policy in nursing home care.

In its summary of findings and recommendations, the committee noted that recent attacks on the social security system have been based upon "misleading or inaccurate information."

"These accounts have only created needless apprehension and concern for social security beneficiaries and workers who are now contributing to this system, instead of making any meaningful contribution to the national dialogue concerning the future direction of social security."

Public Bargaining Law Highlight in Connecticut

Hartford, Conn.—One of the clear victories for labor to emerge from the recently concluded 1975 session of the Connecticut General Assembly was a new state law spelling out collective bargaining rights for state employes.

The bill, which contains "generally good provisions" according to the Connecticut State AFL-CIO, had strong backing from a coalition of the State, County & Municipal Employees, the Fire Fighters, Teachers and two unaffiliated unions, with support from the State AFL-CIO and the Auto Workers.

The legislature also passed a bill providing binding arbitration for municipal employes in contract disputes. While city workers have had collective bargaining rights since 1965, lack of provision for binding arbitration caused many municipal contract disputes to drag on without settlement for up to three years.

Other gains for labor in this year's legislature included:

- An agreement with Gov. Ella Grasso to divert $5.3 million from the state's pension fund to pay some 75 percent of scheduled pay increments for more than 30,000 state workers. The pension fund agreement was necessary because a state budget had already been signed into law without providing for the pay increases.
- An election reform law restoring the right of nonprofit organizations, including unions, to pool the resources of their members to support candidates of their choice and to communicate these political decisions to the public as well as to their own members.
- A measure substantially easing voter registration. The new law permits voter registration at the work site of all employes even if they do not live in the town where they work.

In addition, labor succeeded in preventing a legislative ban on unemployment benefits for workers who quit or are discharged for cause from their jobs. However, a key bill that would have permitted locked-out workers to collect unemployment compensation benefits died in the House.

White Collar Pay Trails Living Costs

White-collar salaries rose at a record pace during the 12 months ending last March, but the rise in the cost of living during the same period was even greater.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported an average increase of 9 percent in clerical jobs and 8.3 percent in professional, administrative and technical occupations over the period—compared with a 10.3 percent jump in the consumer price index.

The BLS survey is used as the basis for adjustments in the salaries of government employes the following October.

Marsha Berzon Joins Woll & Mayer Firm

Marsha Berzon has become associated with the law firm of Woll & Mayer which serves as general counsel to the AFL-CIO.

A graduate of Radcliffe and the Law School of the University of California at Berkeley, she has served as a clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Brennan and for the 9th U.S. Appeals Court.

Woodworkers Approve Rise In Per Capita

Portland, Ore.—Recognizing the serious financial problems of their international union, members of the Woodworkers across the United States and Canada have approved a two-stage increase in per capita payments.

The IWA per capita tax, which has been $1 since 1970, will be increased 25 cents a month effective on membership dues paid for September 1975.

A formula designed to provide automatic annual raises in per capita payment will take effect Jan. 1, 1976, based on wage increases received by the membership.

Under this formula, the union will receive 12.5 percent of the weighted average of one hour's common labor wage increase that the membership receives in the future.

The per capita issue was referred to the membership in May by the IWA executive board on the recommendation of a committee established in 1973 to study the union's financial needs.

Michigan Unionist Heads United Way in State

Lansing, Mich.—Walter Campbell, secretary-treasurer of the Michigan AFL-CIO, has been elected president of the United Way of Michigan.

Campbell has been on the United Way board of directors more than 10 years and was first vice president for the past year.

A member of the Allied Industrial Workers since 1937, Campbell was elected secretary-treasurer of the state federation in 1971.

TNG Convention Opens:

News Guild, ITU Cite Steps Toward Unity

Denver—Ringing calls for acceleration of the last eight months' moves toward greater unity between the Newspaper Guild and the Typographical Union were made by the presidents of the two unions at the opening session of the Guild's 42nd annual convention here.

Pointing to a series of steps by the two international unions aimed at producing "unity on the local level," TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., told the convention's 230-plus delegates that once local unity is achieved "unity at the top will take care of itself."

Noting those same efforts to encourage cooperation in bargaining by locals of the two unions, ITU President A. Sandy Bevis, told delegates that if there is to be "any lasting meaning" to the new cooperation "it must lead us inevitably to one goal: to merger."

Perlik, who will speak to the ITU's convention Aug. 30-Sept. 5 made his remarks as part of his opening address to the TNG convention. Bevis, the first ITU president to speak to a Guild convention since 1960, spoke at the convention's second session.

Perlik said both he and Bevis, ITU President for the past year, were convinced when they first met last November that "in the past, leaders of our two unions had approached the problem from the wrong end, attempting to cement unity at the top rather than the bottom."

Pointing to a no-raiding agreement earlier this year and to a series of regional meetings by a Guild-ITU task force with local leaders and staffs, Perlik said the search for unity through "the grass roots" is "bearing abundant fruit."

"The grass roots want unified action," Perlik said, "and they are, if anything, impatient that they're not getting it any faster."

Bevis said the ITU task force members report they "could actually see the apprehension and misgivings, so much a part of any new undertaking, melt away during these grass-roots meetings to be replaced with enthusiasm as the enormous potentials of the programs under discussion were made clear."

Perlik said he is making one international representative's "prime assignment in the months ahead the coordination of joint bargaining with printers' and mailers' ITU locals" in order to "make certain" that "now that the seed of unity has begun to sprout . . . it doesn't wither."

Bevis expressed the hope that the two unions soon can launch a "realistic, intelligent" joint organizing program as well.

Stating that "the first steps toward binding our unions closely together have been taken" and "we are comfortable with them, we like them, and clearly our members like them," Perlik cautioned that while he thinks a merger "is down the road . . . that road is not likely to be a short one.

"Merger," he said, "will come when, and only when, the grass roots of our two unions want it, and want it badly."

Delegates also heard pleas for greater political action by Guild locals and members from both Perlik and TNG Chairperson Barney Peterson.

Peterson called for enactment of the Kennedy-Corman National Health Security bill, extension and expansion of the Voting Rights Act and rejection of those portions of a bill to revise the federal criminal code that would pose severe dangers to freedom of the press "and other facets of the bill of rights."

The proposed revisions, he said, contain "insidious and dangerous" provisions that would make it impossible for the press to uncover a Watergate and others that "might do no less than protect public officials and their private agents from being convicted of a Watergate-like crime."

Peterson said he detects a "growing awareness" in the Guild that its members "must extend our voices and our power further into the political arena—because nobody else is going to do it for us."

Pointing to President Ford's veto of housing and public-service jobs bills, Perlik said that "only a President sadly lacking in social conscience could be capable of such a performance in the face of the human suffering this recession has inflicted on so many of our people."

"These and other developments on the economic and political scene have demonstrated that we can close our eyes to the importance of political involvement only at imminent peril to our economic well-being, if not our economic survival," he said.

STAFF INTERNS who have been working at AFL-CIO headquarters departments during the past year are shown with Federation President George Meany. From left: Neill DeClercq and Patrick Mason, Dept. of Research; John Toth, Organization & Field Services; Margaret Sims, Community Services; Meany; Mark Anderson, International Affairs, and Roger Waldinger, Education.

Union Praises Decision on Mentally Ill

The Supreme Court's unanimous decision proclaiming a "right to liberty" for the mentally ill who are no threat to themselves or others and are not receiving adequate treatment was hailed by the State, County & Municipal Employees, which had filed a friend-of-the-court brief in support of a former mental patient who had been involuntarily confined in an institution for 15 years.

President Jerry Wurf of AFSCME, which represents 160,000 workers in hospitals for the mentally ill and retarded, said, "Our union has always viewed mental hospitals as facilities for treatment, not confinement."

Wurf called for a "new national commitment to improve the level of care in mental hospitals for those who need constant treatment."

"Decent institutional care will always be part of a balanced mental health care system," the AFSCME leader declared.

Wurf urged that "public accountability" be built into the entire mental health care system to insure that "what has come to be referred to as the right to treatment will be guaranteed to everyone who ever needs any form of mental health care."

Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Votes Revenue Boost

Philadelphia—The 16th convention of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO approved a 3-cent increase in the per capita tax, raising monthly payments of affiliates to 13 cents per member.

The action by the 2,000 delegates, effective July 1, is expected to bring in an additional $200,000 a year in revenue from the state federation's 630,000 members.

A major topic of concern to the delegates was the failure of Congress to override President Ford's veto of the emergency employment legislation designed to create 900,000 jobs.

The convention called for more vigorous and effective Democratic leadership in confrontations with the White House over vital social legislation.

Among the 147 resolutions acted on by delegates, the convention assailed the eight Republican congressmen from Pennsylvania who voted to sustain Ford's veto of the jobs bill.

The resolution also noted that of 289 Democrats in the House, 22 defected to support the veto and nine others were absent.

Major convention speakers included Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.), Gov. Milton J. Shapp (D) and President-elect Sol. C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

Schweiker, declaring the nation "cannot afford a 9 or 10 percent unemployment rate," told the delegates the government "has got to start dealing with our economics on a national basis to insure that every American has a job."

Chaikin noted that the labor movement learned long ago that victories on the negotiating table and on the picket line can be quickly eroded by unfriendly administrations at the state and national levels. The economic well-being of society in general has a direct effect on the ILGWU and the garment industry, he said.

"You can't have unemployed construction workers, auto workers and steelworkers and have a prosperous garment industry," he observed.

State Sec. of Labor & Industry Paul Smith told the convention that at the present rate of weekly benefit claims by Pennsylvania's jobless — now about a half-million — the state's unemployment compensation fund could be depleted by December.

Others addressing the three-day convention were Ben Stahl, regional director of the Human Resources Development Institute; Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, and Ruth Shy, regional coordinator of the Farm Workers.

Many of the resolutions adopted by the delegates dealt with problems of the state's unemployed, the elderly and the poor.

The convention called upon the Pennsylvania General Assembly to enact appropriate legislation to achieve tax justice both at the state level and in local communities.

Delegates also urged the General Assembly and Congress to liberalize voter registration laws by permitting registration by mail. And they urged improvements in unemployment and workers' compensation programs.

Peter M. McGavin Dies, Maritime Dept. Leader

Peter M. McGavin, executive secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept., died at his home in Bethesda, Md., July 6 of cancer. He was 66 years old.

McGavin, who joined the labor movement 35 years ago, held his post with the MTD for nearly 15 years. Before assuming the position, he served as assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany. He was a member of the Machinists.

Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, in a letter to McGavin's wife, Dorothy, said "there is no way to express what his gifts and dedication have meant to the labor movement. His loss is irreparable."

MTD President Paul Hall said that McGavin's accomplishments in behalf of the department's affiliated unions "will long endure and be remembered.

"All of us who knew Pete will remember him for his loyalty and dedication to the labor movement he served so long and so well," Hall said. "More than that, we will also remember him as a warm human being and a valued friend."

Born in Grand Rapids, Mich., McGavin joined the AFL organizing staff in 1940. He returned to his position with the AFL in 1946 following four years of Army service in World War II.

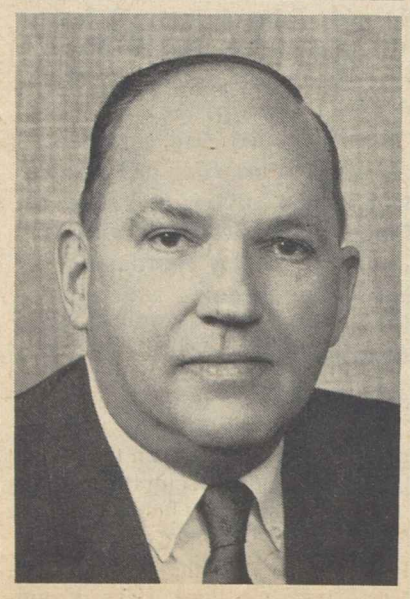
In 1949, AFL President William Green named him regional director for Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Four years later, he was appointed assistant national organization director.

Named an assistant to Meany in 1955, McGavin handled hundreds of jurisdictional disputes and worked with state and local central bodies and federal labor unions and assisted national and international unions.

He was unanimously elected executive secretary-treasurer of the MTD in November 1960, and assumed the duties of the position on Jan. 1, 1961.

McGavin is survived by his wife and a son, Stephen.

Services were held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Bethesda. Interment was in Silver Spring, Md.



PETER M. McGAVIN

State-County Union Wins N.M. Election

Sante Fe, N.M.—The more than 1,500 employes of the New Mexico Health and Social Services Dept. have chosen the State, County & Municipal Employees as their bargaining representative.

AFSCME received more than two-thirds of the votes cast in the statewide election. The tally was 778 for AFSCME to 338 no-union votes.

The new AFSCME unit includes social workers, maintenance, clerical and custodial workers.

Metropolitan Pact Covers Clerical Staff

Chicago—The Insurance Workers reached tentative agreement here with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. on a first-time contract covering the company's district office clerical employes in Inglewood, Calif., Youngstown, Ohio, and Joliet, Belleville, Alton and the Normal Park section of Chicago, all in Illinois.

IWIU President William A. Gillen, chairman of the union's negotiation committee, called the agreement "an historic breakthrough."

"Our union has had the district agents of the major life insurance companies organized for 30 years," he said, "but this is the first contract secured for clerical personnel in the same district offices of those companies."

The three-year agreement, which is subject to ratification by the clerical workers, establishes grievance and arbitration procedures, provides among other benefits for 12 paid holidays and company assumption of the full cost of all fringe benefits.

It also contains a provision permitting reopening of the agreement for wage negotiations at the end of two years.

Slowing the Recession

THE PACE OF the economic decline which reached crisis proportions last winter has slowed down in the past three months. The major reasons have been the regular operation of the unemployment insurance system, the adoption of some parts of the AFL-CIO Action Program and the slower rate of inflation that resulted from the economic slack and large business inventories.

The sharp drop in wage and salary income, as a result of rising unemployment and cuts in working hours, has been partly offset by the automatic operation of the unemployment insurance system and by extended unemployment benefits, enacted by Congress.

The average unemployment benefit payment has been under $70 per week in the early months of this year. But total benefits have been running at a yearly rate of about $14.5 billion—about $600 million per month more than in the same period of 1974. The operation of SUB plans, under several major collective bargaining agreements, also helped to prevent the collapse of incomes.

The emergency tax cut, which the AFL-CIO supported, began to put a large amount of money into the economy. Tax rebates of $8.1 billion have been distributed—mostly in May. Payments of $50 each to social security and railroad retirement recipients have been distributed, most of them in June—the total amount is $1.7 billion. Reduced withholding from paychecks, effective on May 1, and some additional reductions of personal taxes are adding further to consumer incomes.

Between May 1 and Dec. 31, 1975, the estimated total boost to consumer incomes from the tax measure comes to $18.6 billion. More than half of this amount went out in May and June.

However, the drop in consumer purchasing power has been so great in the past two years that the effects of the tax cut offset only part of it. The measure's boost to consumer incomes is scheduled to decline in the second-half of 1975 and to fade away during 1976, unless the reduced withholding (amounting to $7.8 billion between May 1 and Dec. 31, 1975) is extended for 1976.

A small federally-funded public service employment program for the unemployed has provided about 300,000 jobs in the first-half of 1975 and the release of some impounded funds cushioned the sharp decline in construction and related industries, despite the slow pace of implementation by the government agencies.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS seem to indicate that the tax cut and other government actions have slowed the pace of the recessionary decline. But these government measures—plus the slower rate of inflation—have not been enough to generate a rapid enough pick-up to bring down unemployment quickly.

The major areas of the economy that are still particularly weak —like steel, machinery, building materials, autos, industrial construction and housing—indicate the special need for measures such as large-scale public works types of programs (accelerated public works and railroad track beds) and housing; the extension of reduced withholding through 1976; much lower interest rates on mortgages and long-term loans.

A rise in the OPEC price of crude oil in the coming months, on top of the $2 per barrel import duty already imposed by the President—and the Administration's threat to deregulate the prices of "old" domestic oil and natural gas and to impose another $1 per barrel tariff on imported crude oil—the combination of most of such events in the next few months can extend the recession and worsen the already bleak employment-unemployment outlook.

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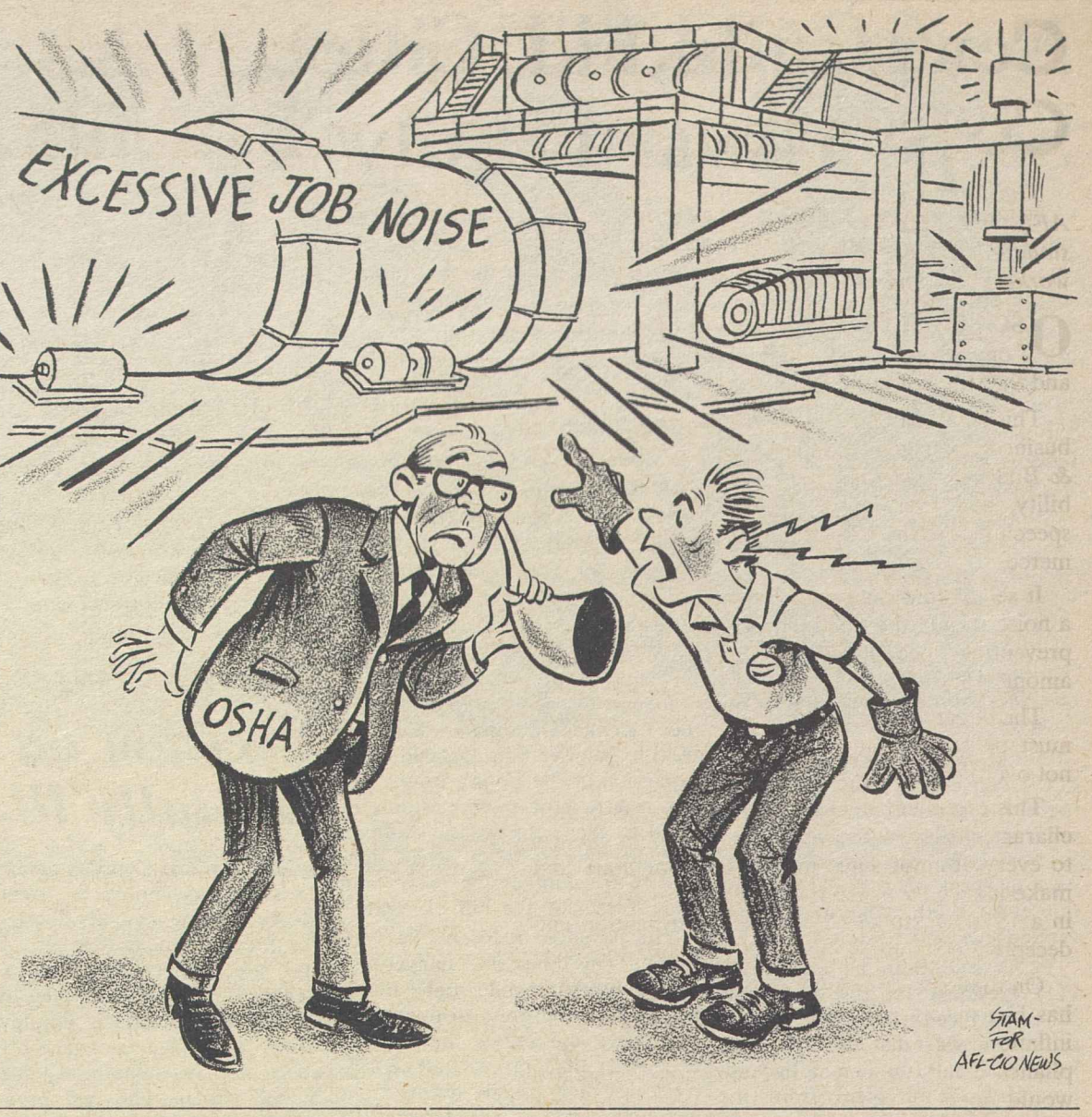


A Word Edgewise:

Foreign Policy Unit Comes Up With $2 Million Marshmallow

By John P. Roche

TWO YEARS AGO Congress and President Nixon cooperated to establish the Commission on the Organization of the Government for the Conduct of Foreign Policy, known as the Murphy Commission after its chairman, former Under Sec. of State Robert D. Murphy. The 12-member body, composed of eminent citizens drawn from Congress and the private sector, was notable from the outset for the absence of "boat-rockers."

Its chairman, who spent most of his life in the Foreign Service, was famous for never ending up on the high end of a see-saw. "Bob," as one of his former colleagues put it, "always kept his shoes shined." Indeed, the "Murphy cable" was considered something of an art form. In the words of the same critic, "You would finish three pages of 'Top Secret,' 'Nodis' (the highest general classification, not for distribution) prose without ever finding a hard recommendation."

Well, there have been two years of hearings and discussions costing $2 million, and the commission has produced a marshmallow. The closest it comes to a hard recommendation is to suggest that the President's national security adviser should not also be Secretary of State. I have been making this pitch in season and out ever since Henry Kissinger grabbed both jobs. But the commission knows that Kissinger is sensitive and goes out of its way to indicate that he is great and the proposed separation should await his departure from government.

In addition, there is a lot of playing with the erector set, upgrading liaison officers with the Pentagon, improving the status of the Arms Control & Disarmament Agency, taking the Voice of America out of the United States Information Agency, renaming the Central Intelligence Agency the Foreign Intelligence Agency, and the like. For this we spent $2 million? (A much better job was done at trivial expense several years ago by a dissident group of Foreign Service officers.) Indeed, the report got so bland that Mike Mansfield, the mild Montana monk, dissented with uncharacteristic virulence, stating flatly that the whole exercise was a waste of the taxpayers' money.

There is an optimistic side, however. The $2 million was injected into the gross national product and a number of staffers were kept off welfare —or perhaps on what might be called super-welfare. But in balance it's a shame because the conduct of foreign relations desperately needs sharp analysis. You can't reform the immensely clumsy aparatus we now have by playing games with tables of organization.

Take the eternal problem of coordination. Since every agency in Washington—with the possible exception of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation—is in the foreign policy business, any State Dept. recommendation has to be "cleared" with other interested parties (Treasury, Defense, perhaps even the Fish & Wildlife Service). The result is that the department's advice is invariably watered down by the paralysis of prudence. (In my files I have a memo with 28 clearances!) Defense has its private state department: International Security Affairs. How do you cut through this labyrinth?

WHEN WALTER BEDELL SMITH was under secretary, it was easy: One of his former aides tells of Gen. Smith picking up the White House phone and bellowing, "God damn it, Ike, I don't care what Defense says—you know as well as I do they can't add." Gen. George Marshall and Dean Acheson had a similar personal relationship with President Truman, and it is generally agreed that during the Marshall-Acheson years the State Dept. achieved preeminence in the conduct of foreign relations.

During the Kennedy-Johnson years, Defense, dominated by the zeal of Sec. Robert McNamara, moved to center stage. If Sec. of State Dean Rusk had been a tiger, perhaps he could have held the line. But Rusk had a constitutional aversion to internal brawling and wound up essentially as personal adviser to President Johnson, who found his incisive intelligence invaluable. State, as a functioning coordinator of policy, languished in the shadows, which grew even darker with the ascension of Henry Kissinger and personalized diplomacy.

What this adds up to is that the role of State depends almost entirely on the character of the secretary and his top subordinates. If powerful, intelligent persons hold the top jobs, have the President's trust, and spend their time running the store rather than wandering around the world, the department will thrive. Where do I send my bill for $2 million?

Dollars vs. Values:

Costs of Reducing Job Noise Counterbalanced by Benefits

The following is excerpted from testimony by AFL-CIO Vice President I. W. Abel on noise standards on behalf of the AFL-CIO, the Steelworkers and a number of other unions.

OSCAR WILDE ONCE DEFINED a cynic as one who understands the cost of everything and the value of nothing.

This statement can be applied to the position of business management, the Office of Management & Budget, the Council on Wage and Price Stability, and President Ford himself, in a recent speech before the United States Chamber of Commerce.

It seems that their sole consideration in setting a noise standard is its dollar cost, and its value in preventing occupational injuries or illnesses among working people is of secondary concern.

The debate should be over what exposure levels must be set to control workplace noise hazards, not over the cost.

This argument is not a new one. It has been a characteristic reaction by the business community to every attempt since the 1880s to regulate and make it socially accountable. Now it is dressed up in a 1970s costume with more sophistication and deceptive economics, but with the same message.

On the issue of occupational noise, the old song has had new verses added to it to reflect present inflation and mass unemployment and how compliance even with a minimum noise standard would open the inflation throttle several notches and cause additional unemployment. This is nothing more than environmental blackmail.

At issue here is business management's effort to set a pattern in OSHA standard-making that will continue mainly to require workers and society in general to pay for the occupational hazards despite the contrary and clear intent of Congress in passing the Occupational Safety & Health Act. And that clear intent was that OSHA set standards to protect workers fully from work hazards; not partially or depending on the cost.

The approach of the economic impact studies and the testimony of the spokesmen for the Council on Wage and Price Stability, is one-sided and open to challenge. They ignore the other side of the ledger, that is other costs to industry and costs to the worker and society from failure to prevent the hazards of occupational noise.

What are these other costs to industry? An important one is, for instance, workers' compensation claims for hearing loss. Even with the inadequate workers' compensation laws operating in many states, the average claim appears to be in the neighborhood of $2,000. A paper presented before this year's meeting of the American Acoustical Society by Glen Warnaka and two co-authors, cited averages of $2,656 in Oregon and $2,504 in Wisconsin in 1974. With about 10 million production workers exposed to noise levels in excess of 85 decibels, the potential compensation liability could be about $20 billion.

Another cost to management which has not been pinpointed is absenteeism from stress caused by noise. Every day of absenteeism costs management something in lost production. If absenteeism from noise stress would account for just one-half day of total production loss, estimated by an HEW study as six days per year per employe, the elimination of excessive noise could save industry $5 billion annually.

Other indirect costs to industry caused by excessive noise include lower productivity and increased occupational injuries caused by high noise levels or artificial deafness due to hearing protectors. A recent study of causes of 25 fatalities in railroad accidents by the Federal Railroad Administration showed the common factor was the workers' unawareness of the approach of the railroad cars or equipment that struck them. Many of these workers, the study pointed, out, were working under exposure to a high level of noise.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS to workers themselves? One of these is turning a productive worker into a deaf person who must be supported by society. In cases of partial hearing loss from noise exposure, there is the possibility that an employer will either dismiss the employe or summarily transfer him to a job with lower pay, loss of seniority rights, and less responsibility.

How do we put a price tag on hearing loss? Does $2,000 adequately compensate a worker who can no longer communicate with others, listen to music, or enjoy the everyday sounds of life?

As for the costs to society, they are indicated but not known. Products produced in a noise work environment bear a price that does not adequately reflect either direct or indirect costs to industry, the costs to workers and economic inefficiency. It is quite possible that identical products can be produced with less noise, but until there is a firm standard in being and endorsed, this cost is unknown.

While these costs I have described are ignored, underplayed, or rejected, the projected costs of abating excessive noise levels have been grossly overestimated.

The time for decision is now. There is no need for a restudy, simply because all aspects of economic impact have not been examined to the nth degree. There is enough at hand to proceed with a strong standard.

Administration 'Hogwash':

Jobless Figures Refute Claim Recession Has 'Bottomed-Out'

THE AFL-CIO's CHIEF ECONOMIST branded Administration claims that the recession has bottomed out as "hogwash" and warned that the economy will sink even lower before true recovery sets in.

Research Director Nat Goldfinger said that statistics or other signs that the "longest and deepest" recession since the 1930s "has reached the bottom" just don't exist. He said the "bottomed-out" claim won't be valid until the decline of industrial production and real gross national product has been halted for a few months and there is a sharp cutback of unemployment, "the most tragic aspect of this recession." Goldfinger appeared on the AFL-CIO produced network radio interview, Labor News Conference.

"Even optimists like Mr. Greenspan (chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers) admit that unemployment is going to remain high," Goldfinger stressed. He pointed out that the Administration's budget review projected three years of the highest unemployment levels since 1941, running through 1977. And he said there is a strong chance that unemployment in the next few months will soar even higher than the 9.2 percent level reached in May, when 8.5 million people were on the official unemployment rolls.

Goldfinger said the Ford Administration has "an obsession" with the size of the budget deficit and has put a straitjacket on job-creation and other economic stimulators. He said the return of people to work would mean "more business sales and more income . . . more savings and more investments . . . greater tax receipts for the government, reduced unemployment benefits and other social costs of joblessness."

HE REJECTED the contention that the needed stimulation would be inflationary. That "threat . . . simply is not in the picture" now; it is "certainly far away in some long-distant future, if at all," he asserted. He said that with depression-level unemployment and manufacturing operating at only 68 percent of capacity, "we have to move . . . a tremendous distance . . . before we bump up against anything like limits on expansion."

Goldfinger was questioned by Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times and Hobart Rowen of the Washington Post. The program is aired Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting Network.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

WHEN THERE WAS some talk last year about electing a veto-proof Congress many conservatives became quite exercised at the idea that the Congress—two-thirds of the Congress—would be able to override presidential vetoes.

Today there is a Congress that generally is capable of passing needed emergency legislation but is incapable of mustering the two-thirds vote necessary to override presidential vetoes.

In the second session of the 93rd Congress President Ford vetoed 24 bills. In only four cases were the vetoes overridden.

In the first session of the 94th Congress, up to the July 4 recess, the President vetoed six measures. In four instances, an attempt was made to override but all four lost:

- To provide one-year increases in farm price supports and income guarantees.
- To regulate strip-mining of coal.
- To reduce unemployment by stimulating the creation of more than one million jobs.
- To provide emergency assistance to the housing industry by subsidizing mortgage interest rates for middle income families.

These were not just ordinary bills. They were emergency measures drawn up during a period of severe economic crisis. And with unemployment remaining at a very high level and the economy still very much in the depths of recession, moves by the Congress to meet the emergency have been largely nullified.

The Democratic Study Group of the House of Representatives has issued a special report that reviews the history of attempts to override presidential vetoes.

The DSG says there have been 32 veto override votes in the past two decades and 11 have been successful—about one out of three.

These include seven attempts to override Eisenhower's vetoes with two being successful. Congress attempted to override Nixon's vetoes 13 times but in only five instances were they successful. Of 12 attempts to override Ford vetoes, four have been successful.

Kennedy did not make use of the veto and no attempts were made by the Democratic Congresses to override Johnson's vetoes.

THE DSG STUDY of the last 20 years provides an analysis of party voting on the 31 attempts to override. The 32nd, the housing veto, was not included in the report.

It shows that Democrats, as could be expected, voted in favor of overriding all 31 vetoes. On the 11 successful efforts, an average of 86 percent of all Democrats voted to override while 80 percent voted in favor on the 20 unsuccessful efforts.

Override efforts have succeeded only when large numbers of Republicans voted to override. On the 11 successful efforts, an average of 60 percent of all Republicans voted in favor of overriding while on the 20 unsuccessful efforts, 74 percent of all Republicans voted against overriding.

On the first three unsuccessful efforts in 1975, listed above, there were more Democratic than Republican defections.

Prior to 1975, an average of 20 Democrats, or 8 percent, defected on overrides; on the three 1975 vetoes, an average of 50 Democrats, or 18 percent, defected. By comparison, Republican defections dropped from an average of 62, or 32 percent per vote, to 36, or 24 percent per vote.

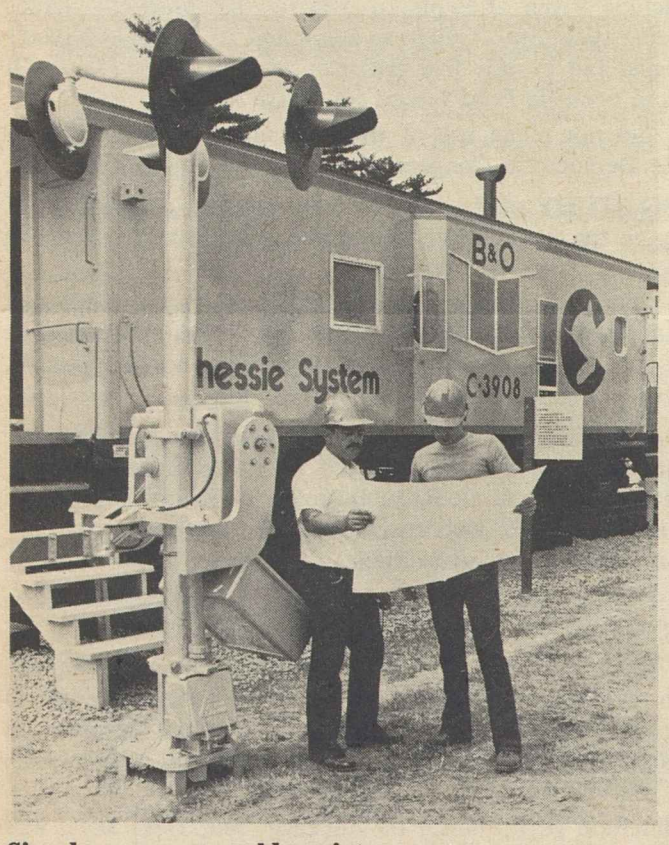
The Democratic performance on the farm bill, DSG says, was the worst in two decades with 71 Democrats, or 25 percent, voting to sustain the veto. The strip mining vote wasn't much better.

Republicans held their ranks well above average on the farm and jobs bills while party performance on strip mining was average. The jobs and strip mining vetoes could not have been sustained without the no votes of 48 Republicans who had supported one or both of the measures when they passed the House.

However, DSG points out that all three 1975 failures would have succeeded if Democrats who voted no on override had refrained from voting. The jobs bill, which lost by three votes, would have passed by 35.

HOGWASH was the label AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger put on the Administration's claim that the recession has bottomed out. Questioning him on Labor News Conference were Hobart Rowen, left, of the Washington Post and Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times.

Festival stage was the focal point for a wide range of musical offerings.



Signalmen pore over blueprint of trackside signal hookup.

Freight train model captivates these young festival-goers.

Union Skills Keep U.S. Moving

The Festival of American Folklife, now a permanent part of the summer scene in the nation's capital, focused this year on the country's transportation workers—the men and women who keep America moving.

Eight participating unions, five of them affiliated with the AFL-CIO, provided visitors glimpses of the folklore and skills of railroad workers, air traffic controllers, deep sea and inland boatmen, commercial aircraft machinists and maintenance workers, and trucking workers.

An estimated 700,000 visitors from all over the United States turned out for the event, held annually on a 50-acre stretch of the Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. This year's was the ninth edition of the festival.

Divided into four main groupings—"Working Americans," "Native Americans," "Regional Americans," and "Old Ways in the New World"—the 1975 festival represented one of the largest living history programs ever presented on one site.

In the Working Americans section, members of the Seafarers demonstrated wire splicing and knot tying skills. Railroad Signalmen showed how an electro-mechanical crossing gate and trackside signal operate.

A four-car train, together with a locomotive mockup, were set on 288 feet of railroad track, enabling Maintenance of Way Employees and members of the United Transportation Union and the unaffiliated Locomotive Engineers to demonstrate their skills.

At simulated work sites, members of other unions —the Machinists and the unaffiliated Teamsters and Air Traffic Controllers Association—shared their unique occupational lore.

On the Working Americans stage, the Musicians —through the Music Performance Trust Funds— sponsored songs and music growing out of the work experience. The trust funds were set up by the recording industries under agreements with the AFM.

On the Fourth of July, near the end of the festival's two-week stand, the Ladies' Garment Workers exhibited for the first time a mural painted by members of several ILGWU affiliates in New York City.

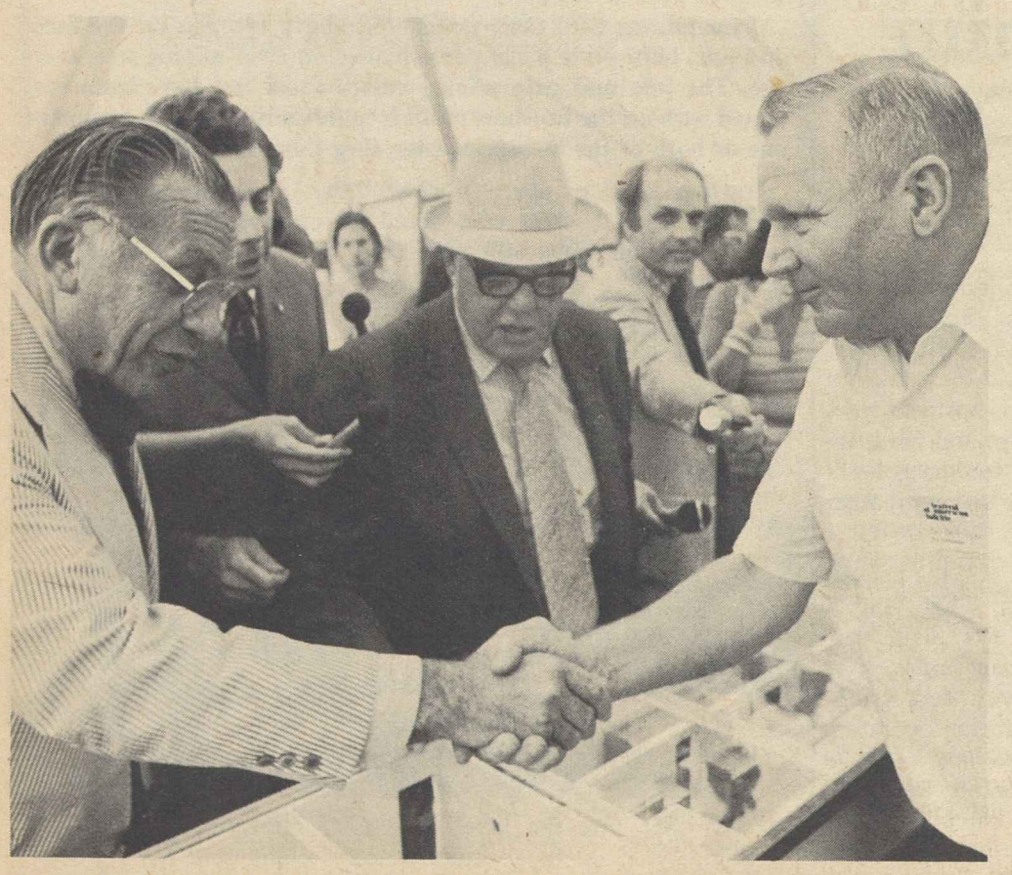
Midway in the festival, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop toured the exhibit area. The Working Americans section was the result of cooperative efforts of the federation and the U.S. Departments of Labor and Transportation.

Meany noted that when he was a boy "workers and their work were out in the open, all around you. In every town youngsters could watch blacksmiths or railroad men or telegraphers at work.

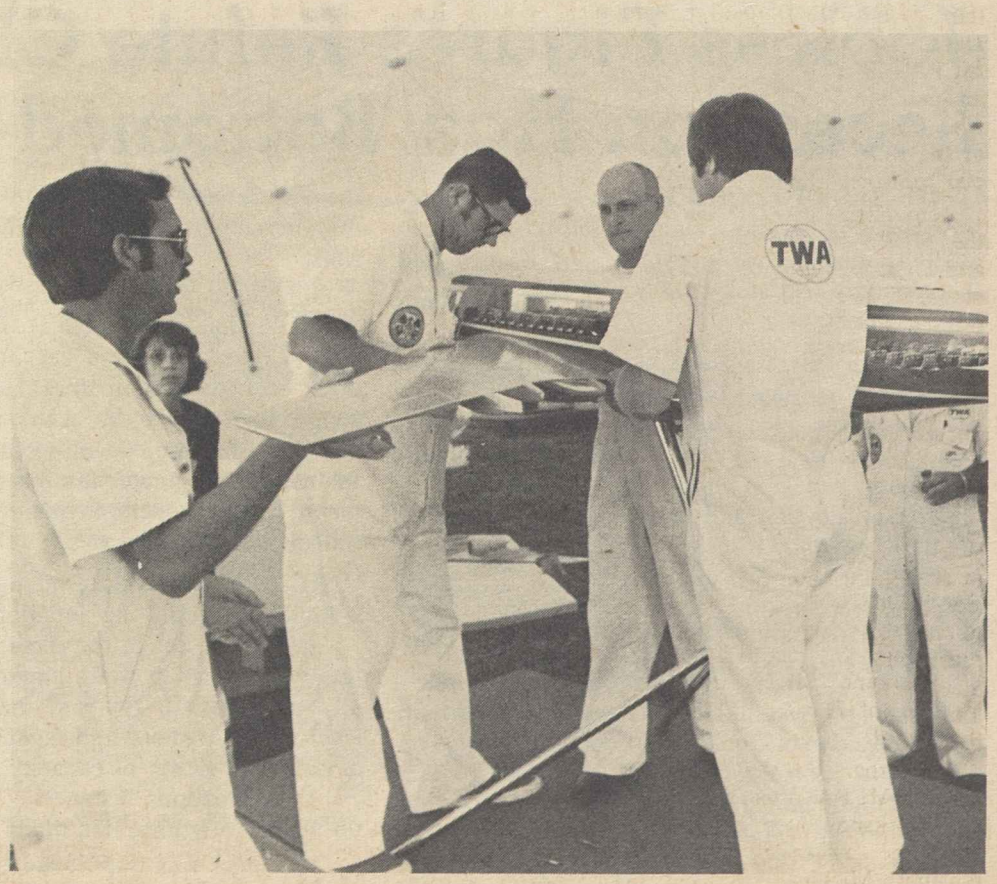
"Now everything is done behind high factory walls or behind office doors," he said. "It's great for youngsters to come here and see how workers go about earning their living and doing the nation's work.

"It lets them see how the work of this world gets done," Meany said.

Overall sponsors of the festival are the Smithsonian Institution and the National Park Service which already are planning the 1976 Bicentennial festival, an event that will run for 12 weeks starting on June 16.



Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop greets Seafarer Bill Bellinger, crew member of the Mayaguez, as President Meany inspects SIU exhibit.



Members of the Machinists assemble a mockup of a 747 jetliner at the Working Americans exhibit area.

'Justice—Not Dollars':

Phony Arguments on Costs Obscure Real Health Issues

The fight for national health insurance is, first of all, a battle for public understanding and so far—at least on issues of cost—the people have been confused, Harvard Medical School Prof. Rashi Fein observes in the June issue of the Federationist.

Spokesmen for the Ford Administration and special interest groups who argue the country cannot afford health insurance for all obscure the real issue, Fein charges in the AFL-CIO magazine.

"The argument that the economy cannot accommodate itself to national health insurance, that it represents an increase in total expenditures and that we have to put national health insurance on the back burner because it is inflationary is false and deceptive," Fein declares. His article is excerpted from a paper he presented to a recent Washington, D.C., conference on Health Security.

"It is an argument without merit, and it does not become any more persuasive when we are told there is no such thing as a free lunch. There isn't and we know it.

"But this is a lunch that is already being paid for," Fein points out, noting that the United States spent $104 billion in 1974 for health care, $63 billion in private expenditures alone.

So the issue is a non-issue, Fein says. The question, can we as a people afford national health insurance, really means, can we afford to spend what we are already spending—"and surely the answer is 'yes.'"

The real issues, he asserts, are "whether we are getting what we should for our money, and whether the present arrangement which makes health expenditures depend on a family's income are fair, just and humane."

Make no mistake about it, Fein urges his readers: the crux of the matter is not about dollars but about justice for all.

"Those who opposed the Social Security Act, disability insurance or Medicare were not really arguing about money but about how the pie is shared," he observes. "And the same is the case with national health insurance."

The real question, he says, "is whether resources shall be allocated so that everyone receives his fair share in a system in which the use of medical care is related to medical need, or whether we shall continue, as in the past, to ration care on the basis of income."

National health insurance is within our means, Fein asserts.

"We can finance Health Security because we are already financing health care," he notes. "We are not so poor that we cannot afford one of the hallmarks of a civilized society—the right to health care regardless of income."

Fein also stresses that national health insurance would be a better way of spending the dollars that are already being spent for medical care.

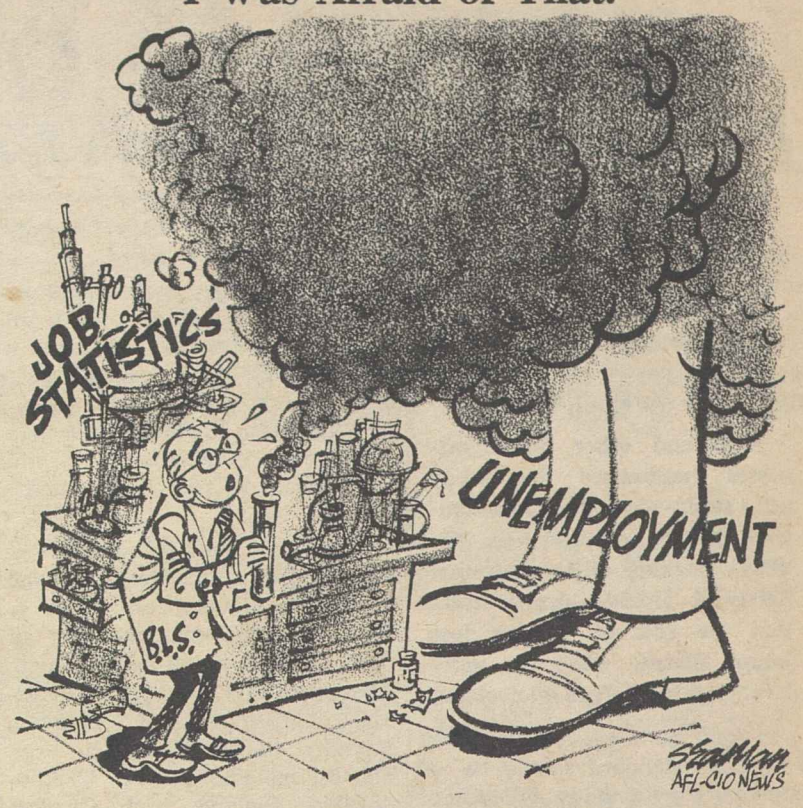
"I am convinced that we can have a well run system of health care that, by eliminating present waste and inefficiency, can provide care for all the people with fewer resources than are now providing care for only some of the people," he observes.

Private financing, operating with private insurance principles, clearly has not met the public's health care problems, Fein says.

"We needed social security. We needed Medicare. We got them because those who fought for those programs understood the basic issues involved. The same issues lie at the heart of the fight for national health insurance."

Once the battle of public understanding is won, Fein declares, justice and decency will favor national health insurance and a bill will be enacted and signed into law.

'I Was Afraid of That!'



Ford's Economic Policy Assailed as Anti-Worker

Marquette, Mich.—The Ford Administration has chosen to put the American worker through an "economic meatgrinder," to make him "expendable," in the hopes of beating inflation, AFL-CIO Vice President I. W. Abel charged in a speech to members of the Midwest Labor Press Association.

"It is crystal-clear by now that the Ford Administration gives lip service to jobs for the jobless but it continues to worship at the altar of Adam Smith," the profit-minded 18th-Century classical economist, Abel noted.

"We say the worst unemployment rate in 34 years is the result of actions by man, and it must be undone by man through legislation to put America back to work," said Abel, president of the Steelworkers.

Calling for enactment of the AFL-CIO's program to restore the nation's economic health, Abel said that "what we need, in effect, is a modern-day duplication of Roosevelt's 100 days of far-reaching social reform" during the 1930s.

Abel, who is also president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., was here to receive the MLPA's Eugene V. Debs plaque, an annual award given to those who best exemplify the principles of the great turn-of-the century social reformer and labor editor.

Reminding the 220 persons at the MLPA banquet that both he and Debs at one time were editors of local union publications, Abel praised the labor press for doing "an outstanding job of keeping members informed." Without union publications, he said, the trade union movement could not have been organized or have survived and grown.

In granting the Debs award to Abel, MLPA cited his leadership in getting the recent landmark pension reform law passed, his support of labor press activities and his presidency of the IUD and the Steelworkers. MLPA Pres. Rose Tadlock of Denver presented him the award.

More than 100 delegates attended the MLPA annual conference and workshop held in connection with the award presentation at Northern Michigan University here. Speakers included Michigan State AFL-CIO Pres. William Marshall; State AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Walter Campbell; B. G. Culver, labor liaison with the National Council for Crime & Delinquency, and Dorothy Shields of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education.

James Ragazino of Steelworkers Local 1010 in Canton, Ohio, was elected MLPA's new president for a two-year term. Allen Williams of Machinists District Lodge 837 in Hazelwood, Mo., was elected executive secretary.

Re-elected were Sec.-Treas. George Thorp of State, County & Municipal Employees Local 1583, Ann Arbor, Mich., and Executive Vice President Richard Holmes of the Lansing, Mich., Labor News.

Labor Calls for Testing Of Hazardous Chemicals

(Continued from Page 1)

it wasn't adopted then, he said, since in recent years there has been "one health crisis after another."

Biemiller's statement, presented to a House Commerce subcommittee on consumer protection by Legislative Rep. Howard McGuigan, urged that priority in testing be given to substances known to present hazards to workers.

It expressed labor's concern that, with thousands of chemicals and chemical compounds used by industry, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration has to date "promulgated only three health standards dealing with toxic materials—asbestos, 10 carcinogens and vinyl chlorides."

Biemiller suggested that the legislation direct the Environmental Protection Agency to provide OSHA with all relevant data when it determines that a chemical substance poses an "unreasonable risk."

He urged inclusion in the bill of special assistance to any workers whose jobs might be eliminated because of curbs on hazardous substances. But Biemiller scoffed at a claim by Dow Chemical that the legislation would be "inflationary" and "have a negative impact on jobs."

Biemiller noted that last year, when OSHA proposed a standard to protect workers against deadly vinyl chloride, there were forecasts by industry that as many as 2 million jobs would be lost if this were done.

The vinyl chloride standard was sustained in the Supreme Court, Biemiller noted, and "we have not seen any public announcement by the industry of any job losses directly attributable to the standard."

The AFL-CIO statement added that Dow Chemical is hardly in a position to talk about possible loss of jobs since "it has already exported many thousands of them by locating a large part of its capital investment abroad."

Biemiller's testimony stressed that the legislation is concerned with "chemicals that kill or permanently disable scores of thousands of American working men and women every year." He called on Congress to "take swift and positive action to protect the public from these killers."

Five-Union Bargaining Brings Square D Pact

A coordinated bargaining agreement covering some 5,000 workers represented by five unions has been reached with Square D Corp. at 21 of the firm's plants in 14 states.

The settlement, the first coordinated bargaining agreement with the Chicago-based electrical products manufacturer, provides an average annual increase of 12.3 percent in wages and fringe benefits over a three-year period.

Of the 24 separate contracts involved in the complicated bargaining, 21 already have been ratified by locals of the five unions—the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Machinists, Pattern Makers, Molders and the Auto Workers.

Until this year, the company had negotiated on a plant-by-plant basis. The new settlement was hammered out with the aid of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., which represented all the unions involved.

"One of the most important aspects of the agreement is that it achieves almost total equalization of benefits," IUD's Carlin Allen, the chief negotiator, observed.

Wage increases are the same under each contract—40 cents an hour the first year and 20 cents in each of the other two years. On a percentage basis, total wages will rise an average 16.6 percent in the first year, 10 percent the second and 10.4 percent the third.

In addition, a cost-of-living provision—the first with Square D—will provide up to 15 cents in each year of the pact. The provision calls for a 1-cent hourly increase for every rise of three-tenths of a point in the consumer price index, with the first payout scheduled for December of this year.

The company also agreed to compress the spread of contract termination dates at the various plant locations to three months, from July 1 to Oct. 1, 1978. Expiration dates of the old contracts ranged from June 2 to Dec. 20, 1975.

The new contracts equalize nearly all fringe benefits, including pensions, group insurance, paid holidays and vacation schedules.

The new contracts—retroactive to July 1 — cover production and maintenance workers, tool and die men and warehouse employes at the following locations: Milwaukee; Secaucus, N.J.; Ferro, Helena, Leeds and Clanton, Ala.; Detroit; Oxford, Toledo and Middleton, Ohio; Peru, Ind.; Denver; Lexington and Florence, Ky.; Seattle; Dallas; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Chicago; Lincoln, Neb., and Atlanta.

Square D produces electrical construction goods, including switch boxes, switch gears, circuit breakers, switchboards and electrical connectors.

New Department Fills Staff Posts

Three new staff appointments to the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. have been announced by President W. Howard McClennan.

John E. Cosgrove, most recently urban affairs director for the U.S. Catholic Conference and a former labor educator, will be the department's director of legislation.

Rick M. Galleher, a member of the AFL-CIO research staff and chairman of the Federal Employees Pay Council, has been named director of research.

Michael Grace, who has been assistant information director for the Laborers, is the department's public relations director. The new staff members will work with the department's executive director, John A. McCart.

Karth Sees 'Neglect' of Age Bias Law

Rep. Joseph E. Karth (D-Minn.) charged that the Age Discrimination Act of 1967 is being neglected and inadequately enforced by the Labor Dept.

While the law applies directly to 36,700,000 American working men and women between the ages of 40 and 65, "it has never been given the opportunity of serving and protecting them," Karth said.

He noted that more than 1 million businesses, industries, federal, state and local governments are now covered by the statute but that "only a tiny fraction have had occasion to be checked by the Labor Dept."

Karth said that in 1974 only 7,535 businesses and industries were investigated for violations. In 277 of these establishments, he said, monetary violations were found affecting 1,648 employes. In 110 of them, income amounting to $2.5 million was restored to 637 employes.

Cost Arguments Rejected:

Labor Demands Protection From Harmful Noise Levels

(Continued from Page 1)

able evidence, that no employe will suffer material impairment of health or functional capacity even if such employe has regular exposure to the hazard . . . for the period of his working life."

Abel and other union witnesses emphasized that study after study—including data compiled by the government's National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health—demonstrates that the risk of hearing loss jumps sharply when the noise level rises from 85 to 90 decibels.

In fact, he suggested, an initial 85-decibel standard should be accompanied by a thorough study of the technical feasibility of lowering the level to 75 decibels.

As for technical feasibility, Abel noted that significant lowering of noise levels has been achieved by relatively minor changes in machine design, such as substituting one material for another and taking measures to reduce vibration.

"But what incentive is there for a manufacturer to produce equipment meeting a limit of 85 decibels when the standard calls for only 90 decibels?" Abel asked.

Abel and other union witnesses stressed that ear plugs to be worn by workers cannot be considered a substitute for noise control technology. They "cannot and must not be regarded as anything more than a temporary control measure until engineering devices can be used," he said.

As for the industry contention, supported by a statement from the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability, that the cost of noise control would be too high, Abel noted that many major industrial countries presently limit noise exposure to an 85-decibel level. The list includes Austria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, both German republics, South Africa, Sweden and Soviet Russia, with Australia in the process of conversion.

Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, Rubber Workers President Peter Bommarito and Machinists Vice President William Winpisinger were among the first group of union witnesses. Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts presented a statement, and union occupational health directors and consultants from a number of unions testified or were scheduled to testify.

Bommarito, appearing for the Industrial Union Dept., sharply criticized OSHA's apparent acceptance of management estimates of the high cost of reducing noise without consideration of the cost to workers of not doing so.

He cited a recent study in Minnesota indicating that more than half of the employers questioned would not normally hire a deaf worker for a production job.

Woodcock termed excess noise the "most pervasive of the many job hazards" that auto workers face.

Audiograms demonstrate, he testified, that UAW members "are being hammered and jolted into the group of Americans who today have measurable loss of hearing due to noise and who will suffer a lifelong impairment to their health."

Winpisinger said the "moans and groans" of industry about the cost of reducing noise levels must be measured against the "permanent damage" already done to workers whose hearing has been destroyed or impaired.

In the CWA statement, Watts compared the industry argument for ear plugs to the issue of aircraft noise levels. If people in the vicinity of airports wore ear plugs 24 hours a day, they might be better protected. But there would then be no incentive to design less noisy aircraft.

The union witnesses sharply criticized the "environmental blackmail" that some companies have indulged in, using threats of closing down to head off compliance with pollution or safety and health standards.

Abel noted that the business community has fought every form of social regulation over the years, and is now using inflation and unemployment as an argument against even a moderate noise standard.

Instead of giving in to this "environmental blackmail," Abel said, the Labor Dept. should implement the Occupational Safety & Health Act "as Congress intended and as the workers demand."

UNION WITNESSES were unanimous in protesting that the on-the-job noise level allowed under the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's proposed standard would damage the hearing of many workers. Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, left, consults with Steelworkers President I. W. Abel who opened the union presentation.

City, State Fiscal Woes Squeeze Jobs, Salaries

(Continued from Page 1)

Massachusetts state employes were demonstrating against the governor's refusal to grant a scheduled wage increase and his plans to lay off 1,000 workers. In California, members of the Service Employees and other unions were engaged in a number of city and county strikes and protests. City bus drivers were on strike in Nebraska and Iowa; unions representing public workers in New Jersey and Rhode Island were battling layoffs and wage freezes; the Georgia legislature was considering whether to cancel or merely postpone cost-of-living increases for teachers and other public employes.

But increasingly, the financial strains that drive a wider wedge between public worker unions and elected officials on their home turf have been bringing the two groups into closer alliance in another set of negotiations.

They are seeking, through common lobbying efforts increased federal financial aid to enable cities to survive the twin blows of heavy unemployment and inflation. And if the actual survival of the states isn't at stake, certainly the ability to provide an adequate level of services has been seriously threatened.

Mayors and unions are on the same side of the table in urging Congress and a veto-prone President to support an emergency package of financial aid.

At the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Boston, big city mayors led the call for two funding programs in addition to the normal level of revenue-sharing appropriations. They urged the emergency $2 billion "counter-cyclical" aid Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Me.) has proposed for cities and states with high unemployment. And they urged Senate approval and presidential acceptance of a House-passed $2.5 billion public works bill.

Just a few days earlier, the AFL-CIO's new Public Employee Dept. had summed up the need for such aid in a statement to a House committee considering the financial emergencies of the cities.

The labor statement noted that cities and states are being forced to curtail essential services at the same time that the impact of the recession has enlarged the need for public services.

"As a result of inflation and recession," the unions said, "citizens are confronted with undermanned fire and police protection, uncollected garbage, curtailed education activity, reduced health services, diminished consumer protection. . . ."

President Ford invited the mayors to meet with him in Washington. But Administration officials attending the mayors' conference made it clear that the White House isn't prepared to go along with a large-scale anti-recession program of aid to the cities and states.

Before the latest recession, cities and states had appeared to be achieving financial stability. Their aggregate budget had showed a $4 billion surplus in 1972 and was balanced in 1973, according to a congressional Joint Economic Committee study.

But the recession and inflation combination led to a $7.5 billion deficit in 1974 and current estimates point to a combined city-state revenue deficiency of more than $20 billion for this year.

7-12-75

New Hampshire Dispute Still Deadlocks Senate

A Democratic compromise offer has failed to break the Senate's stalemate over procedures for resolving a New Hampshire election dispute.

At issue is whether the Senate will decide the winner of last November's senatorial election or abandon the attempt as Republicans want and direct that a new election be held. Both Democrat John A. Durkin and Republican Louis C. Wyman have at various times been certified winners by state authorities. An official state recount ruled Durkin a 10-vote winner. A Republican-controlled state ballot commission said Wyman won by two votes.

Republicans, outnumbered in the Senate, have resorted to a filibuster to prevent the Senate from deciding the issue. Defections by three southern Democrats have blocked the 60-vote margin required under Senate rules to cut off a filibuster.

Democratic Majority Leader Mike Mansfield proposed a compromise solution for resolving the thorniest issue in the ballot disputes — how to count paper ballots on which a voter has checked a party designation that ordinarily would mean a vote for each of the party's candidates, but also checked the names of every individual candidate except the party's senatorial candidate.

In the group of disputed ballots being considered by the Senate are eight which were initially counted for Wyman even though his was the only name "skipped" by the voter. If they were thrown out, Durkin would almost certainly be the winner.

Wyman has contended that "hundreds" of such ballots in which Durkin's name was skipped by Democratic voters were counted in New Hampshire, and not challenged by Republicans.

The Mansfield compromise proposal was to have the General Accounting Office scan the 185,000 paper ballots that are being stored and remove all in which the senatorial candidate is the only unchecked name. If Wyman's contention were accurate, he would emerge the undisputed winner.

Republicans considered and rejected the offer. Two subsequent attempts to invoke cloture — the fourth and fifth tries to end the filibuster—continued to fall three votes short.

The filibuster hasn't prevented the Senate from acting on other business; it has been on a two-track schedule in which the election dispute is set aside daily for other bills.

Otherwise, the first days of Congress after an eight-day recess were marked largely by committee action.

Apart from the job-site picketing bill approved by the House Labor Committee, a labor-supported consumer bill moved a step forward. A House Government Operations subcommittee approved a bill to create an independent agency to represent consumers. It is similar to a bill that has already passed the Senate.

Worker Skills Theme Of Regional Festivals

The highly successful Working Americans section of the Festival of American Folklife will be expanded for next year's Bicentennial festival.

As a prelude to the 1976 show the Working Americans Bicentennial project will stage exhibits in five selected cities across the nation.

The regional programs, to be held in Los Angeles, Houston, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Hartford, Conn., and Birmingham, Ala., were conceived as a special project funded by the Labor Dept. and the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration through a grant to the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Education and the Smithsonian Institution also will lend their support to the project, which has been recognized by the ARBA as a National Bicentennial Program.

Under the project, Working Americans festivals will be held in each of the five cities from September to December. The festivals will be accompanied by training institutes designed to give local representatives an opportunity to see how they may mount similar exhibits in their own communities as Bicentennial projects for 1976.

The regional festivals, similar to the Working Americans section at the national folklife festival, will feature live worker demonstrations against a backdrop portraying the history of American workers. The experience gained from the regional programs will serve as examples for the 1976 phase of the project.

The AFL-CIO has participated in the Working Americans section at the national festival since 1971.

Chicago Democrat Wins House Seat

Chicago—A labor-endorsed Democrat won an easy victory in a special election to fill a congressional vacancy.

John D. Fary, a state representative, defeated the Rev. Francis X. Lawlor, a Catholic priest who won the Republican nomination with a write-in campaign.

The vacancy resulted from the death last January of Democrat John C. Kluczynski. The election of Fary brings the party division of the House to 290 Democrats and 145 Republicans—exactly two-thirds.

Solzhenitsyn Warns on Complacency

Sees U.S. Security In Danger

By James M. Shevis

New York—The United States cannot go on closing its eyes to the evils of "insatiable totalitarianism" and expect to live long in security, exiled Russian author Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn warned in a speech at an AFL-CIO luncheon in his honor here.

America and a few European democracies constitute a minority in a world already half overridden by communism, the Nobel Prize-winning novelist declared. How therefore can the West consider itself safe, he asked.

The Communists are out to "destroy your society," Solzhenitsyn charged. "This has been their aim for 125 years and has never changed; only the methods have changed a little."

Detente, the current Soviet tactic, is a sham, he told the 1,000 guests at the July 9 event.

"You want to believe, and you cut down on your armies. You cut down on your research," Solzhenitsyn said. Meanwhile, he observed, the Soviet leaders are not cutting down on anything but are studying the West for vulnerabilities to force a wedge and split it asunder.

Imploring the U.S. to abandon this policy of so-called detente, and to stop making economic concessions to the Communists, Solzhenitsyn at one point in his address asked in bounding tones:

"Must you wait until (communism) comes with a crowbar to break through your borders, until the young men of America have to fall defending the borders of their continent?"

AFL-CIO Sec. Treas. Lane Kirkland, who introduced the Soviet dissenter, described him as a man who "seeks to move a world that today seems far gone in madness and cowardice. . . .

"He stands as a living monumental reproach to all those statesmen and leaders who today raise the practice of abstention on basic moral issues to the level of high national policy."

Kirkland noted that Solzhenitsyn has devoted himself to the most elemental values of human dignity, human justice and human freedom, and said "the AFL-CIO is proud and honored to stand with him in that cause."

Invited to the U.S. by Federation President George Meany shortly after his exile from the Soviet Union in February 1974, Solzhe-

(Continued on Page 2)

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Meany Spurs Tax Justice, Hits Trickle-Down Policy

SOVIET DISSIDENT Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, addressing an AFL-CIO luncheon in his honor in New York, again denounced the U.S. government's policy of detente with the Communists. The Soviet slave labor system depends on economic assistance from the West, the exiled author declared. Solzhenitsyn was introduced to the 1,000 guests by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Loopholes For Rich Denounced

By David L. Perlman

AFL-CIO President George Meany pressed Congress to get on with the "unfinished business" of tax justice and to reject the Administration's "trickle-down" economic doctrine.

Top priority in tax reform should go to closing the capital gains loophole, Meany testified at House Ways & Means Committee hearings. He saw "no reason" why profits from investments should continue to be taxed at a lower rate than income from wages.

"Every dollar in taxes that isn't paid by wealthy individuals and corporations because of special privilege loopholes is one more dollar that must be paid by someone else," Meany said. "It's that simple."

Meany told the committee that tax fairness is also an effective tool for balanced economic growth. And he stressed, in both prepared testimony and in reply to questions, that mass purchasing power is the key to the nation's economic recovery.

The income tax cut enacted this year should be continued through 1976, Meany urged, to avoid the "depressing effect" of higher withholding taxes and reduced spendable earnings.

One of the decisions that must be made by the committee in pre-

(Continued on Page 3)

HMO Rules Held Affront To Union Role

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to enact a clarifying amendment correcting "a flagrant misinterpretation" of the Health Maintenance Organization Act that would require an employer to bypass a union and offer his workers a health care plan the union may find unacceptable.

Unless the "dual choice" provision of the 1973 law is changed to reflect the intent of Congress, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said, the law may lose the support of organized labor.

"It is essential that the HMO

(Continued on Page 2)

Inflation Threat Scored:

Congress Confronts Ford on Oil Prices

Congress sought to block a new inflationary spiral by keeping a lid on the price of oil produced in the United States.

Several overlapping bills were moving through Congress with a common goal of blocking President Ford's attempt to allow the price of domestic oil to rise rapidly to the heights arbitrarily set by Mideast oil producers.

A House-Senate conference agreed on a bill continuing controls and giving Congress a longer span to reject presidential actions to raise prices.

It cleared the Senate, 57-40, and was expected to win House approval. But it faces an almost certain presidential veto.

Meanwhile, the House opened debate on a bill drawn up by the House Commerce Committee which labor considers a superior alternative to Ford's decontrol plan.

It takes what AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller termed "a consumer-oriented approach" to energy shortages, and it would roll back further than the separate conference agreement bill the price of that portion of domestic oil that is not now controlled.

Instead of forcing up prices to lessen the nation's dependence on imported fuel, the House bill would rely on allocation, automobile fuel efficiency standards and other conservation measures.

Biemiller termed the Ford Administration plan "inflationary and recessionary."

It would allow oil that is now being produced at a ceiling price of $5.25 to escalate over a 30-month period to $13.50 a barrel, the going rate for Mideast oil.

A new surge in gasoline prices would be only a small part of the impact of such a price hike. The

(Continued on Page 8)

Unions Near Deadline on Postal Pacts

Three of the four unions jointly negotiating new contracts with the U.S. Postal Service summoned their national policy-making bodies to Washington for strategy sessions as the talks reached a critical stage and current agreements approached expiration.

Presidents James H. Rademacher of the Letter Carriers and Francis S. Filbey of the Postal Workers said there was a possibility the executive boards of their unions would meet in a joint emergency session. The two national committees are empowered to call a strike if such action were deemed necessary by union negotiators.

The Mail Handlers, a division of the Laborers, has called its policy-steering committee to the

(Continued on Page 8)

Right to Picket at Construction Site Pressed to Remedy Long Injustice

Legislation giving construction workers the right to picket a multiemployer job site is "long past due" and has the full support of "every segment of the labor movement," AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller testified.

He called on a Senate Labor subcommittee to remedy a distorted interpretation of the secondary boycott ban in the Taft-Hartley Act by giving construction workers the same trade union rights long held by industrial workers.

A companion bill has already been approved by the House Labor Committee and is tentatively scheduled for action by the full House July 23 or 24.

It is the first time the House will have had an opportunity to vote on the "situs picketing" issue, even though the legislation has had strong bipartisan support since President Eisenhower endorsed it in 1954 and its sponsors have included John F. Kennedy, when he served in the Senate.

The current bill is co-sponsored by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Senate Labor Committee, Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.).

With committee meetings barred while the Senate is considering the New Hampshire election dispute, Williams called the Senate panel into an 8 a.m. session to hear Biemiller and other witnesses.

Despite the strong bipartisan support—including a 31-7 endorsement from the House Labor Committee—the bill faces heavy opposition from an influencial lobby of con-

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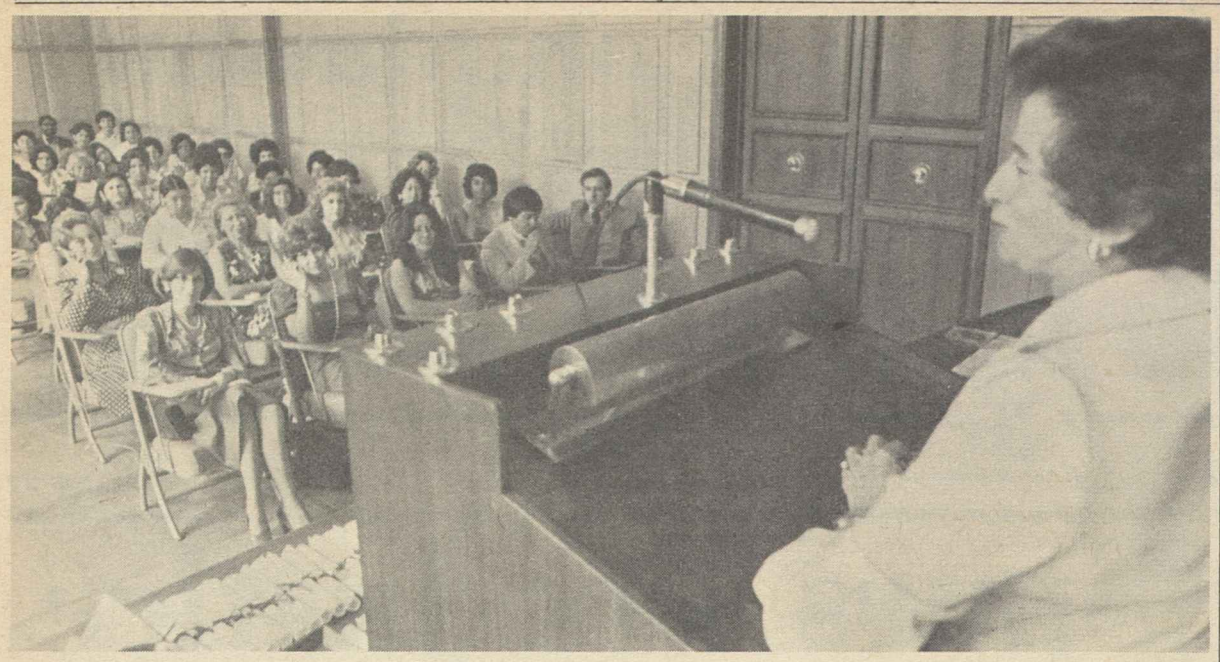


GRADUATES OF THE 60th American Institute for Free Labor Development program at Front Royal, Va., are congratulated by Evelyn Dubrow, legislative representative for the Ladies' Garment Workers. Miss Dubrow was principal speaker at ceremonies marking completion of the program. The 39 women graduates from South America studied trade union finances and public relations and the role of women in economic development.

HMO Rules Assailed As Affront to Unions

(Continued from Page 1)

Act be amended to make it unmistakably clear that Congress has no intent of undermining collective bargaining," Seidman told a House subcommittee on health chaired by Rep. Paul Rogers (D-Fla.).

Seidman noted that the problem that has arisen is not with the law itself but with its interpretation by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, which issued proposed regulations covering the subject last February.

The regulations would interpret the law to require an employer to offer a qualified HMO to a union as the bargaining representative for the workers. Then, if the union decides the particular HMO option is not in the workers' interests, the employer would be required to go beyond the union representatives and offer the HMO option to its employes as individuals.

"The paradox of such a policy," Seidman observed, "is that all experience with dual choice clearly indicates that the active support of union leadership in promotional and educational activities of an HMO is essential to a successful enrollment campaign.

"Without the active support of the union, the HMO simply will not fly," he warned.

Labor has sponsored and supported "consumer-oriented HMOs," but there are also some bad HMOs run by unscrupulous entrepreneurs out to make a quick profit, Seidman pointed out.

Labor's position is that the regulations should specifically provide that the bargaining agent for employes be able to decline the HMO option on behalf of the entire bargaining unit.

Seidman also noted that the HEW regulations were adopted over the objections of the Labor Dept. and the National Labor Relations Board.

In spite of numerous meetings with HEW officials to try to resolve the problem administratively and in spite of the "unanimous opposition of our affiliated unions," Seidman said, "we understand on good authority that HEW will not change its position with regard to dual choice."

"In short, we have reached an impasse, and respectfully call upon Congress to resolve it," he said.

Seidman also objected to a proposed amendment to the law that would eliminate a requirement in the law that members of an HMO must devote their principal professional activity to the health care of the prepaid enrollees of the health care plan.

Brooklyn Gas Pact Brings Major Gains

New York—Wage increases totaling 21 percent over a 25-month period highlight a new agreement between the Transport Workers and the Brooklyn Gas Co., reached despite a two-week lockout.

The settlement, covering about 3,000 workers, was overwhelmingly approved July 8 by members of the union's Utility Division Local 101 who found themselves barred from work after they rejected the firm's "final" offer in mid-June.

The new agreement, which was reached with aid from a special state mediator, provides a 10 percent wage boost retroactive to June 16, when the old contract expired and the lockout began. Another 11 percent increase is scheduled on the contract's anniversary date in 1976.

Besides wage increases, the pact provides substantial improvements in pensions, health benefits, vacations and in other areas. The pension benefits were broadly improved to give a worker 100 percent vesting after 10 years of service.

In addition, a worker will be able to retire after Jan. 1, 1976, at age 60 with no reduction in benefits. The contract also improves benefits for a surviving spouse, and the union scored a major breakthrough in negotiating a cost-of-living increase for retirees. The COL provision will allow retirees an increase equal to 2.4 percent a year.

Victor Borella Dies, Rockefeller Labor Aide

Hanover, N.H.—Victor Borella, a consultant to Vice President Nelson Rockefeller and a key labor adviser during his tenure as governor of New York, died here at the age of 68.

Borella, a former industrial relations director for Rockefeller Center, had a wide acquaintance in New York trade union circles and AFL-CIO President George Meany described him as "a close friend for many years." Joseph P. Tonelli, president of the Paperworkers and an AFL-CIO vice president, represented the federation at funeral services.

IBEW Strikes Electric Utility In Midwest

St. Louis—About 1,600 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have struck Union Electric Co., a utility that serves 740,000 customers in Missouri, Illinois and Iowa, after a breakdown in negotiations for a new contract.

The strike began July 12 after union members rejected by a 15 to 1 margin a company offer which was described by John Durham, IBEW Local 1439 business agent, as a "take-away" proposal.

The three IBEW units on strike are Local 1439 with about 1,500 members in Missouri and Iowa, Local 309 with about 80 members in East St. Louis, Ill., and Local 649 representing about 80 members in Alton, Ill.

The strikers include linemen, workers on underground lines, substation employes, customer service personnel, meter readers and others.

Durham said the union and company still are far apart.

Other unions affected by the strike are IBEW Local 1455 with 1,100 members and Operating Engineers Local 148 with 1,400 members. Durham said that many of the 2,500 in the two locals are observing the picket lines.

The company also is negotiating with Local 1455 which represents office workers and Local 148 whose members run the power plants.

Graphic Arts Union Subject to Sanctions

AFL-CIO President George Meany has notified all affiliates that the Graphic Arts International Union has been found in non-compliance with the decisions of the impartial umpire under the AFL-CIO's internal disputes procedures and is therefore subject to sanctions under the federation's constitution.

The finding was reached by two subcommittees of the AFL-CIO Executive Council and is based on the failure of the Graphic Arts International Union to comply with decisions involving representation elections at Standard Register Co., Dayton, Ohio, and Western Publishing Co., Racine, Wis., and the Printing & Graphic Communications Union.

In his notification to affiliates Meany said the union, effective July 14, 1975, would be subject to the following provisions of Section 15 of Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution:

"1. The non-complying affiliate shall not be entitled to file any complaint or appear in a complaining capacity in any proceeding under this article until such non-compliance is remedied or excused as provided in Section 16;

"2. The federation shall, upon request, supply every appropriate assistance and aid to any organization resisting the action determined to be in violation of this article;

"3. The federation shall appropriately publicize the fact that the affiliate is not in compliance with the constitution;

"4. No affiliate shall support or render assistance to the action determined to be in violation of this article."

In addition to the Graphic Arts International Union, the following unions are currently in non-compliance with an impartial umpire's decision: the Air Line Pilots Association and the International Typographical Union.

Hits U.S. Complacency:

Solzhenitsyn Warns Of Soviet Expansion

(Continued from Page 1)

nitsyn spoke 10 days earlier at another AFL-CIO gathering in Washington. That event, attended by 2,500 trade union leaders and other dignitaries, marked the author's first major address in the West since the Communists deprived him of his citizenship and deported him.

Solzhenitsyn's New York speech was just as biting as his June 30 address in the nation's capital. In the harshest of tongues, he assailed the Soviet system with its measures of systematized repression.

"The essence of communism is quite beyond the limits of human understanding," he said. "It's hard to believe that people could actually plan such things and carry them out."

Marxism has always opposed freedom, Solzhenitsyn observed, quoting passages from the writings of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, the founders of communism, to support his statement.

"In their correspondence, Marx and Engels frequently said that after achieving power terror would be indispensable," Solzhenitsyn said. " 'We'll be considered monsters, but we couldn't care less,' " Marx and Engels wrote.

"Communism has never concealed the fact that it rejects all absolute concepts of morality. It scoffs at any consideration of 'good' and 'evil' as indisputable categories."

Communism has nothing to recommend it to men, the exiled author declared:

"It lacks arguments and hence there is the club, the prison, the concentration camps, and insane asylums with forced confinement.

"I was swallowed myself (by the Soviet system)," Solzhenitsyn said, referring to his eight years of imprisonment in a slave labor camp. "I have been in the dragon's belly, in the red burning belly of the dragon. He wasn't able to digest me. He threw me up."

In both his New York address and a later appearance on the nationally televised Meet the Press program, Solzhenitsyn warned that humanity has reached a watershed in history.

"I compare (this turning point) only with the change from the Middle Ages to the modern age, and it is a major spiritual crisis which is on us now," he said in the TV interview on July 13.

Coincident with this spiritual crisis in the affairs of men is a political crisis of such grave proportions the future is fraught with danger for all mankind, the 56-year-old writer added.

"The leadership of your country, which is entering the third century of your national existence, will perhaps have to bear a burden greater than ever before seen in the whole of American history," he declared in New York.

But, returning to the West's delusion with detente, Solzhenitsyn said that during his month-long, cross-country travels in the U.S. this summer he has gained the impression that "all the dangers which I talked about today indeed seem imaginary" to the American people.

"In your wide open spaces," he said, "even I get a little infected. . . . On this continent it is hard to believe all the things which are happening in the world. But, gentlemen, this carefree life cannot continue in your country or in ours."

In the USSR and in other Communist countries today, Solzhenitsyn said, "a process of spiritual liberation" is under way. But this process is being impeded by the assistance being extended by the West to the Communist rulers—"a process of concessions, of detente, of yielding whole countries."

"Why do you help our slave-owners?" he asked. "In my last address I only requested one thing and I make the same request now: when they bury us in the ground alive . . . please do not send them shovels."

He noted that the very day he gave his Washington address, Mikhail Suslov, a senior member of the Soviet Politburo, was talking with a group of visiting U.S. senators in the Kremlin.

"And he (Suslov) said, 'In fact, the significance of our trade is more political than economic. We can get along without your trade.' That's a lie," Solzhenitsyn charged.

"The whole existence of our slave owners from beginning to end relies on Western economic assistance." AFL-CIO President George Meany understands this thoroughly, he observed.

"Mr. Meany has quite rightly said that it is not loans which the U.S. gives to the Soviet Union; it is economic assistance. It's foreign aid. It's given at a level of interest that is lower than what American working men can get for their home mortgages. That is direct aid."

Solzhenitsyn, in his Meet the Press interview, expressed thanks to Meany for giving him the opportunity to appeal directly to the American people for an end to U.S. trade policies with the Communists.

The greatest danger to the West today, he said, is the growing Soviet nuclear superiority—a superiority that is being enhanced by American economic aid.

"With such a nuclear superiority it will be possible to block the use of your weapons, and on some unlucky morning they will declare: 'We're marching our troops to Europe, and if you make a move, we will annihilate you,' he said.

"And this ratio of 3 to 1, or 5 to 1 will have its effect: you will not make a move. Indeed, theoreticians will be found to say, 'If only we can have that blessed silence. . . .' "

Denounces Loopholes for Rich:

Meany Spurs Tax Justice, Hits 'Trickle-Down' Policy

(Continued from Page 1)

paring its tax proposals for the House is whether the tax laws should be changed to reward business investment, as the Administration has urged, or to enhance consumer buying strength.

Meany took sharp issue with the contention of Treasury Sec. William E. Simon that the chief problem of economic recovery is a shortage of investment capital.

He said Simon's solution is to change drastically the division of "the American economic pie" by giving more to corporations and the rich.

Meany said the Administration program amounts to:

"Give those at the bottom less, squeeze those in the middle even harder. Give those at the top — especially the corporations — more tax shelters, more loopholes, more opportunities for profit."

Unfortunately, Meany testified, there has already been a redivision of the "economic pie." Over the past two years, living standards and consumer purchasing power have fallen. "This redivision has contributed substantially to the current deep and prolonged recession."

Meany, who was joined at the witness table by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller and Research Director Nat Goldfinger, said the path to economic recovery is buying power that translates into sales, jobs, production and investment.

Any forms of investment stimulus for business should be "highly selective," Meany urged, and not across-the-board.

In response to questions, Meany stressed his belief that lowering the interest rates on home mortgages to 6 percent—the same rate the United States charges on loans to Soviet Russia, he noted—would be the biggest step toward prosperity. It would enable a family with a $20,000 income to buy a home, he suggested, and have a ripple effect through the entire economy.

Meany said he has talked to President Ford "again and again" about the need for housing aid, but "it is just no use."

In another tax area, Meany outlined the AFL-CIO's proposals for tightening tax laws dealing with corporate earnings from foreign sources.

On the basis of tax fairness alone, these loopholes should be closed, Meany said. But in addition, they have "encouraged and subsidized the export of American jobs, technology and production facilities . . . helped to undermine America's industrial base while making America increasingly vulnerable to economic blackmail."

He proposed gaining $6 billion in annual tax revenue for the United States by:

- An end to the foreign tax credit provision, under which taxes and royalties paid to foreign governments are subtracted from taxes owed to the United States, instead of merely being treated as a business expense that could be deducted from taxable income.
- An end to the provision that allows multinational corporations to defer U.S. income tax payments on earnings of foreign subsidiaries until such profits are brought home —"which may be never."
- An end to the Domestic International Sales Corporation (DISC), which allows corporations to form special subsidiaries to shield export profits from taxation.

Meany noted that corporations are bearing proportionately less of the nation's tax burden, slipping from about one-third in the 1960s to about 25 percent in recent years.

He urged the Ways & Means Committee to "take a very close and careful look at the entire corporate income tax structure" and the various tax avoidance devices.

As for "simplification" proposals that have been made calling for a standard "miscellaneous deduction allowance" instead of many itemized deductions, Meany cautioned against creating hardship for ordinary taxpayers suddenly faced with big medical expenses of casualty losses.

Particularly in this period of deep recession, Meany said, tax policies should be geared to "bolster consumer purchasing power, help create jobs and bring the economy out of its present mess."

He told the committee members in response to a question that the Administration acceptance of 8.5 million unemployed in order to keep the budget down spells disaster, and particularly for the nation's cities.

Americans "look to the government" in times of crisis, but "up to this time, we've been looking in vain."

He asked the congressmen:

"What is going to happen to America's great cities?

"Have you been in the interior of some of our cities in the last two or three years . . . where we have black teenage unemployment running as high as 35 or 39 percent?"

The Administration seems to be saying, Meany suggested, "This is all right. We're not going to do anything special for these people. We're going to hold that budget down."

By holding the budget down, Meany warned, "we are going to lose our whole social structure in the process."

LABOR'S CASE for tax reform was presented to the House Ways and Means Committee by AFL-CIO President George Meany. With him as he prepared to testify were Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, left, and Research Director Nat Goldfinger.

Black Family Income Lag Grows Wider

Black families have lost economic ground since 1969, the director of a labor-backed skill training program testified at congressional hearings.

Ernest Green, executive director of the Recruitment & Training Program, translated family income ratios into dollar comparisons when he appeared before a subcommittee of the congressional Joint Economic Committee.

The average black family is trying to live on $58 for every $100 available to the average white family, he said. Green pointed out that this represents a slippage of $3 from 1969, when the ratio was $61 to $100.

Limited access to jobs that pay well and deterioration of inner city schools contribute to the high teenage unemployment rate among blacks, he said.

Green urged labor's program for full employment, including expanded public service jobs, public works projects, federal aid to cities hard hit by unemployment, effective measures to halt the exportation of jobs and lower interest rates for housing.

Army Set to Sponsor Apprentice Programs

Acceptance by the United States Army of national apprenticeship standards for training soldiers as skilled craft workers was announced by the Labor Dept. and the Army.

The action enables a branch of the armed forces for the first time to train uniformed members in a formal apprenticeship program.

The new standards give Army commanders authority to sponsor apprenticeship programs in apprenticeable occupations patterned after those in private industries and approved by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Apprenticeship & Training.

The individual programs will be developed in consultation with labor and management representatives of specific crafts involved, the joint announcement said. Among the first apprenticeship programs the Army is developing are for occupations involving the operation and repair of heavy equipment, such as bulldozers, road graders and mobile cranes.

Soldiers, as registered apprentices, will be able to get the same credit for Army training in civilian skills through these programs as their civilian counterparts. Thus, the soldier-apprentices will be gaining credit toward meeting the requirements for journeyman status in nationally recognized apprenticeable occupations.

Until now, the government noted, it has been difficult for an ex-soldier to show civilian employers or joint apprenticeship committees a record of his or her training and experience while in the service.

The Army is the country's single largest human resources training and development agency, and conducts vocational training in scores of occupations needed in the civilian labor market, the joint announcement pointed out.

AFTRA to Consider Link to Screen Actors

Hollywood, Fla.—The 38th annual convention of the Television & Radio Artists received a report from the union's national board calling for continued study of "the feasibility of merger" with the Screen Actors Guild.

The report, approved by a majority of the plenary session of the board, noted both organizations in the past had achieved benefits through joint negotiations in the TV recorded commercials field and in the area of prime-time TV programming, and added.

"AFTRA . . . concurs with the proposal adopted by the Screen Actors Guild board of directors on June 17, 1975, and hereby adopts a policy of joint negotiations and increased cooperation in areas of common and mutual interest." The board called for a detailed study of possible forms of structure for such a merged organization.

SAG's board of directors last month passed a resolution calling for continued study of merger also. Both unions are affiliates of the Actors & Artistes.

AFTRA President Kenneth Harvey, who was re-elected to his third one-year term, noted that meetings to date between AFTRA and SAG merger committees "have urged strongly that this important work go on. And so it shall, with even greater cooperation."

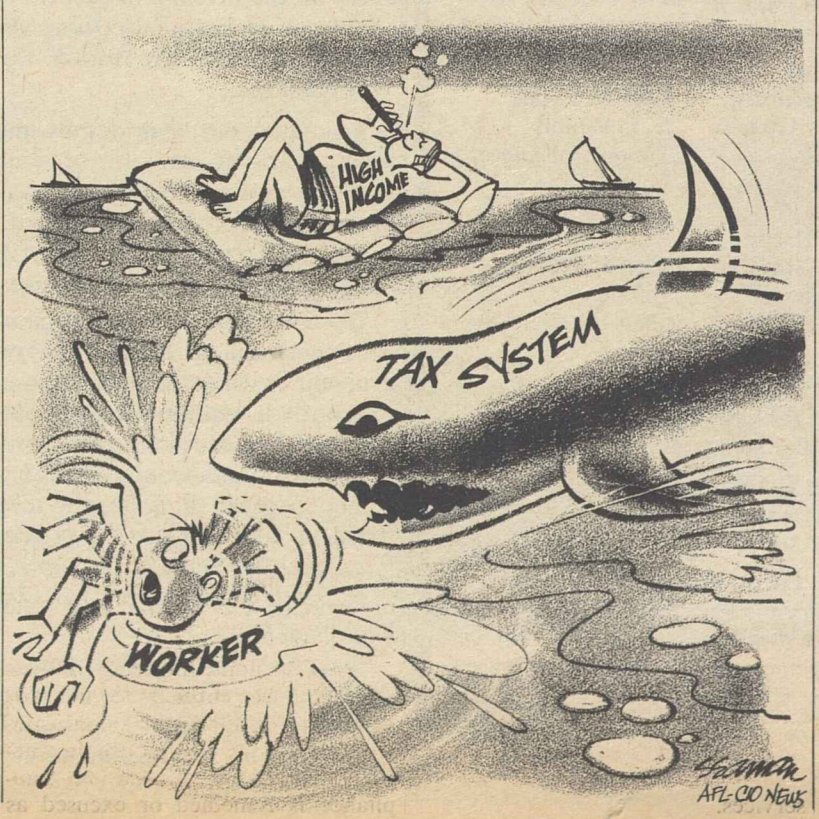
The 200 delegates to the four-day convention elected other officers, adopted a score of resolutions and awarded the union's highest honor to former NBC announcer Jack Costello. In other actions, the convention:

- Called for renewed negotiations of new rules governing the union's relationship with agents representing AFTRA members.
- Formulated proposals for renewal of contracts covering members' services on radio and TV commercials. These negotiations will be conducted later in the year with advertising agencies and producers.
- Went on record supporting the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution.

Harvey, a New York actor, was elected to his post by acclamation as were all other officers. The union's executive secretary, Sanford I. Woff, is appointed to his post.

Costello was presented AFTRA's George Heller Memorial Gold Card award for "outstanding service" to the union. For 25 years a prominent NBC announcer, he has served AFTRA as an officer and member of its national board since the union was formed in 1937.

Jaws



Novik Elected To Free Radio Group Boards

New York—M. S. Novik, broadcasting consultant to the AFL-CIO, is one of eight new board members for the parent corporations of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe.

Novik, who has been involved in foreign language broadcasting in the United States since 1933, was elected at board meetings in late June, according to a joint announcement by Ambassador John S. Hayes, board chairman of the Radio Liberty Committee, Inc., and Ambassador Jacob Beame, board chairman of Free Europe, Inc.

Radio Liberty has been broadcasting to the Soviet Union in Russian and 18 other languages since 1953. Radio Free Europe has broadcast in the languages of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Bulgaria in Eastern Europe since 1950.

Recently retired as president of radio station WPUT in Brewster, N.Y., Novik was a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission of Information from 1962-71. He was director of WNYC in New York City under Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia.

Equal Picketing Rights

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION tradesmen should have the same rights that are accorded other citizens of the United States —equal treatment under law.

Legislation is needed to assure equal treatment in disputes at construction job sites, the same treatment accorded picketing at manufacturing sites.

Such legislation would protect the economic rights of construction labor without harming the rights of neutral employers.

It would not lessen the current statutory protection of true neutral employers in any way, nor would it spread labor disputes beyond the immediate parties.

It would serve to decrease costs by eliminating the expensive effects of lower productivity, work slowdowns and illegal strikes that stem from the construction workers' lack of legal redress. A legitimate means would be available to the worker to express his grievances.

It would permit picketing only where the methods and objectives are lawful and would not protect unlawful picketing, or permit sudden or "wildcat" strikes in violation of a no-strike clause in an existing collective bargaining agreement.

It would assure equal and non-discriminatory treatment for construction and non-construction unions alike.

It would contain safeguards to prevent the use of strikes for racial discrimination and take cognizance of the requirement for national security.

THERE IS AMPLE precedent for the legislation both in the Taft-Hartley Act itself and in the numerous decisions construing it. Moreover, there is a long history of support for legislation previously introduced for this purpose.

Four Presidents—Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson—spoke in favor of efforts to end the inequitable dual standard for picketing by construction unions and for picketing by unions at a manufacturing or office site.

The Secretaries of Labor of these four Presidents, as well as the Labor Secretaries of the Nixon and Ford Administrations, each testified before the Congress in favor of various proposals to permit construction site picketing.

The Taft-Hartley Act, as interpreted for nearly 30 years, has been applied unfairly to construction workers. It has made the building trades unions and members legally powerless to protect themselves while, at the very same time, it has given a construction employer a virtual license to destroy unions with impunity.

The present statute, as applied, has placed all the legal weapons in the hands of the contractors.

The stability of long-established collective bargaining relationships has been eroded.

It seems reasonable and fair that unions in the building and construction industry should at least have the right to publicize peacefully, by picketing, the fact that an employer subcontracts part of the job to a non-union subcontractor, who very easily might have won the bid for the subcontract because he pays substandard wages.

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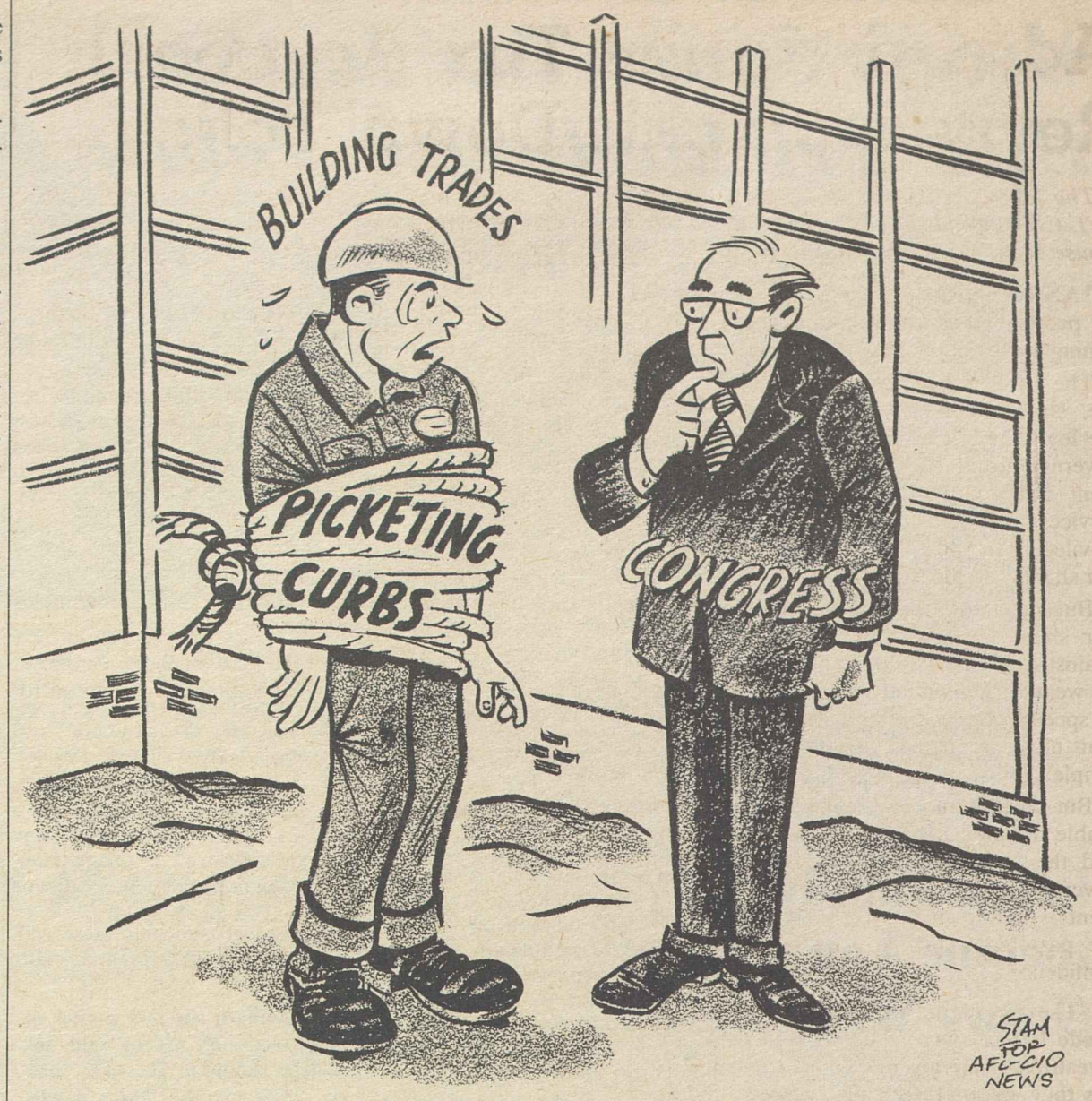


A Word Edgewise:

'Opinion Trustees' Essential To Art of Getting Things Done

By John P. Roche

SOMETIME IN THE MID-1950s I made my first—and last—address to a large assemblage of the League of Women voters. The general subject as I recall was the interaction between President and Congress, the congressional leadership structure, and the emergence of public policy. The address was well received, but in the question period the balloon went up. A woman rose and asked, "Don't you think it is appalling that, according to a recent poll, 75 percent did not know the name of the Secretary of Defense?"

My reply was that most people were busy trying to raise families and make a living so they relied on the division of labor; that is, they elected Dwight Eisenhower President and assumed he would recall the name of his Secretary of Defense. This seeming display of anti-intellectualism cast a pall over the audience, which became positively overpowering as I proceeded to dig myself deeper into the pit, pointing out that every rational organization had to rely on the division of labor. Nobody could be expected to know everything about every critical decision so they turned to opinion leaders for guidance.

I pointed out that despite my PhD, I didn't know beans about a lot of controversial issues, but I knew whose leadership to accept in support of the liberal position. Politicians like Paul Douglas, Estes Kefauver and Hubert Humphrey were, so to speak, my "opinion trustees."

Nothing said here is designed to impugn the good works of the League of Women Voters. The problem is that the league in its conscientious fashion is in search of conclusions. The politician is in quest of decisions, and the two can rarely be achieved simultaneously. And I only mention the league because it seems to me that the major problem with the present House of Representatives, and the Senate to a lesser degree, is that it is behaving like an educational institution and not a political body.

Take the energy debacle as a case in point. I suppose in an ideal world every representative and senator should take a few months off to school himself in the arcane dimensions of the problem. Once an expert, he could then gather with his fellow experts and evolve a conclusive energy program. The result would be predictable: like a faculty meeting where everybody does think of himself as a universalist, an agreed upon consensus might emerge by the year 2000. However, if (like me) you have no time and less interest in becoming an energy expert, but want to prevent a consumer rip-off, you make an appointment with Sen. Henry M. Jackson and his staff. He is your "opinion trustee."

CONGRESS HAS ALWAYS worked this way —and undoubtedly will again once the hyperthyroid theory of democracy wears out the would-be universalists—but it just happens that the enormous inflow of new blood in the current session has left members without established "opinion trustees." It takes a while to figure out that representative X or senator Y really knows a topic inside out and shares your general philosophy, whether liberal or conservative. When the crunch comes, you will then look to him or her for leadership. If a constituent writes to inquire why you voted to ban the manufacture of widgets, you simply plagiarize the opinions of your "trustee." If you are asked about it at a public meeting, you say, "I'm glad you asked that question . . ." and answer another.

Now I happen to be one of those who believes that, by and large, the American people get a better Congress than they deserve. In the course of my years as spokesman for Americans for Democratic Action and later as an official of the Johnson Administration, I got to know and respect a large number of senators and representatives.

For instance, I had long considered the late Louisiana Sen. Allen Ellender a racist fool. A racist he was, but after watching him at a meeting of the Senate Agriculture Committee literally demolish a number of allegedly expert witnesses on some subsidy measure, I realized that he probably knew more about our agriculture policy than the Secretary of Agriculture.

There is much expertise of this sort in Congress, and more will emerge as the new members season. But the beginning of legislative wisdom is the division of labor: hyperthyroid democracy may lead to conclusions, but not to decisions.

More for the Rich:

Administration Tax Approach Revives 'Trickle-Down' Policy

The following is excerpted from testimony by AFL-CIO President George Meany before the House Ways & Means Committee.

TAX REFORM MEANS many things to many people. To us it means fair play. What we are aiming at is "tax justice."

The 14.3 million union members we represent are, almost without exception, taxpayers. They are loyal Americans who appreciate the value of government and the need for the services government can and must provide. They know such services must be paid for and they seek no special privileges. In short, they are willing to pay their fair share—no more and no less.

But now they are paying far more than their fair share because the tax structure is rigged against them. Every dollar in taxes that isn't paid by wealthy individuals and corporations because of special privilege loopholes is one more dollar that must be paid by someone else. It's that simple.

But there is more at stake. There is an inseparable relationship between justice in taxation and the willingness of citizens to support their government and be confident that their government is acting in their best interests. Events of the past few years have badly undermined this confidence.

The use of tax avoidance provisions in the code has become an industry in itself wherein wealthy Americans pursue tax shelters as avidly as they pursue their basic income. And the rewards are there. According to the most recent figures available, in 1972 more than 400 individuals reported incomes in excess of $100,000 per year, yet paid no federal income taxes whatsoever. And four Americans managed to earn more than $1 million in 1972 and paid no income taxes.

These massive tax avoidances by individuals, coupled with the well-published tax avoidance by corporations, have heightened taxpayer disillusionment and discontent.

The way in which the tax burden is shared is a key determinant of economic and social justice. Equity in taxation has always been one of the hallmarks of a free and democratic society and the tax policies of the federal government play a key role in managing the economy and helping to attain full employment, social progress and improved living standards.

We firmly believe that these two basic demands on the tax structure—to share the cost of government equitably and to be an effective tool for promoting balanced economic growth—are closely and directly interrelated.

Because of the nation's current economic crisis, the prospects for the next several years, and the great need for essential public investments to build and strengthen the nation, many demands will be placed on the tax structure. So long as the gross tax injustices remain, the nation's ability to meet these demands will be severely and unnecessarily limited.

We are here to urge enactment of additional steps toward tax justice—within the agenda set forth by the committee.

We feel that such a program should include:

● Loophole closing reforms which could raise approximately $20 billion in badly needed federal revenue.

● A continuation of individual income tax withholding at rates now in effect, eliminating any increases in 1976.

We want to comment on the issue of capital formation which is a major topic on the committee's agenda.

We have heard a great deal over the past year or so about this issue. Secretary Simon claims that the nation has a developing shortage in investment capital that is about to become severe. So he proposes to reduce personal consumption and increase business investment in plants and machines. In sum, he says, the way to increase capital investment is to give more to big corporations and the rich.

That's the old, discredited, trickle-down doctrine of the 1890s and 1920s.

The Administration and many business spokesmen are advocating a massive shift in the ways in which the American economic pie is to be divided. Give those at the bottom less, squeeze those in the middle even harder. Give those at the top—especially the corporations—more tax shelters, more loopholes, more opportunities for profit.

THIS SCARE TALK of supposedly inadequate levels of business investment and the need to reduce consumption is not based on facts. In the dozen years from 1962 to 1974, business outlays for plants and machines came to a total of nearly $1.2 trillion, despite a money-crunch mini-recession in 1967, two full-blown recessions since then and the highest interest rates since the Civil War. Total private investment, which includes residential structures and business inventories as well as plants and machines, came to a total of almost $1.7 trillion.

Today, business investment is weak and declining because the economy is weak. There is a large amount of idle productive capacity, excessive inventories and low levels of sales. Business investment will pick up when, and not until, sales rise enough to boost industry's operating rate substantially and to convince business executives that the expanded output of new plants and machines can be sold profitably.

85-Decibel Limit:

Labor-Backed Noise Standard Effective in Other Countries

FEDERAL STANDARDS for workplace noise should set levels that don't require ear plugs or other devices that "render workers stone deaf" while on the job to protect them from physical or emotional injury, AFL-CIO Economist George Taylor declared in a network radio interview.

Taylor said the 90-decibel level the Occupational Safety & Health Administration is pushing for a permanent noise standard is dangerously high. With that kind of noise in the workplace, he said, twice as many workers would suffer hearing impairment over the course of their lives than at the 85-decibel level the AFL-CIO urges as an "interim standard" while technological development goes forward toward an even safer 75-decibel noise exposure level.

At least half a dozen countries have already set an 85-decibel workplace noise limit, he said, stressing that "the United States is not, by any means, pioneering in this." Taylor appeared on the AFL-CIO program Labor News Conference, broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual radio network.

Taylor, who is executive secretary of the AFL-CIO standing committee on Occupational Health & Safety, renewed the long-standing call for a "policy and program that clearly demonstrates that the administrator of the act believes in it and wants to make it work." He said that very little of the on-the-job health and safety protection that Congress shaped into the Occupational Safety & Health Act nearly five years ago has been put into effect. Limited funding and a less-than-full commitment by Administration officials have hampered every effort of the labor movement and others to put the law to work, he said.

He said that an enormous job lies ahead, pointing out that 25,000 materials used in industry are listed as toxic—"of which 1,400 are known causes of cancer"—but the National Institute on Occupational Safety & Health is able to "develop health effects criteria" on only about 25 of those materials each year.

Taylor was questioned by Vickie Cahan of the Bureau of National Affairs and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc.

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE MOUNTING TOLL of discouraged unemployed—workers who lose jobs, can't find new ones, stop looking and thus drop out of the government's official unemployment figures—is larger than the Labor Dept. reports it is.

Also, women, blacks and youths make up a higher proportion of the discouraged unemployed than they do among the officially recorded jobless—even though these groups already have the highest jobless rates among separate categories reported on monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Those are conclusions drawn from a report, "Unemployment and Job Discouragement," recently issued by the Urban Institute, a Washington-based nonprofit research organization.

The discouraged jobless are not recorded in the government's monthly report on the employment situation because it is based on persons in the labor force, which includes only those unemployed who are searching for work.

The Labor Dept. does, however, attempt to collect data on the unemployed dropouts from the labor force on a three-month basis. It has tabbed discouraged unemployment at an all-time high of 1.2 million for the second quarter of 1975, up by 560,000 over the past nine months.

The institute's report indicates that the number of persons who want jobs but have given up looking is considerably higher than that even though its emphasis is on what the discouraged-unemployment picture will be like in the future.

The institute estimates that there will be more than 1.5 million discouraged unemployed persons in the United States throughout 1976 even if the officially listed unemployment drops to 7.5 million from its all-time high of 8.5 million in June.

In terms of unemployment rates, the report finds that the 7.9 percent rate anticipated for next year by the Ford Administration would amount to a 9.4 percent rate if discouraged workers were to be counted.

On the basis of 8.5 million unemployed, economists believe that there are at least an additional 2 million people who want and need jobs but are discouraged from looking. The institute's figures would put it in line with that judgment.

WHY DO ECONOMISTS believe that discouraged unemployment is higher than the Labor Dept. reports?

For one thing, they contend that the government's data-collecting is inadequate because the survey does not sufficiently get into the city ghettos where actual unemployment is at its highest.

One economist said "we doubt that questioning to determine the extent of discouraged unemployment really brings out a valid count." He explained: "During a recession when people know jobs are not available, they are inclined to say they're not interested in getting one. In an expanding economy, they are much more likely to say they want employment."

Finally, economists point out that thousands of young people who seek jobs and don't find them return to school, or at least take some type of educational course. "They are youths who want a job but are not counted even among the discouraged unemployed."

The issue of discouraged unemployment is important because it must be in focus if the country is to have a meaningful measurement of joblessness. The public must understand that today's "true" unemployment rate undoubtedly exceeds 10 percent.

The major issue continues to be the reaction of the Ford Administration and many members of Congress to the plight of the unemployed and their claim that inflation is of greater concern than unemployment.

As Walter Heller, former economic adviser to President Kennedy, has emphasized, "there's a yawning chasm" of more than $200 billion a year between what the U.S. economy is producing and what it could and should be producing to close the gap and to create jobs for all of the unemployed.

EAR PLUGS or other devices to "render you stone deaf" are no substitute for safe noise levels in the nation's workplaces, AFL-CIO Economist George Taylor, center, who is executive secretary of the AFL-CIO standing committee on Occupational Health & Safety, said on Labor News Conference.

COLORADO LT. GOV. GEORGE BROWN told delegates to The Newspaper Guild's 42nd convention in Denver that lasting solutions to the nation's problems require more than "a one-way kind of communication . . . that is conducted without any effort for understanding." Brown was a member of the Denver Newspaper Guild during 15 years with the staff of the Denver Post. He was in the state senate 20 years before being elected to his present post last year. Others, from left, are TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., former astronaut Wally Schirra, TNG Chairperson Barney Peterson (background), and John Mrozek, president of the Denver Area AFL-CIO.

In Convention Action:

Unity Goals Backed By Newspaper Guild

Denver, Colo.—Delegates to The Newspaper Guild's 42nd annual convention here called upon the union's officers to "move with all prudent speed toward eventual merger" with the Typographical Union.

At the same time they urged "continuation of TNG efforts to establish closer working relationships among all unions in shops where there are Guild members."

The delegates adopted the stand after hearing TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., and ITU President A. Sandy Bevis report on a series of steps toward unity in addresses to the convention's opening sessions.

The convention said that "as much information as possible" on the prospects for merger of TNG, the ITU "and other major unions in the newspaper and broadcasting industries" should be provided "as quickly as possible to the general membership so the most intelligent appraisal of any possible merger can be made."

Citing what it labelled "the sluggish procedures" of the National Labor Relations Board in representation proceedings and unfair practice charges against employers, the convention also called for Congress to fashion suitable remedies.

It urged "particularly careful study" of pre-hearing elections—elections conducted quickly after petitions are filed, with decision on disputed employes left to be settled afterwards.

It also called for a "telescoping of the entire drawn-out NLRB election procedure, reducing the time that hearings are allowed to drone on, cutting the period for legal briefs and eliminating the board's review of regional directors' decisions except in unusual circumstances."

In another action, the convention pointed to what it called a "leadership vacuum" in the United States—"a President unwilling or unable to act in the face of economic crisis, a Congress that, despite the strengthening of its progressive wing . . . is unable to overcome the dead weight of the Presidency."

The delegates called on the Guild and other unions to "act and act effectively in the political arena" to seek to "reverse this dismal trend."

In a related action, however, the convention cautioned against "aligning the Guild officially with a major political party" or "fraction or 'rump' group" directly or indirectly, and instructed the Guild executive board to "withdraw its authorization of the TNG president's participation in the Democratic Conference," a group seeking to play a role in selection of the Democratic presidential nominee in 1976. The action came on a 204-198 rollcall vote.

At the same time, the convention rejected an effort to put to referendum a question on endorsement of a U.S. presidential candidate in 1976. An effort for a rollcall on the matter failed for insufficient seconds.

Perlik and Sec.-Treas. Robert M. Crocker were re-elected without opposition as were Regional Vice Presidents Warren E. Howard (the South), Hugh H. Harrison (the western U.S.), and Roger L. Stonebanks (western Canada).

Diane M. Woodstock of Madison was elected vice president representing the Midwest and Betsy Wade for the region that is New York City. Neither had opposition.

There will be referendum elections in mid-September for chairperson, where incumbent Barney Peterson is being challenged by Phillip M. Kadis of Washington; for at-large vice presidents, where seven are running for six seats, and for two regional vice presidencies—eastern U.S. and eastern Canada.

In a series of other actions, convention delegates also:

- Called for study of establishment of an industrywide pension plan for workers in Guild jurisdiction to provide portability for those changing jobs from one Guild-covered employer to another.
- Increased TNG's graduated, dependency-based strike-lockout benefits schedule by $10 a week across the board to $45 a week for a member with no dependents, at the low end of the schedule, and to $85 a week in a long strike for a member with five dependents, at the top.
- Condemned as "unrealistic and discriminatory" proposals by Seymour Wenner, chief administrative law judge for the U.S. Postal Rate Commission, which would restructure the entire postal rate system and significantly boost postal costs of labor as well as commercial publications.
- Called for "quick action" by the Senate to extend and expand the Voting Rights Act, calling it a "Magna Carta for U.S. minorities."
- Urged adoption of the Kennedy-Corman Health Security bill by "majorities substantial enough to discourage any veto by the Pesident.
- Endorsed International Women's Year and called on the U.S. and Canadian governments to implement the United Nations' plan to advance the status of women.
- Reaffirmed Guild support of the United Farm Workers' efforts "to win justice and decent working conditions for the American worker."
- Rejected, for the second year in a row, a proposal for biennial, rather than annual, conventions.

Quarterly BLS Report Pinpoints Dramatic Rise in Unemployment

The severity of the worst recession since the 1930s was underscored in a Labor Dept. report on overall trends in the nation's labor force showing unemployment dramatically increased during the second quarter of 1975.

Joblessness rose by 540,000 to 8,203,000 in the April-June period, and was 3.5 million above the year-earlier level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The sharp annual increase "was disproportionately concentrated among adult men" who in the second quarter represented 44 percent of the jobless, up from 37 percent a year earlier, BLS noted.

At 8.9 percent, the average jobless rate for the quarter was six-tenths of 1 percent above the first-quarter mark, but 2.3 percent higher than the fourth-quarter 1974 average.

The average duration of unemployment rose to 13.9 weeks, the longest in more than a decade, BLS said. A year earlier the average was 9.7 weeks. The increase reflects the extreme difficulties laid-off workers have experienced in finding new jobs.

About 14 percent of the jobless, or more than 1 million workers, had been out of a job for more than six months, and an additional 19 percent had been unemployed between 15 and 26 weeks.

Other highlights of the second-quarter data:

- The number of discouraged workers—those who were not looking for jobs because they thought none was available for them—averaged nearly 1.2 million in the April-June period, about the same as in the previous quarter. Since the third quarter of 1974, the number of discouraged workers has increased by 530,000.
- The jobless rate for male family heads rose from 4.7 to 5.5 percent over the quarter, while the rate for female family heads was unchanged at 9.7 percent.
- Joblessness was up for every major worker group, including whites, blacks and persons of Spanish origin; residents of poverty and nonpoverty areas, and veterans and nonveterans.
- Employment, at 84,311,000 was up a bit following two quarters of sharp decline. The over-the-quarter rise was 165,000 but the total employment level still was nearly 2 million less than that for the third quarter of last year.

At 5.5 percent, the jobless rate for male family heads was nearly two and one-half times higher than it had been the previous year, BLS noted. The rate for whites moved from 7.6 to 8.2 percent over the quarter while the rate for blacks edged up from 13.7 to 14.3 percent.

Blacks, though comprising but 11.3 percent of the nation's labor force, constituted 18.2 percent of the unemployed and an even higher proportion—27.8 percent—of the discouraged workers, BLS observed.

For workers of Spanish origin, the jobless rate was 12.9 percent in the second quarter, substantially above their year-earlier rate of 7.7 percent. The Spanish jobless rate was below the rate for black workers—15.1 percent—but above that for whites, 8 percent.

Job Losses Spur Claims For Trade Act Benefits

Nearly 1,500 workers in five states were recently certified by the Labor Dept. as eligible to apply for trade adjustment assistance as a result of efforts by their unions.

The largest number in the group are 700 members of the Steelworkers formerly employed by the Anaconda Co. in Perth Amboy, N.J. The union petitioned for the aid last April on the ground that increased imports of refined copper led to their unemployment.

Other workers who stand to benefit from the assistance include 350 workers at the Brown Shoe Co. plant in Salem, Ill., another 275 shoe workers at the Florsheim Shoe Co. plant in Palmyra, Mo., and 150 more shoe workers at the Herbert Levine, Inc. plant in New York City. Their union, the United Shoe Workers, requested the aid claiming increased imports of women's footwear put them out of work.

Fifteen employes of the General Electric plant in Louisville, Ky., also have been certified eligible. Members of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, they became unemployed as a result of increased imports of harnesses for dishwashers formerly produced at the GE plant.

Under the Trade Act of 1974, workers who believe they have been or will become unemployed due to increased imports may petition the Secretary of Labor for certification of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance.

The assistance may include cash trade readjustment allowances, training, testing, counseling, job placement, job search grants and relocation allowances.

The readjustment allowances amount to 70 percent of a worker's average weekly wage—not to exceed the national average weekly manufacutring wage—for up to 52 weeks. Workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of allowances to complete approved training.

Workers aged 60 or older when separated from their last job may receive up to 26 additional weeks of allowances.

Crafts to Assist Minority Youths

Building & Construction Trades Councils in Alaska and California received Labor Dept. contracts to prepare 171 minority youths for apprenticeships.

A federal grant of $144,807 will go to the Valley Area Construction Opportunity Program of Sacramento to train 121 persons in the Sacramento, Stockton, Marysville-Yuba City, Modesto and Fresno areas of California. The trades councils in those areas participate in the program.

The training contract of $125,998 for the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas of Alaska will go to the Anchorage Building & Construction Trades Council to prepare 50 persons for apprenticeships.

Fund Drive Hit By McClennan As Anti-Union

A fund solicitation letter from an organization called Americans Against Union Control of Government is merely a "slick" scheme to finance an anti-union lobbying effort, Fire Fighters President William H. McClennan warned.

McClennan noted in an editorial in the union's magazine that the organization's money-raising "pitch" is to frighten people into thinking that public employe unions are a threat because they are trying to promote "a labor dictatorship" over government.

Like the "right-to-work" groups it emulates, he said, the Americans Against organization pretends it really isn't anti-labor.

McClennan, who is president of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., noted that the three members of Congress listed on the letterhead of the fund solicitation had a COPE record through the 93rd Congress of only six "right" votes by labor's standards and 56 "wrong" votes. They are Sen. Jesse A. Helms (R-N.C.) and Representatives Steven D. Symms (R-Ida.) and David C. Treen (R-La.).

Misconceptions Cited:

Food Stamp Program Omits Millions of Eligible Families

By helping some 20 million Americans with their grocery bills, the food stamp program has become one of the nation's most important social benefits. It can be particularly helpful to low-income workers and the newly unemployed.

But the program is only doing half a job because it's missing about as many eligible Americans as it's serving, writes Robert Greenstein in the AFL-CIO magazine, the Federationist. Greenstein is editor of CNI Weekly Report, published with labor support by the Community Nutrition Institute in Washington, D.C.

Greenstein cites enough gaps in the $5 billion a year federal-state program to conclude "the food stamp program is not doing very well." He blames the high price of food stamps, the lack of accurate information about them, the procedural maze involved in applying for them and poor services in some local areas.

But Greenstein also says that misconceptions contribute to perhaps 5 million eligible families remaining outside the program. Those families contain about 25 to 30 million Americans — or slightly more than are being served.

"Many factors contribute to this lack of participation," he says, "but one of the major reasons is that large numbers of working poor and near-poor families simply do not know they are eligible. The impression that food stamps are primarily for people on welfare remains widespread in many areas."

Greenstein emphasizes that the basic design of the program helps working families, because they're the ones who can claim the deductions used to compute eligibility.

Eligibility starts with an assets test, but a house, automobile, life insurance and household and personal effects don't count against the $1,500 assets limit, which applies to savings and checking accounts, stocks and bonds.

And having a household member who is aged 60 or more may raise the assets limit to $3,000, he notes.

If a family is eligible in terms of its assets, Greenstein says, it then must have cooking facilities and meet the income requirements.

This is where the deductibles come into play, much like the computation of tax liability. For instance, examples accompanying Greenstein's article show that a family headed by someone who makes $4 an hour for a 35-hour workweek might have deductions that reduce a $606 monthly income to $400—and be eligible for food stamps if there are four in the family.

Also, a family with $511 monthly income from unemployment benefits may have its income reduced to $311 by deductions, and a retired couple may have its $300 monthly social security benefit reduced to $227. The principal deductions are taxes, work-related expenses (including union dues), tuition, child care, medical costs and a portion of shelter costs, which include utilities as well as rent or mortgage payment.

Greenstein points out that the family can be eligible at seemingly high monthly income levels, depending on the number of dependents. With eight in the household, a family can be eligible with an income as high as $926 a month after deductions.

"The stamps are not free. They are purchased for less than they are worth," Greenstein says. And the amount paid is dictated by the income and household size.

The allotment for a family of four, for instance, is $162 in monthly food stamps — but the amount the family pays for that $162 in stamps varies widely according to its income.

With a net income of $75 a month or less, the family pays $16 for the stamps. With $540 net income, the stamps cost $138—but that's still a food stamp benefit of $24 a month.

Greenstein also blames the lack of utilization of the program on government's failure to conduct outreach campaigns—which are required by law.

"In 1971, Congress enacted a law requiring food stamp outreach efforts, but the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and most states have studiously ignored this law," Greenstein charges.

"New Jersey last year brought thousands of non-welfare households into the food stamp program in the period of several months," Greenstein notes in an example of outreach. "New Jersey produced flyers on food stamps that were stuffed in grocery bags at food stores and ran TV and radio advertisements on food stamps.

"The flyers and the spots all gave the number of a toll-free telephone hotline set up to provide food stamp information," Greenstein writes. "The hotline answered over 18,000 calls in three months. About 47,000 non-welfare persons were added to the program, reflecting both the increase in unemployment and the success of the campaign."

Greenstein thinks the lack of outreach activity is about to be corrected because of a federal court order issued in October 1974 in Minneapolis. Judge Miles W. Lord ruled that the Agriculture Dept. had violated the 1971 law and ordered all states to have new outreach programs in effect by Aug. 1, 1975.

"Under Judge Lord's order, states will have to provide interested organizations with outreach materials on food stamps that can be published in newsletters, reproduced as flyers, or used in a wide variety of other fashions," Greenstein notes. "This information can play a role in informing families of their eligibility and their rights under the food stamp program."

But Greenstein feels that the new efforts to be undertaken by the states, "will not provide all the outreach work that is needed to locate eligible households and bring them into the program." He says "most of the outreach work needed can be performed only by organizations that have direct contact with those who are eligible—organizations like churches, child care programs, senior citizens' groups and unions."

Similarly, Greenstein notes the impact local organizations can have on straightening up the local administration of the food stamp program. He cites such horrors as the newly unemployed lining up at midnight each night at a Phoenix office for the 9:30 a.m. office opening, with the few who did get in told to come back for appointments with a food stamp eligibility worker "weeks or even a few months later."

Some of this has been alleviated, Greenstein says, by congressional action in June requiring immediate processing of applications and the issuance of food stamps to those who appear eligible, pending completion of the processing work that normally takes about 30 days.

"In late 1975 or early 1976, Congress will re-examine the entire workings of the food stamp program and consider major changes in the program," Greenstein says.

Among bills introduced in the Senate are measures that would lower the price of food stamps, increase the size of food stamp benefits, require more outreach and require all post offices to sell food stamps.

"But meanwhile, the Ford Administration is considering proposals that would replace the present series of income deductions with a mandatory standard deduction that would eliminate some working families from the food stamp program and require many other working families to pay more for their stamps," Greenstein says.

In addition, Greenstein says labor and liberal forces are now fighting harsh legislation introduced by Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.). It would cut as many as 10 million persons—including most low-income working families—out of the food stamp program.

EUGENE V. DEBS AWARD is presented to Steelworkers' President I. W. Abel by Rose Tadlock, president of the Midwest Labor Press Association at Marquette, Mich. Leading the applause is Kenneth Germanson, MLPA executive secretary.

Senate Panel Approves Bill on Public Works

The Senate Public Works Committee approved a pared-down version of a House-passed bill that was high on the AFL-CIO's action program to put America back to work.

As sent to the Senate floor, the bill would authorize $2 billion for two job-creating programs and $125 million for business development loans and guarantees.

Half of the job-creating funds—$1 billion—would be authorized for labor-intensive public works projects that state and local governments could get under way within 90 days after receiving federal approval.

Top priority would be given to areas where unemployment exceeded the national average.

The House on May 20 had voted 313-86 approval for a substantially larger program carrying a $5 billion authorization and designed to finance 125,000 construction site jobs and an equal number of off-site jobs.

The Senate bill, however, also would extend through fiscal year 1976 a Job Opportunities Program launched last December and administered by the Economic Development Administration. This provides funds for various federal programs that can put unemployed persons to work on useful projects, such as forest conservation and planting.

To date, $500 million has been appropriated for the program and the Senate committee bill would authorize up to $1 billion more.

If the Senate should approve the measure, a conference committee would have the job of reconciling the differing House and Senate bills. Whatever the outcome, the money would still have to be appropriated in separate legislation before it could be spent.

The Administration had threatened to veto the $5 billion House bill, even though a substantial number of Republicans had joined nearly all House Democrats in voting for it.

Johnson Confirmed For Illinois Post

Springfield, Ill.—Donald A. Johnson, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, has been confirmed by the Illinois Senate as the state's director of labor.

Johnson, 40, was appointed to the post by Gov. Daniel Walker. He is a former president of the Quincy Building Trades Council.

He succeeds Kenneth W. Holland in the post. Holland, a member of the Machinists, was named earlier this year to head the state's Dept. on Aging.

SEIU Adds 13th Local Of Doctors

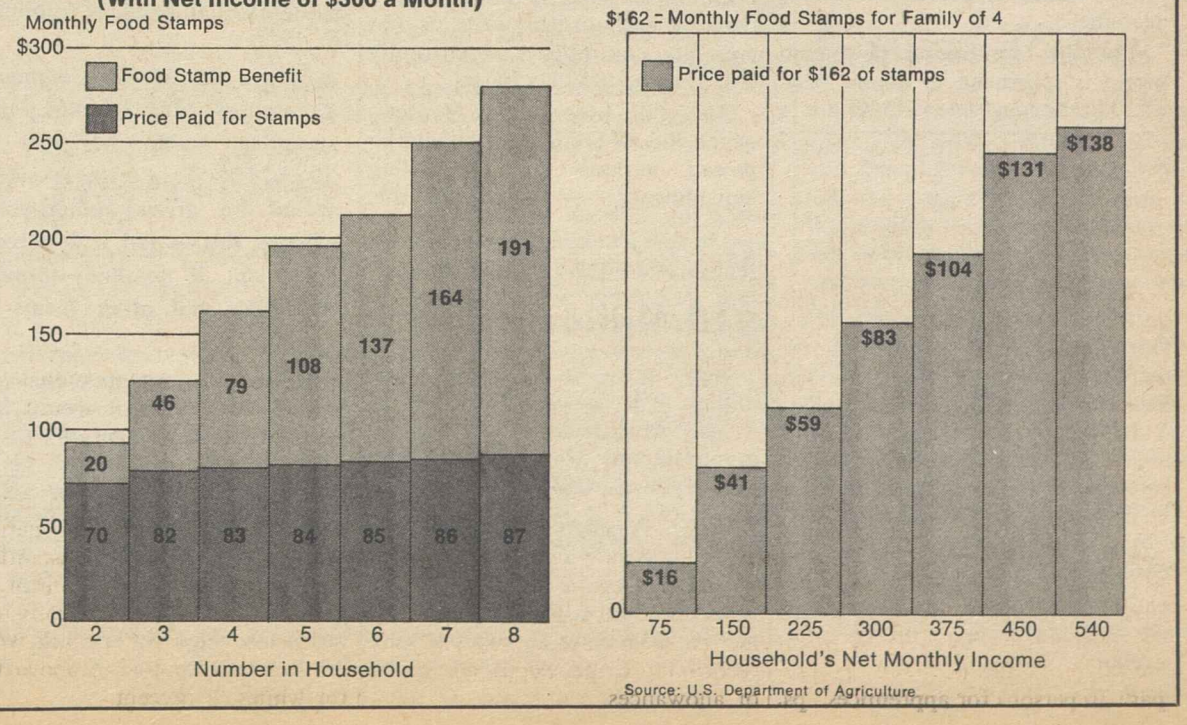
A group of New York doctors is the newest local union of practicing physicians to become chartered by the Service Employees.

Local 708, representing between 300 and 400 physicians in New York City and Long Island, is the 13th doctors' local to affiliate with SEIU since the Washington-based union began chartering physicians' locals in early 1972.

Dr. Leo A. Green, a spokesman for the new local, said that through their affiliation with SEIU, the doctors hope to combat what they view as their present-day role—that of "a form filler-outer and an insurance payments setter-upper."

At a charter ceremony, SEIU Organizing Director John Geagan told the newly-formed local that "unions mean collective strength and collective bargaining."

Food Stamp Benefits



Fair-Share Tax System:

Aid to Cities, States Pressed as Urgent

Cities and states need revenue from a fair-share tax system to survive the current recession-inflation crisis, President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees declared.

Wurf told a National Press Club audience that there is blame to be shared for the plight of the cities, but the solution isn't to slash public services that make a city livable.

Both city and state governments, he said, are handicapped in obtaining adequate revenue by reliance on unfair sales and property taxes "which hit hardest at those least able to pay."

He spoke of the exodus of affluent persons who make their living in the city to wealthy suburbs that are walled off from inner city problems by restrictive zoning "that all new houses must be built on lots the size of small parks."

Wurf said the federal tax structure needs reform to close loopholes and halt the "unjustifiable rip-offs" that allow giant corporations to escape paying their share of taxes. But it remains "much more progressive than state and local tax systems."

He saw an urgent need for the emergency program of federal aid to cities with the highest unemployment that has been proposed by Senators Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.), Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) and others.

While corruption and mismanagement contribute to the problems of cities and states, Wurf saw the cutback in essential services as the greatest threat to the survival of the nation's major cities.

"A city begins to die when people resign themselves to twice-a-month garbage collection," he said, "to driving on bumpier roads and walking down littered streets, and to living with libraries closed on weekends or parks without concerts and recreation programs.

"A city dies a little more when a public health nurse makes her rounds for the last time because she's lost her job," he added, "when schools close during the summer and become little more than custodial institutions during the rest of the year, and when the city shuts down hospitals and padlocks police and fire stations."

Wurf listed as cities "that may die this year" because of cutbacks of services Detroit, Buffalo, Cleveland, Baltimore, Boston, Newark, Bridgeport, Atlanta, Memphis, Wilmington—and New York, "a special case."

New York City's problems are in part the result of poor planning, but much of the budget pressure has come "from the federal government's failure to assume responsibility for financing health and education" and the "holdup" by the banks which forced the city's cost of borrowing money "to a usurious and tax-exempt 9.5 percent."

To bring a greater measure of fairness to financing the needs of the cities, Wurf proposed:

- Keying increased federal aid to the states to the willingness of states to adopt progressive income taxes.
- Providing a federal subsidy to state and local bond issues instead of the present tax-exempt status and making the bonds available in smaller denominations so that middle-income investors could afford them.
- Making property taxes fairer by setting them on a statewide basis, with a "circuit breaker" system that would limit the amount of property tax that a middle class or poor family would have to pay as a percentage of its income.
- Modification of sales taxes to exclude such items as food and medicine "and allowing the less affluent to deduct their sales tax payments from their state income taxes."

FOOD SUPPLIES for the needy in Phoenix, Ariz., are collected by members of the Postal Workers and Letter Carriers to replenish a dwindling inventory at four area food banks and two charity dining rooms. Members of the two unions collected more than 15 tons of food items during their routine mail pickup and delivery operations.

Unions Near Deadline On Postal Contracts

(Continued from Page 1)

nation's capital at the same time. The meetings were being held after the AFL-CIO News went to press.

The fourth union involved in the coordinated bargaining is the unaffiliated National Rural Letter Carriers Association. Together, the four unions represent about 600,000 postal employes.

While strikes are prohibited under the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, the unions indicated they would pursue a "no contract, no work" policy. APWU, for example, is bound by a convention mandate to this effect, unanimously approved by delegates last year.

The current two-year contract expires on Monday, July 21, at one minute past midnight. The main obstacles to renewal of the agreement were wages and a no-layoff guarantee agreed to for the first time two years ago.

The breakthrough job security clause provides that the postal service must offer an employe another position within a 100-mile radius of his job if laid off for any reason.

Bernard Cushman, the chief negotiator for the unions, said progress in the intensive negotiations was difficult to judge. The Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service entered the talks on July 10 at President Ford's request after negotiations appeared to reach a stalemate.

An ad hoc Postal Coordinated Bargaining Committee sought identical general wage increases across the board for all four unions. Other areas of bargaining included fringe benefits, the no-layoff clause, health and safety, subcontracting, technological change and mechanization of postal operations. Craft negotiations on special interest matters of the individual unions also were proceeding.

In summoning the 43 members of the APWU national executive committee to Washington, Filbey said he was requesting the meeting "because of the critical state of the negotiations." He urged all APWU locals to keep their members on the job until after the committee had concluded its meeting.

The current negotiations constitute the third round since passage of the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act.

Postmaster Gen. Benjamin F. Bailar said in a nationally televised interview on July 13 he hoped a strike could be averted, but that USPS was taking steps to move as much mail as possible with non-union personnel, if necessary.

APWU represents the largest number of postal workers, about 280,000. The Letter Carriers represent about 200,000, and the Mail Handlers, upwards of 50,000.

Site Picketing Law Termed 'Past Due'

(Continued from Page 1)

tractors and employer organizations.

Hundreds of contractors from various parts of the nation moved on Capitol Hill wearing "Ban the Boycott" buttons—part of a campaign to portray the jobsite picketing bill as encouraging "secondary boycotts" of "innocent" employers.

Full-page newspaper advertisements carried the same anti-union message.

Biemiller stressed in his testimony that the prime contractor and the subcontractors he hires to work on the same construction site on the same job are not arms-length "neutrals" in a labor dispute.

He noted also that the Supreme Court has taken different views of picketing rights by industrial and building craft unions— denying the right to picket a subcontractor at a multiemployer construction site in a key 1951 decision, but 10 years later upholding the right of an industrial union to extend its picket lines during a strike to an entrance used by employes of a construction contractor working at the plant.

Biemiller scoffed at employer testimony that passage of the site picketing bill would add to the "enormous power" of the construction unions.

He noted that an employer spokesman had testified that the amount of construction done by non-union firms has doubled in the last 15 years.

"In large part," Biemiller suggested, "this has come about because the building trades have had both hands tied behind their backs" by the prohibition on construction site picketing.

As for employer contentions that the legislation would increase costs, Biemiller noted that Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, an authority in construction industry labor-management relations, has testified that it would not affect the wage sructure in the indusry.

Congress Challenges Ford's Move To Eliminate Price Controls on Oil

(Continued from Page 1)

fuel costs would translate into higher prices for almost all of the products and services that go into the cost-of-living market basket.

Ford formally submitted his plan, to take effect after five days unless either the House of Senate rejected it. But there appeared no doubt that a resolution of disapproval would be passed before the deadline.

The law controlling petroleum prices is scheduled to expire Aug. 31. The Senate voted 62-29 for a six-month extension, and the House is expected to concur.

The President is now expected to sign the temporary extension, but the White House did not rule out the possibility of a veto.

Under the present law, the $5.25 price ceiling applies only to "old" oil—that is oil produced up to the 1972 volume.

Oil above that amount, largely from recently-drilled wells, is not presently controlled and currently sells for about $13 a barrel.

The bill before the House—which the AFL-CIO said should be passed without any "crippling amendments" — would put this "new" oil under a $7.50 a barrel price ceiling. In some situations, where the drilling expense is high, the price could go to $8.50. Thus, there would be an immediate rollback of oil prices. In future years, an "inflation" price increase of 8 percent a year would be allowed.

The "old" oil would gradually be allowed to move up to the price level of the "new" oil so that the differential would be eliminated by 1980.

Under the House Commerce Committee bill, gasoline consumption would be held to 1973-74 levels and the President would be given authority to achieve this — and a 2 percent reduction, if feasible—through allocation and other forms of controls.

Subject to congressional approval, the President would have a broad range of powers—to impose rationing and to act as the sole purchasing agent for all oil imported into the United States.

On the Senate vote to extend oil price controls until Mar. 1, 1976, 51 Democrats and 11 Republicans voted for the bill, while 26 Republicans and three Democrats opposed it.

Musicians Share $10 Million Fund

New York—An all-time high $10 million will be paid this year to 41,000 Musicians by the Phonograph Record Manufacturers Special Payment Fund.

AFM President Hal C. Davis said this year's disbursement tops last year's record high by $2 million. The fund is part of AFM collective bargaining agreements with recording companies. Payments by manufacturers are based on sales.

Stowe Heads Panel For Rail Mediation

The National Mediation Board, which seeks to resolve disputes in the railroad and airline industries, has elected David H. Stowe as its chairman for the fiscal year that started July 1.

Stowe, a one-time administrative assistant to former President Truman, has been on the board since 1970. The agency traditionally rotates the chairmanship each year, and was held by George S. Ives for the past 12 months.

President Ford recently announced his intention to reappoint Ives to another three-year term on the board.

Meany Gives Support To National Bible Week

AFI-CIO President George Meany will serve as one of several honorary co-chairmen of this year's National Bible Week, scheduled for Nov. 23-30.

Sponsored by the Laymen's National Bible Committee, National Bible Week is an annual observance that began in 1941. Its aim is to motivate Bible reading and study.

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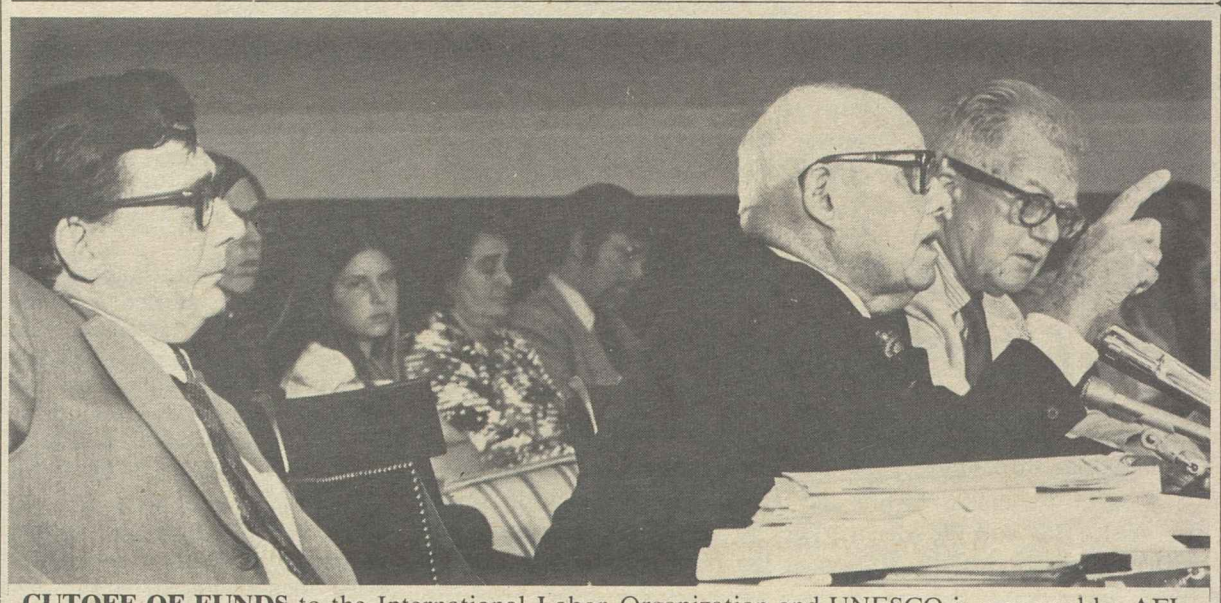
Meany Urges Fund Cutoff For 'Political' UN Bodies



CUTOFF OF FUNDS to the International Labor Organization and UNESCO is proposed by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the House International Relations Committee. He is flanked by Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, left, and Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller.

Sees ILO, UNESCO 'Perverted'

AFL-CIO President George Meany asked Congress to stop financing international programs and agencies that have been transformed into "instruments of political warfare" against the United States and Israel.

His targets, in testimony before the House International Relations Committee, were the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Meany noted that both organizations were set up for humanitarian reasons and have done good work in the past, particularly the ILO. But in recent years, under the domination of the Communist-Arab bloc, the ILO and UNESCO "have been completely perverted," he charged.

Responding to a question, Meany said the United States should give the required two-year notice of intention to withdraw from both organizations. This would amount to setting a deadline for the ILO and UNESCO to "straighten out," he said.

Meany's formal testimony dealt with an indirect means of channeling U.S. funds into the two organizations—above the amount the United States pays in direct membership dues and assessments.

Included in the foreign aid bill, in appropriations for the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), are funds for America's contribution to the United Nations Development Program. In recent years, the United States has contributed between 19 and 26 percent of the total UNDP budget, and a foreign aid authorization bill before the House committee pro-

(Continued on Page 7)

Labor Hits Bid to End Oil Control

President Ford's plan to end price controls on oil produced in the United States is a prescription for "more inflation and more recession," AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland charged.

Kirkland said the decontrol plan initially proposed by the President with the support of the big oil companies would add $30 billion a year to the prices Americans pay for goods and services by 1978—"more than $600 for every family of four."

Kirkland's statement was made before a House vote that narrowly defeated the oil pricing formula in the energy conservation bill that had been drafted by the House Commerce Committee.

The pricing formula, proposed initially by Rep. Bob Eckhardt (D-Tex.), would have pushed back the price of the decontrolled segment of U.S. oil production from its current level of about $13 a barrel to a ceiling of $7.50—still adequate for a substantial profit. Oil now controlled at the $5.25 level would be allowed to rise gradually to the $7.50 price level.

The AFL-CIO "strongly supports" that pricing provision, Kirkland declared.

Kirkland said America's workers "will not soon forget that it was the oil price hikes of the last two years that robbed their paychecks of buying power and plunged the country headlong into the worst recession since the 1930s."

Calling for rejection by Congress of all of the assorted decontrol plans that would "grossly" boost oil prices, Kirkland said decontrol would:

- Fix prices at the level set by a foreign cartel, "supported by the big oil companies and aided and abetted by the American government."
- Increase oil company profits "at the expense of the rest of American business and consumers, sapping the meager strength that exists for economic recovery."
- Make America's economy "even more dependent on the multinational oil companies."

The House was still considering the energy conservation bill as the AFL-CIO News went to press, and there were these developments:

- First, the House put aside its own bill to pass a resolution disapproving—and thus killing—President Ford's decontrol plan. The

(Continued on Page 7)

Food, Energy Pace CPI:

Real Earnings Slide As Prices Resurge

By James M. Shevis

Retail prices in June rose twice as fast as in the previous month, resulting in a further slide in workers' buying power, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Real spendable weekly earnings—take-home pay expressed in constant 1967 dollars—averaged $91.18 last month, largely reflecting a rise of eight-tenths of 1 percent over the month in the consumer price index, BLS said.

The dollar figure, which is calculated for a worker with three dependents, was 36 cents less than the May figure, 37 cents below the June 1974 average and 14 cents under the average for all of 1965.

The drop in real earnings came even at a time of reduced federal tax withholdings on workers' income. The decline in purchasing power over the month was four-tenths of 1 percent.

The June increase in the CPI was double the rise of four-tenths of 1 percent in May and the highest monthly jump in the cost of consumer goods and services since last December. The increase was the same both before and after adjustment for normal seasonal changes in some prices.

If prices were to continue to rise at the same rate as in June, consumers would face a 9.6 percent inflation rate in a year's time.

The June CPI rise was higher than the Ford Administration had expected, and was chiefly due to higher prices for food and energy. Also rising at a higher than usual pace were mortgage interest rates and used car prices.

The all-items CPI in June stood at 160.6 percent of its 1967 average, or 9.3 percent above its year-earlier level, BLS said.

Food prices alone climbed by a seasonally adjusted 1.5 percent last month, the steepest increase since a 1.6 percent surge last September and triple the May increase of five-tenths of 1 percent.

The cost of nonfood commodities rose five-tenths of 1 percent while charges for services went up seven-tenths of 1 percent.

In the nonfood commodities category, nearly half of the increase was due to higher gasoline prices.

(Continued on Page 8)

House Nears Vote on Site Picketing Bill

The House began debate on a construction site picketing bill that the AFL-CIO and its building trades affiliates have sought for more than two decades.

By a 322-94 vote, the House approved the rule for taking up the bill. This was the first of a series of important votes on a major trade union issue.

The bill carries a 31-7 endorsement from the Education & Labor Committee as a long-needed remedy for a court ruling that treated a picket line at a construction site where various subcontractors are working on the same job as an illegal secondary boycott.

Employer groups want to keep it that way, and have launched a major compaign to sway Congress and to seek to tilt the Administration away from a presumed endorsement of the bill—even though it now includes several provisions inserted at the urging of Labor Sec.

(Continued on Page 6)

Wages, Job Security Key to Postal Accord

A nationwide strike against the U.S. Postal Service was averted when four unions reached tentative agreement on new contracts providing increases in annual wages totalling $1,500 over a three-year period for about 600,000 workers, and retaining key job security protections.

The pacts, subject to membership ratification, replace two-year agreements with the USPS that expired at midnight, July 20. The new agreements were reached two hours after the old ones expired.

Postal strikes are prohibited under the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 but the unions had indicated they would follow a "no contract, no work" policy adopted by their memberships. Involved in the coordinated bargaining were the Postal Workers, Letter Carriers, Mail Handlers—a division of the Laborers—and the unaffiliated Rural Letter Carriers.

The "handshake" agreement must now be ratified by each union, a process expected to take about 30 days. Leaders of the unions, however, expressed confidence they would be approved.

"I feel our members will ratify by a substantial majority," Letter Carriers President James Rademacher said. APWU President Francis S. Filbey said that initial reaction from rank-and-file members across the nation was strongly favorable.

The settlement, reached with the aid of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, concluded 90

(Continued on Page 7)

Voting Rights Extension Clears Senate Hurdles

With the help of two cloture votes that squelched a filibuster, the Senate neared passage of a bill extending and broadening the 1965 Voting Rights Act which opened the ballot box to millions of southern blacks.

The new legislation, like the bill the House passed in early June, broadens the law to make it easier for Spanish-speaking Americans and other "language minorities" to register and vote.

It also makes permanent a ban on the use of literacy tests in any state or locality. A temporary ban on literary tests had been added in 1970, when the law was last extended.

The present law expires on Aug. 6, when Congress will be in recess, and civil rights groups had strongly urged the Senate to adopt the House-passed bill intact to avoid any danger of a legislative snarl that would delay final action past the deadline.

Legal experts had warned that any interval between the expiration of the old law and the effective date of an extension could create prob-

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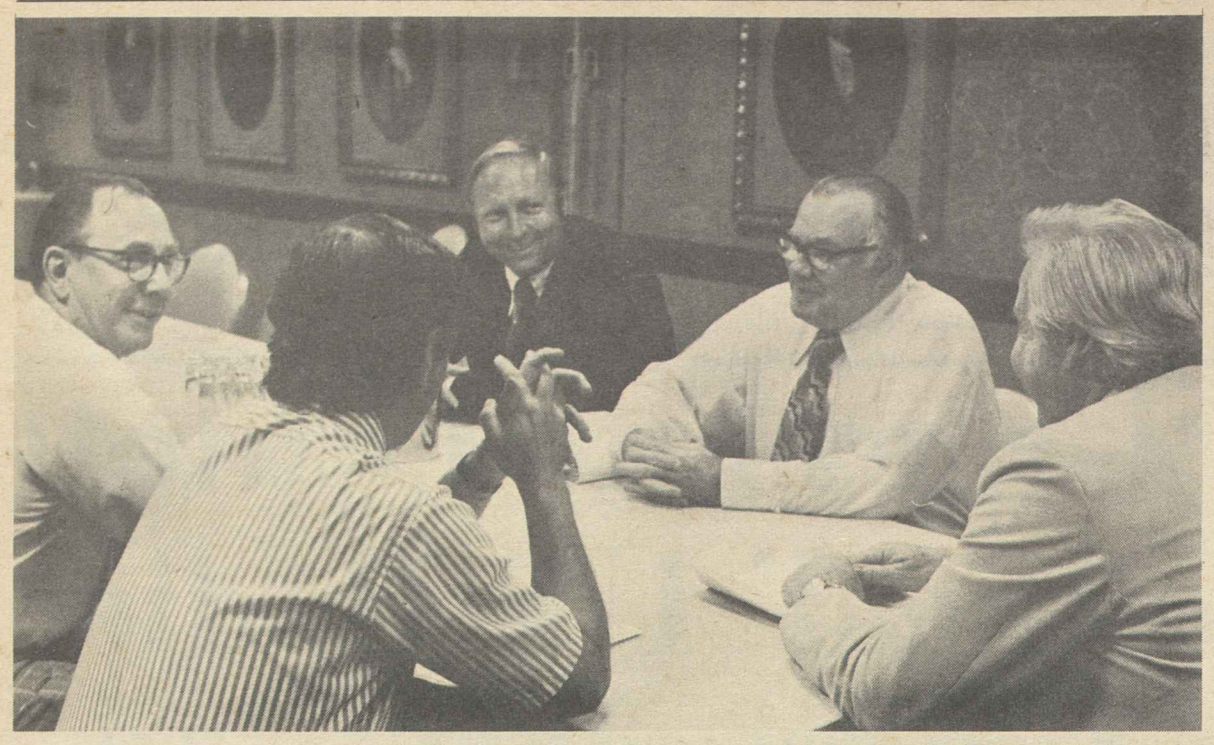

PRESIDENT C. L. DENNIS, of the Railway & Airline Clerks, second from right, chats with other participants in recent rail talks which concluded with a new three-year agreement yielding major economic benefits for the union's members. Clockwise from Dennis are W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service; William H. Dempsey, chief negotiator for the railroads; George Ives of the National Mediation Board, and Ned Davis, BRAC counsel.

Major Benefits Gained:

3-Year Pact Solves Rail Clerks' Impasse

The Railway & Airline Clerks approved a new three-year agreement with the nation's major railroads, providing its members with major economic benefits.

BRAC President C. L. Dennis, announcing that the union's general chairmen had voted unanimously to ratify the agreement, described the settlement as "the best in the history of the American railroad industry."

Dennis said the new contract will raise wages and fringe benefits 43.8 percent over the term of the agreement. The figure assumes maximum allowances under the pact's cost-of-living provision.

Workers will receive an immediate 10 percent general wage boost retroactive to last Jan. 1. Other general wage increases amount to 31.1 cents an hour as of Oct. 1, 1975, 19.6 cents on Apr. 1, 1976, and 29.6 cents on July 1, 1977.

Settlement of the longstanding contract dispute averted a strike set for July 28. Agreement was reached July 18 at an unscheduled bargaining session called by the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service and the National Mediation Board, which assisted in the talks.

The union had been free to strike since mid-June, but agreed to extend a 60-day cooling-off period that expired then for one more month.

The new agreement brings "long overdue and most equitable benefits to our people," Dennis noted. He said that, on a conservative basis, improvements under the contract will raise average wages from $11,818 a year to $16,582.

The total package breaks down to 40.3 percent in wage increases, 2 percent in health and welfare improvements, 1 percent for dental care, and five-tenths of 1 percent for an additional holiday on Christmas Eve.

The agreement also provides that vacation improvements, job stabilization, retraining and entry (apprenticeship) rates will be negotiated during the first year of the contract. If no agreement is reached during that time, a neutral will be brought in to resolve the differences.

The pact also includes procedures for changing the scope rule to bring more "excepted" employes under the BRAC banner. The procedures would bring 10 percent of the present 10,000 exempt positions within the union fold in the first 135 days of the agreement and the remaining 90 percent over the life of the contract.

Another key element in the settlement provides for continuation of the cost-of-living clause beyond the final period in the agreement so as to provide an additional payout on Jan. 1, 1978, up to a maximum of 23 cents an hour. It would be figured at the rate of 1 cent an hour for each rise of three-tenths of 1 percent in the government's consumer price index.

William H. Dempsey, chairman of the National Railway Labor Conference, the carriers' negotiating arm, said this 1978 COL adjustment would be made available to all other rail unions.

Dempsey described the settlement with the clerks as "reasonable" and "fair."

Dennis also expressed satisfaction over an agreement by railroad labor and management with key members of Congress on the provisions of a new railroad unemployment bill "which we hope will soon be passed."

"It will provide at last a decent cushion of compensation for those who lose their jobs on the railroads, or who become ill," he said.

Meanwhile, talks between the railroads and the four shopcraft unions that comprise the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept., were still bogged down, with the department's executive council scheduled to meet July 28 in Chicago to consider future action.

The National Mediation Board proffered arbitration under provisions of the Railway Labor Act. And the National Railway Labor Conference which bargains for the carriers proposed a new negotiating session with the craft unions on July 29 in Washington.

If the new talks fail to produce an agreement and if the arbitration proffer is turned down, the way would be open for appointment of a Presidential emergency board to investigate the dispute.

The four shop unions involved are the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Carmen, Firemen & Oilers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. A major stumbling block in the talks is the issue of contracting out rail shopmen's work.

A fifth rail union, the Yardmasters, also has yet to reach agreement with the carriers in this year's round of negotiations.

CONVENTION

The Seafarers convention will be held Sept. 2-5, 1975, in Washington, D.C.

Federal Appeals Court Rejects Undercutting of Seniority System

New Orleans—A federal district judge's decision that could have undermined union-negotiated seniority systems was overturned by a unanimous three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals here.

The case, which involves the issue of racial balance in layoffs and recalls, had been cited in a brief filed with the Supreme Court by the AFL-CIO and the Steelworkers as an example of preferential treatment that violates the intent of the equal opportunity section of the Civil Rights Act.

As the 5th Circuit appellate panel noted, none of the workers at the Continental Can Co. plant in Harvey, La., who would have been granted super-seniority had been discriminated against by the company. Past discrimination had ended before most of them were of working age.

By contrast, in the case before the Supreme Court, labor is supporting the effort of a group of black workers to have their seniority backdated to remedy the company's illegal discrimination in hiring practices.

The Steelworkers, which became the bargaining agent at the Bowman Transportation Co. in Louisiana through the merger of the previously unaffiliated District 50 union in 1972, is supporting the claim of the black workers for seniority to the date of their initial job applications with the company.

In that case, a 5th Circuit appellate panel upheld the workers' request for back pay to the date of their job applications and granted another group of workers transfer rights to more desirable jobs with companywide seniority. But it held that it did not have the power to award seniority prior to the date of actual employment.

The AFL-CIO, in a "friend of the court" role, joined with the Steelworkers in contending that the award of an earlier seniority date is proper and legal in this case.

An earlier seniority date is an appropriate remedy, the union brief contended, because it is a "make whole" solution which in effect puts the workers involved in the same relative position they would have held if there had been no illegal discrimination.

The brief urged the Supreme Court to uphold the seniority claim on that basic reasoning, rather than follow some other lines suggested as alternative legal paths by attorneys for the workers involved.

In their joint presentation to the Supreme Court, the AFL-CIO and the Steelworkers cited the legislative history of the Civil Rights Act to demonstrate these "two very clear objectives" of Congress:

- "To forbid discrimination and to make whole those who suffered discrimination.
- "Not to confer preferential rights upon minorities, either in the substantive or remedial provisions of the Act."

The brief also noted the trade union movement's very active support for the Civil Rights Act and especially for its fair employment provisions.

In the case where labor is supporting the seniority claims of the black workers, the brief notes that District 50 had sought to eliminate discriminatory seniority lines when it obtained bargaining rights in 1967, but the company had refused to agree and had continued to discriminate in hiring in defiance of the law.

Entirely different, the brief continues, is the contention that young minority and female workers "should be afforded special seniority protections against layoff, not because they themselves have been discriminated against, but because discrimination against others has produced a situation in which preferential protection against layoff is the only way to preserve racial or sexual balance in the workforce."

In the Continental Can Case, a layoff of half the workforce resulted in only employes who had been hired before 1952 keeping their jobs—a group that included only two blacks among the 152 employes. In 1971, when the layoffs began, there were about 50 blacks among the 400 workers.

The district court ordered recall of black workers with back pay to restore the racial balance that had existed before the layoffs and said future layoffs should preserve the ratio.

Speaking for the appellate court panel, Judge Paul H. Roney noted that such a solution would mean recalling some black workers who were not even of school age when white workers still on layoffs were first employed at the plant.

"Age, not race, is the principal reason that the plaintiffs in this case did not have sufficient seniority to withstand layoff," he held. "During the working life of these plaintiffs, there has been no history of discrimination, and none of them has suffered individual discrimination at the hands of the company."

Judge Roney added that recalling black workers before more senior white workers on the grounds that an earlier generation of blacks had been discriminated against would be to apply a preferential treatment based on race that is contrary to the equality envisioned in the Civil Rights Act.

Furniture Union Gains Won in 10-Week Strike

Sumter, S.C. — The Furniture Workers concluded a 10-week strike against Georgia-Pacific here with approval of a new three-year agreement providing significant gains in wages, benefits and working conditions for nearly 1,000 workers.

UFWA President Carl Scarbrough described the settlement as "a tremendous victory" for trade unionism and civil rights.

Wages were the chief issue involved in the dispute which erupted in a walkout on Apr. 25 after the firm failed to improve its position despite the efforts of federal and state mediators.

The new contract provides a series of wage increases ranging up to 75 cents an hour over the life of the agreement. That is more than triple the company's "final" offer last spring, Scarbrough noted.

Hourly wages at the Sumter plant were just pennies above the minimum wage under the old agreement. They ranged from $2.16 to $2.50—even for workers with more than 10 years of service. The workforce is predominantly black.

"This was the largest strike ever led by black trade unionists in the state of South Carolina," Scarbrough noted. The walkout and the negotiations were guided by UFWA's Southern vice president, LeRoy Clark, and Rep. Dean Culver, along with Local 273 Business Agent Herman Vaughn.

Besides wages, the right to dignity on the job was a key goal of union negotiators, Clark said.

"That is now assured with the provisions won in this settlement," he said. "No longer do workers have to get permission to go to the lavatory. Nor are they required to authorize the company to examine their private medical records when they are out sick."

Other highlights of the agreement include a greatly improved insurance program, a special increase in the night-shift differential, a first-time provision for three weeks of vacation, and addition of another paid holiday.

Clark noted that one of the most important gains was an increase in union membership. Even though South Carolina is a so-called right-to- work state in which union-shop agreements are outlawed, UFWA membership among Georgia-Pacific's Sumter workers has shot up to nearly 100 percent compared to around 60 percent before the strike, Clark said.

Clark expressed gratitude to the Carpenters, the Woodworkers and the AFL-CIO for their support during the walkout. "We got a big boost from the solidarity of the labor movement," he said.

The Carpenters represent units at several other G-P plants. The Woodworkers, who also represent employes of the company, agreed to respect the UFWA's 24-hour picket lines.

Convention Action:

Longshoremen Plan Boycott Of Grain Cargoes to Russia

By John R. Oravec

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Longshoremen will refuse to load U.S. and Canadian grain on ships bound for the Soviet Union unless there are assurances the shipments will not adversely affect the American public.

That ILA policy resolution was adopted unanimously with a standing roar of approval by the more than 500 delegates attending the union's 43rd convention here.

ILA President Thomas W. Gleason said the proposed boycott, to be carried out by the union's 132,000 members on U.S. and Canadian docks, would be coordinated with other AFL-CIO maritime trades unions.

The boycott resolution received the immediate endorsement of President Paul Hall of the Seafarers, who addressed the convention following its adoption.

In addition to expressing concern over the economic impact on the price of bread and baked goods and the added costs to taxpayers, Gleason cited the failure of Administration policy to guarantee that a fair share of the grain be transported in American-flag ships.

Despite White House promises that one-third of all the grain would be shipped on American bottoms, Gleason said at a news conference, U.S.-flag ships hauled only 11 percent of cargo from the previous Russian grain sale.

Gleason also questioned a statement of Agriculture Sec. Earl L. Butz that the new grain sale may affect American grain prices only nominally.

This "nominal increase" could mean the price of a loaf of bread going up to $1, Gleason warned.

The ILA resolution said in part:

"The American people have only recently recovered from the disastrous grain deals of 1972 in which the Soviet Union obtained American grain at bargain prices, subsidized by American credits and resulting in sharply increased prices in the American market.

"The Russian traders and the huge grain companies were thus enabled to derive undeserved advantages at the expense of the American farmer, the American consumer and the American taxpayer."

The resolution directs all ILA locals to honor the union policy established with the action and gives authority to Gleason to lift the proposed boycott "if the interests of the American public are adequately protected."

In an address at the opening of the ILA convention, AFL-CIO President George Meany said the sale of grain to the Soviet Union is the outgrowth of the "ill-conceived" Kissinger-Nixon-Brezhnev policy of detente.

"What it amounts to," Meany stressed, "is a series of unilateral concessions on the part of the United States of America to the Soviet Union."

He said that the one-way street of detente as it is presently conceived amounts to nothing more than appeasement, which proved to be an absolute failure in the past.

"This seems to be the philosophy, that the way to get along with the Soviet Union is to give and keep giving. Give them our money; give them our technical know-how; give them our machines, tools, everything."

In return, Meany said, America gets nothing—even in its efforts of trying to bring peace to Indochina and the Middle East.

"Detente means that the Soviet Union is cheating on the arms agreement, setting up missiles and naval bases to control the vital lifeline in the Indian Ocean, and all the while they receive from Good Old Uncle Sam technology, American know-how, 6 percent financing with American taxpayers' money, millions of tons of American wheat to make up for their own failures in the agricultural field."

Meany warned that the nation's present foreign policy is "a blueprint for disaster" that is undermining its commitments to NATO and its standing in other world organizations such as the United Nations, UNESCO and the International Labor Organization.

Meany said the labor movement could not buy the current international trade policy from an Administration that has already given the nation a 9 percent unemployment rate.

He said the American people must speak out in protest against phony detente.

"We in America are in favor of a real, genuine detente—a two-way street in which each side makes its maximum contribution to future world peace," Meany stressed.

In a report to the convention, Gleason said that international cooperation is essential if transport workers throughout the world are to achieve economic justice. He noted that cooperation with unions of other countries on the containerization issue has greatly benefited ILA members.

He also termed the ILA's 1974 master contract agreement, resolved without work stoppage, a major step forward for ILA members in wages, benefits and a guaranteed annual income.

Addressing delegates the day President Ford vetoed legislation that would have extended oil price controls and roll back other oil prices, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) charged that Ford is worth a gusher a day in profits to the oil companies.

He said the worst recession since the post-war period and more inflation and unemployment are guaranteed because of Ford's economic and energy policies.

"He's got the country riding the pipeline to poverty," Jackson declared.

Other major speakers at the convention included Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, Transportation Sec. William T. Coleman, Representatives Leonor K. Sullivan (D-Mo.) and Claude Pepper (D-Fla.) and President Jesse Calhoon of the Marine Engineers.

Pilots Reach 3-Year Accord On Northwest

Minneapolis—The Air Line Pilots reached agreement on a new contract with Northwest Airlines that will provide some 1,500 pilots an average increase of 34 percent in wages and benefits over a three-year period.

Ratification by the union's Northwest master executive council is still necessary.

The pilots had been without a contract since July 1974, and were legally free to strike the airline on July 17.

Pay increases were to be made in three steps. After an immediate retroactive increase, other boosts were scheduled Jan. 1, 1976 and on Jan. 1, 1977.

DETENTE WITH RUSSIA as currently practiced by the Ford Administration under the guidance of Sec. of State Henry Kissinger is really a form of appeasement and a surrender to blackmail, AFL-CIO President Meany told delegates to the Longshoremen's convention in Bal Harbour, Fla.

High Unemployment Hits Record 129 Job Centers

The number of major job markets with "substantial" unemployment—6 percent or more—stands at 129, the highest since the Labor Dept. began its present system of classifying the nation's chief labor areas in 1955.

The increase resulted from the addition of Savannah, Ga., Louisville, Ky., and Roanoke, Va., to the list of major job centers with more than 6 percent joblessness and the removal of Madison, Wis.

The rise from 127 in April to 129 in June among the 150 chief areas of unemployment surveyed each month marked the third straight time that the figure was the highest in the past 20 years, the Labor Dept. said. The latest report combined May and June figures.

The new total is nearly three times the 45 areas on the list in June 1974. Substantial unemployment means the area has a seasonally adjusted jobless rate of 6 percent or more, with the rate expected to continue at that or a higher level for at least two more months.

Savannah's jobless rate rose because of job losses in the paper and allied products industry. In Roanoke, the majority of unemployed workers continued to be found in the textile, apparel and retail trade sectors. Recent cutbacks in construction and continuing layoffs in machinery resulted in Louisville's higher rate. Madison, which had been placed on the "substantial" unemployment list last March, went on the "moderate" list due primarily to employment increases in wholesale and retail trades and in the construction industry.

Public Employe Pacts End Strikes in 2 States

A total of 22,000 public employes in Pennsylvania and in Santa Clara County, Calif., ended separate two and one-half week strikes with ratification of new contracts, but 3,600 others employed by the city of Cleveland still remained off their jobs.

The Pennsylvania and California disputes involved locals of the Service Employees union, while the Cleveland walkout was carried out by members of the State, County & Municipal Employees.

The Pennsylvania strikes, involving SEIU Locals 688 and 675, began on July 1 following eight months of fruitless negotiations. Local 688 represents about 10,000 workers at state employment offices while Local 675 represents some 2,000 welfare workers.

The two locals accepted new two-year pacts that will raise the average annual wage from $11,360 to $12,648 over the term of the agreements. An initial immediate increase of 3.5 percent will be followed by a 2.5 percent boost in January 1976 and a 6 percent hike in July 1976.

The complicated Pennsylvania negotiations also produced an agreement from the state to add 8 cents to a health and welfare fund to enable the union to set up a dental plan.

The new contracts also include an improved grievance procedure, a health and safety clause to improve workplaces, greater job protection and a guarantee of no reprisals against first-level supervisors who honored the SEIU picket lines.

In California, some 10,000 Santa Clara County workers struck also on July 1 when their contracts expired. Involved were SEIU Locals 535, representing social workers, and 715, representing a broad spectrum of other county employes.

The two locals agreed to a settlement providing wage increases totaling 21 percent over a 2-year period. In the first year of the pact, all workers earning more than $10,000 a year receive a 7 percent pay boost. Workers who earn less will receive an additional $70.

The second-year wage boost provides for a 4 percent general increase, plus a cost-of-living adjustment.

The Santa Clara agreement also gives workers three additional personal leave days each year, increased funding for a health and dental plan, and an improved uniform allowance.

The Cleveland strike involves technical, clerical and blue-collar workers—members of AFSCME Local 100—who had been working without a contract since last Dec. 31. They walked off their jobs July 21, when negotiations broke down.

A federal mediator attempted to arrange another bargaining session between the union and Cleveland Mayor Ralph Perk but none had been scheduled by midweek.

Arnold Zander Dies, Pioneer In AFSCME

Green Bay, Wis.—Arnold S. Zander, a founder and the first president of the State, County & Municipal Employees, died at his home here on July 17. He was 74.

A native of Two Rivers, Wis., who received his higher education at the University of Wisconsin, Zander was one of a handful of Wisconsin state employes who began organizing fellow workers.

In 1932, they founded a small organization to fight for preservation of the state's civil service system against attempts to reinstate political patronage in state service.

The group, created as the Wisconsin State Administrative, Clerical, Fiscal & Technical Employees Association, evolved into a department of the Government Employees in 1935.

A year later, the organization was chartered as AFSCME by the AFL, and Zander served as its president through 1964 when he was succeeded by Jerry Wurf.

Wurf paid tribute to Zander as "a man who set in motion a force which has changed the very nature of public employment and has added a measure of dignity to employer-employe relationships in state and local government."

A Sensible Oil Policy

THE AFL-CIO STRONGLY SUPPORTS the oil pricing provisions in the bill sponsored by Rep. Bob Eckhardt and urges the House to reject all efforts to decontrol oil prices or any of the variations which would grossly increase oil prices.

The Ford Administration and the oil companies want to remove all oil price controls over the next 30 months—a plan destined to cause havoc with the economy. It is a plan for inflation and recession, costing every American family hundreds of dollars every year plus the loss of untold thousands of jobs.

The dollar-and-cents price tag for American consumers for decontrol of oil prices and the oil tariffs combined with a conservative ripple effect on all goods and services, will be more than $30 billion per year in 1978—or more than $600 for every family of four. If the OPEC nations carry out their threat of a price increase this fall, the cost will be even higher.

Workers will not soon forget that it was the oil price hikes of the last two years that robbed their paychecks of buying power and plunged the country headlong into the worst recession since the 1930s.

Workers see through the sham arguments of the proponents of decontrol.

- It will not result in free market pricing; rather it would legalize price fixing by a foreign cartel, supported by the big oil companies and aided and abetted by the American government.
- It would increase the profits of the big oil companies at the expense of the rest of American business and consumers, sapping the meager strength that exists for economic recovery.
- It would not foster energy independence; instead it would make the American economy even more dependent on the multinational oil companies.

THE ADMINISTRATION claims decontrol is essential for increased exploration and for conservation. Yet it offers not one shred of evidence, not one scintilla of proof.

The Eckhardt pricing provisions of $7.50 per barrel are more than sufficient to cover legitimate production cost inflation, while maintaining the reasonable controls the American government must have over such a vital segment of industry. The cartel price of $13.50 a barrel is not necessary to increase production.

Oil production would be maximized, with long-term price stability, under the provisions of the Eckhardt bill. Additional price increases would be windfall profits to the oil companies and encourage them to further delay oil production pending even higher prices in the future. This vicious cycle must stop now, and it is up to the Congress to stop it.

The Eckhardt bill provides for auto, industrial and appliance energy-use efficiency programs which are more effective and less disruptive than rationing by price. The alternative is the Ford program with its prescription for more inflation and more recession. We choose the Eckhardt bill.

—Statement by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland on oil pricing policy.

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Fuel for the Fire

A Word Edgewise:

Toothless Regulatory Agencies Chided by Ford for Growling

By John P. Roche

THERE AREN'T MANY LAUGHS in politics these days, but recently President Ford interrupted the seemingly endless wake for the Central Intelligence Agency with a bit of stand-up humor worthy of Groucho Marx. He solemnly summoned to the White House the chairmen of the many federal regulatory agencies and told them to lay off. To be precise, he called for a "maximum freedom for private enterprise" and chided the agencies (such as the Federal Power Commission, the Federal Communications Commission and the Interstate Commerce Commission) for allegedly harassing businessmen.

Anyone who knows anything about the activities of these so-called independent regulatory agencies immediately appreciated that the President was in effect telling a bunch of toothless tabbies to stop being tigers.

With few exceptions these agencies have long since been bagged up by the business interests they are supposed to regulate. Occasionally there will be an internal feud: the Interstate Commerce Commission, long a fiefdom of the railroads, faced in recent years a take-over bid by the truckers. And there have been various brawls in the Federal Communications Commission over the application of the "fairness doctrine," but Walter Cronkite put reality in a nutshell when he said of the networks, "We're big and we're powerful enough to thumb our nose at threats from the government, and I hope it stays that way."

The history of these agencies is interesting. Around the turn of the century there was a great outcry against corruption. What know they of corruption who only Watergate know? By current standards the situation was unbelievable. Henry Demerest Lloyd, one of the leading "muckrakers" (as Theodore Roosevelt, in a moment of anger, denoted the reformers) observed accurately that the only thing that Standard Oil could not do with the Pennsylvania legislature was refine it. The so-called "robber barons" were not without charm —one of them observed after a particularly ingenious raid upon the public interest that "nothing was lost but honor."

The thrust of the reformer's position was that regulating the "interests" could only be achieved by taking them out of politics. (This paralleled the effort to end corruption in government by establishing civil service as the alternative to patronage.) They decided that the chosen instruments for this depoliticization should be independent commissions whose members were appointed for set terms and were not responsible to the President. The staggered terms varied from agency to agency, averaging about seven years, though the members of the Federal Reserve Board are in for 14. They float in the constitutional blue, being subject to direction from neither the President nor Congress, a fact which often makes it very hard for an Administration adequately to implement policy—since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board have been at daggers drawn.

THE FIRST BIG EFFORT came in the 1880s with a drive to regulate the railroads, which were joyously operating in a lucrative limbo created by the Supreme Court, which had held them immune to state regulation. Understandably the managers took a dim view of the proposed Interstate Commerce Commission, but in 1892 their crack lawyer, Richard S. Olney (later U.S. Attorney General), took a different view. He urged support for the commission because it "can be made of great use to the railroads. It satisfies the popular clamor for a government supervision of railroads, at the same time that that supervision is almost entirely nominal."

Then Olney, with brilliant prescience, anticipated the history of all such commissions: "Further, the older such a commission gets to be, the more inclined it will be found to take the business and railroad view of things. It thus becomes a sort of barrier between the railroad corporations and the people and a sort of protection against hasty and crude legislation hostile to railroad interests. . . . The part of wisdom is not to destroy the commission, but to utilize it."

Well, Mr. President, I trust the tabbies will become even more somnolent, and thanks for a good laugh.

Manipulations by Arab Bloc:

Reckless Moves Against Israel Pose Threat to UN's Survival

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

NEARLY 10 YEARS have passed since Pope Paul VI made his historic visit to the United Nations—a pilgrimage which, momentarily at least, lifted the spirits of mankind and held out some measure of hope that the nations of the world, at long last, might be able to resolve their differences and live at peace with one another. Pope Paul's trip to the UN served to symbolize rather dramatically, by word and deed, his strong support of the organization at a time when it badly needed such support and his prayerful hope, in the words of his predecessor Pope John XXIII, that the time might come "as quickly as possible when every human being will find therein an effective safeguard for the rights which derive directly from his dignity as a person, and which are therefore universal, inviolable and inalienable rights."

As of today, however, I rather suspect that if the Pope were to make a second visit to the UN and were to reaffirm his support for the organization, he would receive a much less favorable hearing and might even be written off by some as a naive and somewhat romantic idealist. In other words, the UN is today in serious trouble—so much so that even some of its staunchest supporters are beginning to fear that it may not be able to survive.

The reason for this ominous shift in public opinion is all too obvious. Increasingly in recent years reckless attempts have been made by some of the Arab nations and their allies in the so-called Third World to manipulate the organization and its specialized agencies, not in the interest of world peace, but to their own short-sighted political advantage. More specifically, they seem to have set their sights on driving the State of Israel out of the United Nations.

The Arab nations and their Third World allies launched their relentless attack on Israel in the UN General Assembly last year when they limited Israel's right to speak in the Palestine debate. They also limited Israeli participation in the UN Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization.

This year they moved against Israel at the annual conference of the International Labor Organization. They also forced the World Health Organization to condemn Israel, and passed a resolution against "Zionism" at the International Women's Year Conference in Mexico City.

Now the word is out that, having gotten away with these outrageous moves against Israel, they may be preparing to go for broke at the next meeting of the UN General Assembly by demanding that the State of Israel be expelled from the organization. There is growing concern among UN officials and world diplomats—as well there might be—that such a move on the part of the Arab-Third World bloc could result in the destruction of the UN as it is now known. According to the Washington Post, these UN officials and diplomats envision votes on the General Assembly floor this year leading to the suspension of Israeli participation, a walkout by the American delegation, a cutoff of UN funds by the U.S. Congress, and perhaps fund cuts by Western European nations.

"For the first time," an American diplomat said, "I can visualize the destruction of the UN as we know it—its transformation into the Third World Congress."

This is a frightening prospect at a time when the United Nations is more badly needed than ever before. One can only hope and pray that the Arab-Third World bloc will have a radical change of heart between now and the next meeting of the General Assembly. On the other hand, if worst comes to worst, the United States will have no alternative but to support the State of Israel and, if necessary, walk out of the General Assembly.

TO THEIR CREDIT, the members of the U.S. labor delegation to the recent annual conference of the International Labor Organization (the oldest of the UN specialized agencies) followed this course of action when the Arab-Third World bloc rammed through a vote granting official observer status at the conference to the Palestine Liberation Organization, an Arab terrorist group which, on more than one occasion, has called for the destruction of the State of Israel. The chairman of the U.S. labor delegation explained the American walkout as follows:

"Our position is clear: We have never opposed legitimate movements fighting for their freedom and independence. And our history and record have demonstrated our support for such movements in North Africa and Black Africa . . . but we oppose the admission of liberation movements to the ILO which do not represent an oppressed state and we oppose the admission of liberation movements which seek the destruction of another state as a prerequisite to achieve their goals."

This is a sound position and, in my opinion, the only one that is consistent with the purpose of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Pope John XXIII stated that purpose as follows in his encyclical Pacem in Terris: "The United Nations organization has as its essential purpose the maintenance and consolidation of peace between peoples, fostering between them friendly relations, based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and varied forms of cooperation in every section of human endeavor."

The United States, as suggested above, will have no alternative but to live up to this statement of purpose, whatever the cost, if the Arab-Third World bloc is reckless enough to try to expel the State of Israel from the United Nations at the next meeting of the General Assembly.

Let's hope and pray that things will not come to such a dreadful pass—but if they do, our government, in the words of Sec. Kissinger, may be compelled (God forbid) to "depart the scene."

Support Gains in Congress:

National Health Security Plan Termed Key to Cost Controls

THE LONG-SOUGHT National Health Security program is the surest way to build the leverage and support needed to curb escalating medical and hospital costs, Max Fine, executive director of the Committee for National Health Insurance, declared.

Pointing out that Americans now spend more than $100 billion a year for health care, Fine stressed that those costs have been rising at double the pace of the overall cost of living. And, he said, all signs point to even higher health care costs unless the expensive and inefficient delivery system is overhauled along the lines of the Health Security program. Fine made the statements on Labor News Conference.

Appearing with Fine on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program was AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, who said that President Ford's contention that the economy rules out Administration support for any national health insurance bill this year just doesn't stand up.

He said that not only would Health Security keep America's health bill as low as possible, but since it would take some time to get the program operational, it could well come into being under different economic conditions.

Seidman and Fine agreed that widening public support and demand among the public at large for national health insurance have given the measure new momentum. Fine noted that 100 members of the House now co-sponsor the Health Security bill, "which is more than we've ever had." And, he added, at the same time that Health Security was gaining support, the catastrophic insurance bill pushed by the American Medical Association, lost 55 of its co-sponsors and supporters in the November elections.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

REP. FRANK THOMPSON JR. (D-N.J.), a leader in helping win House passage of the job-site picketing bill, took to the House floor before the vote to explain why it is "an essential ingredient" in the nation's long commitment to collective bargaining.

These were some key "questions and answers" set forth by Thompson to aid new members of Congress in understanding the issue and to expose falsehoods, myths and half-truths in employers' attacks on the bill:

Q. Does the legislation legalize secondary boycotts?

A. No. It does not alter the law one whit as it affects the true or traditional boycott. It is the bill's premise that there simply is no "secondary boycott" when construction workers strike only to protest that a general contractor is subcontracting part of his total job obligation to a non-union employer.

Workers should have the right to strike to protest this subcontracting because it undermines their wage scales. Such a walkout is "primary," not "secondary."

Q. If a contractor brings onto a job a subcontractor who employs non-union labor, would building trades unions be allowed to picket the job as unfair?

A. Yes. The bill's purpose is to correct a court ruling, including a split Supreme Court decision in 1951, that literally would prohibit any building trades picket line on a job site that might turn away a supplier or customer.

"It generally has been recognized ever since that the decision is unrealistic and does not reflect the realities in the cnstruction industry where the contractor and subcontractor are related allies in a common venture, neither is 'innocent,' neither is 'unconcerned' in the labor disputes of the other."

Q. Has Congress ever before exempted any industry from the secondary boycott provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act?

A. Yes. In 1959, Congress amended the law to make sure the secondary boycott provisions would not apply to the clothing industry, which like the construction industry is marked by subcontracting of parts of a job.

Q. Would enactment of the situs picketing bill give workers in the construction industry "special treatment?"

A. No. In 1961, the Supreme Court held in a case involving General Electric that it was lawful for striking employes of a manufacturing concern to picket gates used by employes of contractors and subcontractors if their work aided or was "related" to operations of the manufacturer being struck.

Q. Does the bill authorize a union to picket any job site to force off a subcontractor of the site because he hires minority workers, women, or workers who have religious beliefs that conflict with joining a union?

A. No. The bill expressly makes it unlawful to picket where the object is to remove from the site any employe on grounds of sex, race, creed, color or national origin.

Q. Would an AFL-CIO union be permitted to picket a site because a subcontractor has a contract with an independent union?

A. No. The legislation expressly bans any picketing by one union in an effort to force an employer to recognize or bargain with a different union than the one representing his workers.

Q. Is the legislation consistent with our national commitment to encourage collective bargaining?

A. Yes. It adheres to public policy going back 40 years to the Wagner Act. It is one more fulfillment of Congress's guarantee of the right of employes to engage in "concerted activities, including the right to strike."

THE LEVERAGE WRITTEN into the Health Security bill is just what is needed to hold down escalating medical and hospital costs, said Max Fine, second from left, executive director of the Committee for National Health Insurance, and Bert Seidman, third from left, AFL-CIO social security director. They were questioned on Labor News Conference by Jerome Brazda, left, of Washington Report on Medicine & Health and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO public affairs program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Rollcall on Construction Picketing Bill

The House on July 25 voted 230-178 approval of the construction site picketing bill, a major goal of the AFL-CIO and the building trades unions.

Right votes (R) for the bill were cast by 204 Democrats and 26 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 71 Democrats and 107 Republicans.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) PW

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Mills (D) R
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) R
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) A
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) PR
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) R
17. Krebs (D) W
18. Ketchum (R) R
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) R
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) PR
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) PR
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) A
3. Evans (D) W
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Sarasin (R) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Haley (D) W
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) W
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) W
9. Landrum (D) PW
10. Stephens (D) W

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) PW
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) R
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) R
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) W
6. Bedell (D) W

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) PR
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) W
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) W
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) PR
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) A
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
6. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) R
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) R
9. Hungate (D) W
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) W
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) A
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) A
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) R

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) PR
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) A
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) A
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) W
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) R
34. Horton (R) A
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) R
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) W
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) A
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) W
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) PW
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) R
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) PW
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) W
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) W
6. Jenrette (D) A

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) PW
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) W
4. Evins (D) W
5. Fulton (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Young (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Krueger (D) W
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) A

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) A
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) A
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) A
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Actions Called Deliberate:

Housing Policies Hit As Drag on Economy

Chicago—Ford Administration actions on housing are "deliberately prolonging the recession," the AFL-CIO charged.

Terming the claims of recovery in housing construction a "sham," the Executive Council called for a comprehensive program to speed up construction under federal subsidy programs, halt the artificial propping-up of interest rates in the private market, expedite loans for housing for the elderly and protect the unemployed against loss of their homes.

The current situation in housing, the council said, is a series of undesirable records:

- The lowest rate of housing starts in 28 years.
- Employment figures that show 21 percent jobless among all construction workers, an even higher rate for workers in housing and a ripple effect on other segments of the economy.
- A slow turnover in new homes, despite the tax credit of up to $2,000 for new home purchases, with the malaise attributable to high interest rates.
- The highest mortgage delinquency rate in 23 years during the first quarter of 1975, foreshadowing an increase in foreclosures, while the inflation of recent years lofted the median price of a new home to $40,000 in May 1975.

No matter how great the recovery in the months ahead, the council said "housing production in 1975 will be only about half the 2.2 million units per year needed to meet the nation's basic housing needs."

In the face of all this, the council said the Ford Administration takes such hurtful actions as vetoing the first Emergency Housing Act, which would have made 6 and 7 percent mortgage financing available.

The measure Ford did sign, the council pointed out, empowered the Government National Mortgage Association to purchase mortgages with 7½ percent rates—meager improvement over the 7¾ percent funds available in 1974.

"Furthermore, GNMA is reselling at substantial discounts the mortgages that it has acquired, thus providing lenders with 9 percent yields," the council pointed out. It charged that this drains off available savings capital and helps to subsidize the "private mortgage interest rates so disastrous to the housing industry."

The Administration has also blocked effective use of low-income housing programs that could generate needed housing construction by allowing applications to languish in the processing pipeline.

Noting that "the history of past recessions is that a revival in the housing industry leads to a recovery," the council demanded that immediate federal action be taken "to expedite issuance of final commitments" for low-income and public housing projects.

This would free some applications pending since 1973, the council said, and it called for new applications to be accepted and processed to the full extent permitted by existing authorizations.

The council also called for a ban on the sale of previously purchased mortgages from the GNMA portfolio as the only way to stop the subsidizing of high mortgage rates.

The relief needed by unemployed workers is already on the statute books in the Emergency Housing Act of 1975, it was noted, with full implementation by the Ford Adminitration all that is needed now.

DISCUSSIONS FOR AFFILIATION of the Pottery Workers with the Seafarers were given added impetus as delegates to a special convention of the pottery union approved constitutional changes. SIU President Paul Hall is welcomed to the Miami Beach convention by Pottery Workers President Lester H. Null, Sr., left, and Sec.-Treas. George R. Barbaree, right.

Congress Ups Aid to Jobless Rail Workers

Congress swiftly approved higher unemployment and sickness benefits for railroad workers that had been negotiated by rail unions and management.

The program is fully financed by employers, but is spelled out in the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act. The new agreement, passed unanimously by the House and Senate less than two weeks after it had been introduced, is the first change in the benefit schedule since 1968.

The previous maximum benefit of $12.70 a day during periods of unemployment or illness is increased to $24, retroactive to July 1. On July 1, 1976, it goes to $25. Up to the maximum, workers receive 60 percent of lost wages.

The initial waiting period for sickness benefits is reduced from seven to four days. However, under the new law unemployment compensation will not be paid until the eighth day of a legal strike. Previously it could be paid from the start of a strike.

While workers with 10 or more years of service have been eligible for extended benefits, the new law enables those with less than 10 years of service to obtain an additional 13 weeks of unemployment compensation through a "trigger" device. The added weeks become available when either the national insured unemployment rate or the jobless rate for railroad workers is at least 4 percent for three consecutive months.

'75 Wage Settlements Improve in Major Pacts

Larger wage increases were negotiated in major collective bargaining agreements during the first six months of the year than in the similar period of 1974 as unions sought to insulate their members against the effects of rising consumer prices.

Preliminary estimates issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show wage rate adjustments averaged 11 percent for the first contract year and 8 percent a year when measured over the life of the contracts. In the first half of 1974, comparable wage gains averaged 9.8 percent and 7.3 percent, respectively. These measures exclude additional increases provided under cost-of-living escalator clauses.

The BLS compilation is based on 344 collective bargaining agreements in the private nonfarm sector, each covering 1,000 or more workers. The settlements affect 1.3 million workers primarily in the construction, railroad and petroleum industries.

BLS noted that contract settlements with escalator clauses were negotiated in the first half of 1975 for 407,000 workers and provided annual wage-rate adjustments of 7 percent exclusive of cost-of-living adjustments. Contracts without the clauses provided average increases of 8.7 percent. A year earlier, the comparable gains were 6.1 and 9.1 percent.

However, total wage gains have averaged 12.9 percent thus far in 1975 settlements with escalator clauses. These include first-year negotiated increases and the COL adjustments.

BLS noted that 56 percent of all workers in major bargaining units are now covered by contracts containing escalator clauses.

Other key findings of the BLS survey:

- Combined wage and benefit increases in contracts covering 5,000 or more workers averaged 11.3 percent for the first year and 7.6 percent annually over the life of the contract. This compares with gains of 10.7 and 7.8 percent last year.
- The average duration of the contracts was extended to 28 months, compared with 21.7 months when these contracts were previously negotiated.

In manufacturing, an estimated 388,000 workers under new contracts will receive an average wage increase of 10.9 percent in the first year and 8.4 percent a year over the entire term of their contract. This is up from the 8.7 and 6.1 negotiated in 1974.

In nonmanufacturing, first-year increases for about 932,000 workers are also larger—11 percent, compared with 10.5 percent last year. But raises spread over the life of these contracts were down to an average of 7.8 percent from 8 percent in 1974.

Wage gains in first-half settlements in the construction industry declined to 8.1 percent for the first contract year from 11 percent in 1974, while the annual average over the life of the contract fell to 7.8 percent from 9.6 percent.

While construction industry settlements led other sectors in negotiated wage increases last year, BLS noted that the new contracts "had a somewhat moderating influence on the all-industries and nonmanufacturing measures in the first half of 1975."

Average first-year pay increases for all industries excluding construction amounted to 12.2 percent and adjustments for nonmanufacturing excluding construction averaged 13.2 percent.

Longshoremen Propose Aid to Inland Shipping

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Delegates to the Longshoremen's 43rd convention here called for federal programs to improve inland shipping lanes and provide stiffer enforcement of pollution controls.

The nearly 500 delegates unanimously elected Thomas W. Gleason to his fourth consecutive term as president of the 60,000-member dock workers union. Also re-elected to new four-year terms without opposition were Sec.-Treas. Harry R. Hasselgren, Executive Vice President John Bowers and General Organizer Fred R. Field, Jr.

Two new vice presidents were elected to the union's executive council, along with the 23 vice presidents who were returned to office. They are William B. Boyle of Miami and John H. Raspberry of Houston.

The convention also approved salary increases for top officers to provide catch-up raises because of higher living costs in the past four years.

Gleason's annual salary was raised from $40,000 to $60,000. Comparable increases raised the annual salaries of the executive vice president and the general organizer to $40,000 and the secretary-treasurer to $45,000.

Among the major resolutions adopted at the four-day convention, delegates directed the union's executive officers to initiate affiliation discussions with the Grain Millers, noting that members of both unions are often involved in similar occupations and work for common employers.

Earlier in the convention, delegates unanimously called on all ILA members to refuse to load grain bound for the Soviet Union until there are assurances the shipments will not adversely affect the American public.

In an effort to improve maritime traffic between the Great Lakes and Atlantic ports, the convention urged the federal government to investigate the possibility of refurbishing the Erie Canal to handle deep draft vessels.

Delegates also called for stronger enforcement of pollution control standards on the Great Lakes to insure the survival of the waterways.

Citing unnecessary delays in processing benefit claims for job injuries, the ILA asked for federal administrators to speed procedures under the Longshoremen's & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

Following the closing of the convention, the union's executive council named Vice President Anthony Scotto as legislative director and assistant general organizer, a new post.

New Vote Set For Disputed Senate Seat

The Senate gave up trying to decide who won last November's senatorial election in New Hampshire, declared the seat vacant, and ordered a new election held within 45 days.

A Republican filibuster had kept the Senate from resolving the contest between Democrat John Durkin and Republican Louis Wyman. Republicans had sought earlier to have a new election held and Democrats finally agreed after Durkin requested it as the only solution to the deadlock.

Wyman had initially been announced as the winner. A recount gave the election to Durkin by 10 votes, but a Republican-controlled state ballot commission subsequently declared Wyman a two-vote winner.

Both claimed the Senate seat.

U.S. Theater Sought to Fill Cultural Void

Chicago—The AFL-CIO called for creation of a National Theater of the United States that could fill a cultural void and help relieve the 80 percent unemployment among U.S. actors and other theater craftsmen.

"The United States annually contributes 7½ cents per person to the arts," the Executive Council statement said, calling that a miserly figure in comparison with the $2.42 per person in West Germany, $2 in Austria and Sweden, $1.40 in Canada, $1.34 in Israel and $1.33 in Britain.

Noting that the United States is the only advanced country in the world without a national theater, the council said its creation "would expand existing theater and make it available to Americans through a network of theaters."

The council pointed to the precedent of the Federal Theater, a WPA project in the 1930s that brought live theater to 15 million people and provided employment for more than 15,000 theater workers.

But today, because of "cost, distant location or a lack of past exposure, millions of Americans have never had the intellectual, emotional and creative enrichment which live theater provides," the council said.

By Decisive Margin:

Situs Picketing Bill Approved by House

(Continued from Page 1)

mentary maneuver was soundly beaten, 322-94.

The bill then came before the House for debate and action—the first time in more than 20 years of legislative effort that a construction site picketing bill had progressed this far.

Several amendments, originally proposed by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, had been added to the bill by the House Labor Committee to broaden the legislation's bipartisan support. Thus, the bill requires a local union to give 10 days notice of intent to picket a joint construction site and also requires it to receive the approval of its international union before so doing.

But a barrage of more restrictive amendments, some of which would have virtually nullified the purpose of the legislation, were proposed from the floor.

Most of them were defeated, with Representatives Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), the chief sponsor of the bill, and James G. O'Hara (D-Mich.) leading the defense of the legislation.

The congressional "Black Caucus" played an important part in knocking down an attempt by foes of the bill to exempt from picketing any "minority employer employing more than 50 percent minority employes."

Most of the black members of the House denounced this proposal as an attempt to undermine union-won standards that help black workers and as encouraging exploitation of black workers at substandard pay and conditions.

Rep. William Clay (D-Mo.) tore into that "very vicious" amendment he said would divide the nation's workers. Clay questioned the civil rights commitment of supporters of such an amendment and stressed that the key issue "is whether or not there will be job security and the ability of workers to get decent wages and working conditions."

Another black congressman, Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.), warned that such an exemption would encourage "dummy corporations," supposedly headed by blacks but actually controlled by "unscrupulous" white contractors.

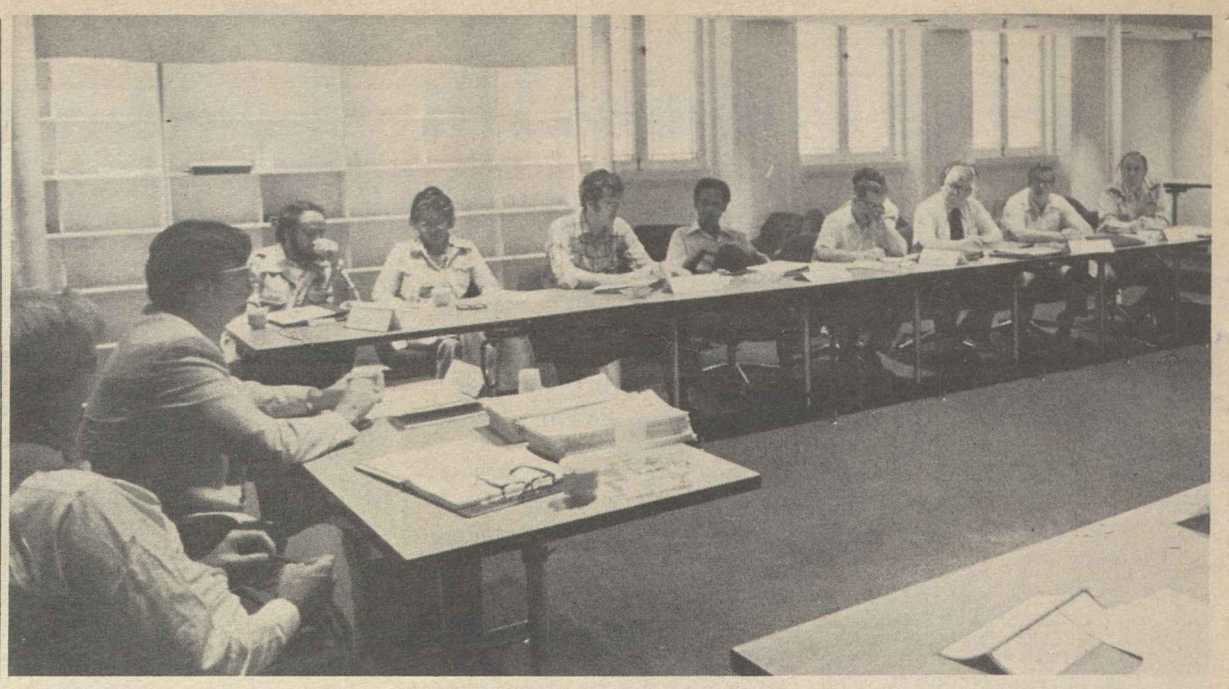
The House did allow an exception to common site picketing where a public agency, in compliance with state law, lets out separate bids for all of the trades involved, instead of operating through a prime contractor.

But it rejected, 222-176, another amendment that would have given a similar exemption to private employers who deal separately with subcontractors.

One amendment adopted continued present picketing restrictions in disputes over so-called "product boycotts." Another approved by a voice vote would prohibit common site picketing to force the removal of a worker who has been denied union membership or expelled for a reason other than failure to pay dues and initiation fees.

Of the amendments defeated, the closest battle was over a proposal to exempt all residential construction from the legislation —including large-scale developments. That was beaten, 202-200.

On the final passage vote, 204 Democrats and 26 Republicans supported the bill. Voting against it were 107 Republicans and 71 Democrats.



ROLE OF AMERICAN LABOR in international affairs is explored at a five-day conference at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center which drew representatives from 20 unions. Michael Boggs, left, assistant director of the federation's Dept. of International Affairs, discusses the U.S. labor position on the International Labor Organization.

Voting Rights Extension Cleared to White House

Congress completed action on a labor-backed bill that extends the Voting Rights Act for seven years and broadens its coverage to include Spanish-speaking Americans and several other "language minorities."

The original 1965 law is credited with enrolling a million new black voters in the South who had been kept from registering by discriminatory literacy tests and other devices to ensure white rule.

As a safeguard against backsliding, areas that had made it difficult for blacks to vote are required to get advance federal approval before changing their voting laws or district boundaries.

The House had originally passed a 10-year extension of the law, but went along with the seven-year bill adopted by the Senate to assure that the legislation would clear Congress before the Aug. 6 expiration of the present law. President Ford is expected to sign it.

Included in the new law is a permanent ban on literacy tests—in any state.

The new law also requires that election information be bilingual in most areas where at least 5 percent of the voting-age citizens are of Spanish-speaking origin, or are American Indian, Asian Americans, or Alaskan natives.

Where various language criteria are met and the voting participation in the previous presidential election was less than 50 percent, federal observers may be sent in to assure a no-discrimination policy, and approval of election law changes would be required.

In contrast to some previous civil rights battles, attempts by southern conservatives to block action were quickly and easily squelched by one-sided votes in the Senate—including two successful motions to limit debate.

The Senate then passed the bill, 77-12, and the House cleared the legislation for the President's signature by a 346-56 vote.

Ford had initially proposed a five-year extension of the present law but civil rights groups stressed that a 1980 expiration date would coincide with a census year that would be followed by widespread reapportionment and redistricting—an opportunity for gerrymandering to hold down minority representation in legislatures, city councils or Congress. They had urged a 10-year extension as well as the other provisions of the new law.

Unit on Aging, Ford Clash On Cutbacks

President Ford disavowed an advisory panel's protest against budget cuts in programs for the elderly and told Congress that a report by the Federal Council on the Aging "does not reflect the Administration's policies."

The 15-member body, all appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, is headed by a former Eisenhower Administration official, Bertha S. Adkins. Last December, it created some waves at the White House with a letter to Ford expressing concern at the financial hardships on the elderly that would result from proposed budget reductions.

In its current first annual report, which the President forwarded to Congress, the advisory body again spoke up:

"We continue to be distressed about the apparent lack of consideration for the economic plight of the elderly as reflected in Administration proposals for the 1976 fiscal year budget. Cutbacks in federal monies for social services for the elderly and ceilings on benefit programs financed from Social Insurance Trust Funds are particularly burdensome to this age group."

The Federal Council on the Aging urged that Ford "reconsider" his budget cuts out of humanitarian concern.

Ford's brusque retort was that government spending has to be reduced in order to curb inflation, which falls heaviest on the elderly. He found the report written from a "limited" perspective and said the Administration's policies "must reflect a broader range of responsibilities and priorities."

Nelson H. Cruikshank, president of the National Council of Senior Citizens and a member of the Federal Council on Aging, criticized Ford's "callous indifference" to the elderly poor. The advisory group, Cruikshank stressed, was not set up to reflect Administration policies but to make recommendations to the President.

Cruikshank noted that during his year in office Ford has sought to cut back on Medicare and Medicaid, to raise the price of food stamps, and to reduce the scheduled cost-of-living increase in social security.

Senate Votes Anti-Recession Aid For Hard-Pressed Cities, States

The Senate combined two labor-supported anti-recession programs into a single bill and sent it to a House-Senate conference committee.

It voted 58-36 to add to a public works bill a proposal advanced by Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) and others for "counter-cyclical" financial aid to cities and states with high unemployment.

This would be a form of revenue-sharing, with the amount of federal funds keyed to the unemployment rate, intended to maintain needed services without the layoffs and tax hikes resorted to by New York and many other cities. Retrenchment by cities undercuts federal efforts to stimulate the economy, Muskie stressed.

Under the proposal, grants totaling $500 million would be authorized when the national unemployment rate was 6 percent or higher, with an additional $500 million for each percentage point above 6 percent. At a 9 percent jobless rate, the authorization would be $2 billion. Cities would get two-thirds of the money on a formula keyed to both local unemployment rate and taxes.

The bill to which it was added would authorize $2 billion for two other job-creating programs and $125 million for business development loans and guarantees.

The total includes $1 billion for labor-intensive public works projects that state and local governments could get under way within 90 day and an additional $1 billion to continue a job opportunities program that has put unemployed persons to work on projects such as forest conservation and planting.

The Senate passed the combined bill, 65-28. It must now be meshed with a $5 billion accelerated public works bill that the House passed last May by a 313-86 margin with a flurry of concern over high construction unemployment that drowned out an Administration veto threat.

In other developments before taking a month-long recess until after Labor Day:

- Congress gave speedy approval to a bill that will provide annual pay raises for House and Senate members, the vice president, federal judges and high-ranking government officials whose pay has in effect been frozen since 1969.

Under the legislation, which President Ford has endorsed, they will get the same percentage raise that federal white collar employes are supposed to get each October under a salary comparability law. The Senate voted 58-29 for the measure, but it barely squeaked through the House, 214-213.

- The House International Relations Committee approved full funding for the United Nations Development Program, which in turn channels a substantial portion of it to programs of the International Labor Organization and UNESCO. AFL-CIO President George Meany had asked the committee to stop further U.S. funding of agencies that have been transformed into "instruments of political warfare" against the United States and Israel.

- The House voted 390-35 to extend the Noise Control Act an additional 27 months. The program operated by the Environmental Protection Agency is intended to determine harmful noise levels and set noise control standards—an area that has resulted in some jurisdictional conflict with the Occupational Safety & Health Administration. EPA's experts have urged stricter limits on workplace noise than OSHA had proposed.

Steelworkers Get 9-Cent COL Boost

Pittsburgh—A cost-of-living increase of 9 cents an hour went into effect Aug. 1 for 400,000 Steelworkers in the basic steel industry. A similar 9-cent increase will become effective Aug. 15 for an additional 36,300 USWA members in the container industry.

The COL adjustments are being made under provisions of the USWA's 1974 contracts with 10 major steel producers and the container industry.

The contracts provide for quarterly wage adjustments of 1 cent an hour for each three-tenths of 1 percent rise in the government's consumer price index. Earlier adjustment for USWA members totaled 64 cents.

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Price Surge Tied to Soviet Grain Deal

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Meany Hits Butz 'Game' Of Deceit

A new surge in wholesale prices in July, paced by a 6.6 percent leap in farm product prices, was described by AFL-CIO President George Meany as "only the beginning" of the impact of grain sales to the Soviet Union.

Early reports of a new round of grain sales to the Russians were credited with touching off a 7.9 percent rise in grain prices, with a ripple effect that contributed significantly to an overall rise of 1.2 percent in the July wholesale price index. That's the largest rise since April, and is the equivalent of a 14.4 percent annual increase.

Meany termed the July figures "clear evidence" that Sec. of Agriculture Earl Butz "is back at his old game of deceiving the American people when he says the Russian grain deal will have little effect on domestic prices."

Already, Meany noted, "these price increases are on their way to the supermarket shelves" as the wholesale rises push up retail prices.

"The American consumer is paying the bill for the Administration's discredited policy of 'detente' at any price with the Russians," Meany said. He added:

"This Administration, which has consistently carped that it would be inflationary to put unemployed Americans back to work, continues to pursue economic policies that drive up the cost of food and fuel.

"Isn't it about time to ask: When will President Ford and his advisers put the interests of Americans ahead of the desires of the Kremlin?"

By contrast to the volatile rise in farm and food prices, the index for industrial commodities rose only four-tenths of 1 percent on a seasonal basis, and that was primarily because of higher prices for fuels—an area the Administration is seeking to further decontrol.

The overall wholesale price index rose to 175.7 in July, up 8.7 percent from a year earlier.

With 1967 as the base year, that means that a sampling of commodities sold in wholesale markets for $100 eight years ago rose in price to $175.70 last month.

The last big grain sale to the Soviet Union touched off a sharp

(Continued on Page 2)

High Joblessness Engulfs Record 131 Major Centers

Economists Discount Dip in Overall Rate

By John R. Oravec

A record 131 of the nation's 150 major job centers were affected by unemployment of 6 percent or more in July even as the Labor Dept. reported a slight drop in the nation's jobless rate to 8.4 percent from 8.6 percent in June. The drop came despite an actual decline in jobs in construction and manufacturing.

Some government economists warned that the dip in the official jobless rate did not truly reflect the nation's employment situation, and that the picture could worsen in August.

The Labor Dept. added two new areas to the list of major job centers with "substantial" unemployment. They are Steubenville, O.-Weirton, W.Va., and Knoxville, Tenn.

An unemployment rate increase in Steubenville-Weirton to 7.6 percent was attributed to job losses in the primary metals industry. In Knoxville, the jobless rate climbed to 7.2 percent because of declines in apparel, textile mill products and retail trade.

For the nation overall, the number of workers the Labor Dept. counted as unemployed eased from 7.9 million to 7.8 million. But there were still 3 million more workers out of jobs last month than in July 1974.

The employment situation analyzed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics was mixed:

- Total employment, based on a sampling of 47,000 households, rose by 630,000 in July to 85.1 million.
- Total nonfarm payroll employment, measured by a survey of employers' records, increased only 88,000 from the June low of 76.3 million.

(Continued on Page 8)

COLLECTION OF BADGES and buttons depicting the involvement of American labor in campaigns, conventions, elections and memorial tributes is presented by Chicago labor attorney Joseph Jacobs to AFL-CIO President George Meany. The historic collection will be on display at the AFL-CIO headquarters to spur the federation's efforts to collect additional labor memorabilia.

Convention Call Cites Dual Crises

An "acute economic recession" at home and assaults on freedom from abroad form the backdrop for the AFL-CIO's 11th Constitutional Convention this fall.

A convention call sent out by AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland summons the delegates to "deal forthrightly" with the nation's problems "in the best interests of working people and of all Americans."

Meany and Kirkland ascribed the economic crisis to "misguided governmental policies" they said have been "perpetuated by the lack of effective leadership in the Congress and in the White House."

The convention call cited these domestic concerns:

"Unemployment remains at an intolerably high level. Production and construction continue stagnant, under the weight of exorbitant interest rates.

"The energy crisis, brought on by America's growing dependence

(Continued on Page 2)

Tops $108 Million:

Wage Law Chiseling Shows Sharp Rise

Labor Dept. investigators uncovered $108.8 million in illegal underpayments by employers to their workers in fiscal year 1975, a 13 percent increase from the previous year.

In the year ended June 30, the Employment Standards Administration reported that 472,404 workers were affected by the underpayments, compared with the 357,000 workers who lost $96.6 million to employer chiseling in fiscal year 1974.

The Labor Dept. managed to get employers to restore only about half of the income they illegally held back from workers during the year, but this represents a 17 percent increase over what was recovered a year earlier.

ESA's Wage & Hour Division recovered $58.2 million in income for 380,254 workers, while only $49.9 million was returned to 261,000 workers in fiscal 1974.

The Labor Dept. said the major reason for the lag between the total amount of money found due the workers and what was actually recovered is the refusal of employers to pay back wages in cases deemed unsuitable for litigation by the department's lawyers.

In such cases, workers have the right to initiate their own legal action for the recovery of back wages, but these amounts are not reflected in the statistics.

The failure to recover the full amount of back pay is also attributed to the statute of limitations, which generally limits the recovery to a two-year period prior to the filing of a complaint against an employer.

(Continued on Page 7)

Council Affirms Stand On Seniority Principles

Chicago—The AFL-CIO affirmed its commitment to seniority principles in layoffs and job recalls—along with an equally firm opposition to racial or sex discrimination in employment.

A resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its summer session here found no contradiction between the two principles. But it warned that "the natural alliance between the labor movement and the civil rights movement" is threatened by "demagogic attacks on the seniority system."

Job cutbacks resulting from "the Nixon-Ford depression" precipitated the attacks on the seniority system, the council said.

The statement noted approvingly a recent federal appellate court decision that rejected a claim that black workers who had not themselves been victims of discrimination should be recalled to work ahead of more senior white workers.

Citing an AFL-CIO brief in a case before the Supreme Court, the council reiterated that labor's position is that employment discrimination is forbidden by law and persons who have suffered discrimination are entitled to be restored to their full rights, but

(Continued on Page 8)

Study Finds Ford Vetoes Cost Nation 638,500 Jobs

President Ford's vetoes this year cost the economy 638,500 jobs, according to a Library of Congress study.

Based on the job-creating impact of the funds involved, the President's vetoes actually knocked out more than 1.8 million jobs. But compromise legislation that subsequently became law reduced the net total to the figure cited.

The study was requested by Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) and made public by him. It shows the biggest job losses resulting from Ford's veto of the Emergency Housing Act, which cost an estimated 400,000 jobs, and the Emergency Employment Act, estimated at a 128,000 job loss.

Not all of the jobs would have come into existence this year, since some of the programs stretch funds over several years.

Indiana Loses Bid to Avoid Overtime Pay

Chicago — A federal appellate court here rejected both defenses that had been raised by the State of Indiana in its effort to avoid compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act.

There was no dispute about the facts. Indiana conceded that it had not paid time-and-one-half overtime rates at a state mental institution and at a school for the blind and deaf. Neither had it kept the records required for federal enforcement of the wage-hour law.

Indiana's attorney general contended that the institutions involved are not covered by the law because they don't have sufficient ties to interstate commerce. And the state argued also that in any event federal courts don't have jurisdiction to enforce the Fair Labor Standards Act against "sovereign" states.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit noted that the Supreme Court has previously ruled that state schools and hospitals are within the constitutional scope of the law and said the "sovereign immunity" doctrine of the 11th Amendment does not apply to suits brought by the United States against a state.

Its decision found also that the state institutions have the required tie to interstate commerce because of the substantial amount of goods purchased from out-of-state sources.

The appellate court affirmed two lower court decisions against the state.

Bishop Heads Farm Panel In California

Sacramento, Calif.—A Catholic bishop has been appointed by California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., to head the state's new Agricultural Labor Relations Board.

The board, whose members are subject to confirmation by the state Senate, will oversee representation elections under the collective bargaining law that goes into effect Aug. 28.

Its chairman will be Bishop Roger Mahoney, secretary of the Catholic Bishop's Committee on Farm Labor and auxiliary bishop of Fresno.

Brown also appointed to the board Leroy Chatfield, a member of his staff who formerly was on the staff of the United Farm Workers; Richard Johnsen, Jr., a Sacramento farmer and executive vice president of the Agricultural Council of California; Joseph Grodin, who teaches labor law in San Francisco and has been with a law firm that represented both the Teamsters and AFL-CIO unions, and Joe Ortega, director of the Model Cities Center for Law & Justice in Los Angeles.

Vincent Lacapria Dies, ACWA Vice President

New York—Vincent Lacapria, a vice president of the Clothing Workers and co-manager of the ACWA New York Joint Board since 1952, died in his sleep Aug. 1 at his home in Hempstead, L.I. He was 76.

Lacapria, a native of Italy, went to work in the clothing industry as a youngster and was active in the 1914 movement that led to the founding of the ACWA. He also was a leader in the formation of the United Italian-American Labor Council.

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS should receive royalties when phonograph records in which they are heard are played commercially over radio stations and juke boxes, union witnesses urged at House hearings. Among those testifying were Sanford I. Wolff, left, executive secretary of the Television & Radio Artists, and Henry Kaiser, general counsel of the Musicians.

Timeliness Guidelines Set for Disputes Cases

Chicago—The AFL-CIO Executive Council has adopted a policy that if there is "undue delay" in the filing of complaints under the federation's Internal Disputes Plan they may be barred as untimely.

The council issued its policy on timeliness in the filing of cases under Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution as it considered the findings of an impartial umpire on two cases in which the alleged violations occurred in the 1968-70 period.

A definition of "undue delay" under Article XX cannot be stated in a simple formula, "but will require development on a case by case basis," the council said. As a guide, it determined that on the facts and circumstances of the cases before it, "the complaints were not timely filed and should be dismissed."

The two cases involved charges by the Graphic Arts International Union that in the 1968-1970 period locals of the International Printing & Graphic Communications Union had raided established bargaining units of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, which later became a part of the GAIU.

The impartial umpire reported that GAIU's justification for a lapse of four to six years in the filing of complaints in the cases was that the Bookbinders "had a policy of not filing Article XX cases" and did not begin to exercise its rights under the article until its affiliation with GAIU.

The Executive Council policy statement noted that there is no rigid time limit stated in Article XX for the filing of a complaint.

"But it is plain," the council said, "that it would be unsound to permit the filing of complaints years after the events in question have occurred and even though there is no good reason for the failure to file promptly.

"If an affiliate does not make a complaint for a period of years, the fair inference is that it has no interest in pursuing its protest. Moreover, during the interim the individuals who have become the members of another organization have acquired rights in that union. Finally, the strength of the Article XX system depends on the diligence of each affiliate in protecting its interests. The rules for administering the system should therefore encourage diligence and discourage delay."

The council reaffirmed the doctrine set forth in an earlier case—National Video—that no union may decide for itself that an established bargaining relationship of another union has deteriorated to the point that is safe to proceed to represent the workers without regard to the Internal Disputes Plan.

The sole effect of its policy statement on timeliness, the council statement concluded, "is that an affiliate claiming an established collective bargaining relationship must perfect its right to protection by filing an Article XX complaint challenging alleged interference with that relationship within a reasonable time after the violation charged has taken place."

Nation's Crises Stressed in Call To Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

on foreign sources, cartel pricing and the threat of blackmail, continues unabated.

"The President vetoes legislative measures designed to put America back to work and the Congress is unable to assert the leadership America needs to restore economic vitality and social progress."

As for international affairs, the convention call declares:

"Around the world, democracy and human liberty are in danger or in retreat. The free world is dwindling and its members are neutralized by fear or by delusions of detente."

The biennial convention is scheduled to open on Thursday, Oct. 2, in the Civic Auditorium at San Francisco. And in the traditional wording of the convention call, it will "remain in session from day to day until the business of the convention shall have been completed."

Jobless Benefit Rolls At 6.6 Million High

A record high of 6,671,000 Americans were receiving unemployment compensation during the week that ended July 19, the Labor Dept. said.

About 4 million of the jobless were receiving benefits under regular state programs as the unemployment rate for persons in insured jobs reached 6 percent — nearly double the 3.1 percent of a year earlier.

The remainder were drawing benefits under various special federal programs.

Broadcast Profiteers Hit:

Arts Unions Seek Royalty Protection

Performing artists should be compensated for repeated use of their work in broadcasts, juke boxes and piped-in music services that are making a big profit off them, labor told Congress.

Representatives of the AFL-CIO and three performers' unions told a House subcommittee considering updating the nation's copyright laws that electronically, things have changed since the basic law was adopted in 1909. And the unions have been trying almost that long to win some royalties for the performers.

Yet today, the performing artists still receive nothing. The union statements stressed that a few big name stars may receive enough compensation to secure their futures, but as a group, the performers had a median income of only $4,668 in 1970. They charged also that long periods of unemployment are traceable to the spread of recording devices that repeat their work.

Labor's case was made by Sanford I. Wolff of the Television & Radio Artists on behalf of his union and the Musicians, recording artist Theodore Bikel, who is president of Actors' Equity, and AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller.

Specifically, the union representative asked the House to incorporate the same protection for the original artists that are being considered for the television producers against repetition of their work on cable television (CATV).

Wolff pointed out that the actors, singers and musicians have been seeking "a modicum of justice" for almost 40 years and that much of the opposition to such copyright protections has disappeared since the subcommittee considered the issue in 1966. Now, he said, the unions "enjoy the support of the current Administration, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Register of Copyrights.

Wolff pointed out that Congress cited "concerted opposition" in 1966 as an excuse for not acting then, even though admitting that the unions' arguments were so compelling that there was "little direct response to those arguments."

All three spokesmen stressed that the only opposition now comes from those making a profit off free use of recorded music. They termed it ridiculous of the brodcasters to claim that their use helped record sales, thus assisting the performers.

Quite the contrary, it was noted that repetition wears out popularity and the spread of inexpensive taping systems allows recording off the broadcast instead of buying anything. It was also pointed out that payment of a royalty by those who intend to make a profit off the recording is fairer to the individual consumer who now pays the same price as the profit-maker.

Bikel termed it "insulting to America's artists and audacious in the extreme for broadcasters to ask that you deny the very same principle to the recording artist that they wish you to uphold in their behalf against CATV."

In a letter to the subcommittee, Biemiller stressed that "Congress and the courts have now clearly established that a sound recording can be the subject of copyright protection."

He said that such protection was demanded by every legal, moral and economic argument.

Meany Assails Grain Deal as Prices Surge

(Continued from Page 1)

price rise for all grain-related products, coupled with domestic shortages.

In a related development, Thomas W. Gleason, president of the Longshoremen and chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of AFL-CIO Maritime Unions, sand Agriculture Sec. Butz hadn't come up with a persuasive defense of the new grain sales.

Gleason, Seafarers President Paul Hall and Marine Engineers President Jesse M. Calhoon met with Butz and members of his staff.

"We discussed the Russian wheat deal and our determination that it not be another ripoff of American housewives and farmers," Gleason said.

He announced that "because of the urgency of the situation," leaders of all maritime unions will meet with Meany on Aug. 18 at the AFL-CIO headquarters.

Public Employes Urge Mandatory Jobless Aid

The AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. has urged Congress to include mandatory coverage of all local and state government workers in legislation overhauling the unemployment compensation program.

Last December, Congress temporarily extended unemployment compensation coverage to workers excluded by state law. Otherwise, thousands of persons who lost their jobs in local and state government cutbacks would have been without benefits.

John A. McCart, the department's executive director, noted that this temporary coverage will expire after March 1977—leaving about 7.8 million public employes without protection.

Only eight states cover both local and state workers, McCart told a House Ways & Means subcommittee, and 22 do not provide any public worker coverage.

"Employes in state hospitals are often covered," he noted, while "employes in city hospitals are not. Maintenance workers in state higher education facilities may be covered; maintenance workers in local school districts are not."

McCart saw "no logical explanation for treating groups of employes differently simply because they have a different government employer."

As did the AFL-CIO, the Public Employee Dept. urged approval of a bill sponsored by Subcommittee Chairman James C. Corman (D-Calif.) that would provide nearly universal coverage and set benefit standards keyed to two-thirds of lost wages for most workers.

On Coke Oven Standard:

Steelworkers Assail Job Health 'Politics'

Pittsburgh—The Steelworkers accused the Administration of playing politics with the lives of coke oven workers by diluting the recommendations of experts calling for a reduction in cancer hazards.

The USWA two months ago endorsed a coke oven health standard drafted by an advisory committee of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

But the proposed regulations issued July 24 by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop ignored many of the committee's recommendations, USWA President I. W. Abel charged.

"The Ford Administration is following a politically inspired strategy," Abel declared. "The pattern has now become familiar. A committee of experts is appointed, and the committee makes its report and recommendations. These recommendations are then shunted aside in favor of a decision more acceptable to industry."

The Labor Dept.'s proposed standard mocks the federal safety and health act, Abel said, adding that it will not save any lives because it will not clean up the coke oven batteries.

The decisions to revise the recommendations of the experts "were made by people who know nothing about coke oven technology and seemingly cared little about the health of coke oven workers," Abel said.

The proposed standard would affect about 15,000 workers who are exposed to coke oven emissions at 65 plants across the country. The USWA represents about 90 percent of the coke oven workers in the United States.

Citing scientific findings on the coke oven health hazard, Abel pointed out that "topside" coke oven workers are 10 times as likely to die of cancer than the average Steelworker or the average citizen.

"If the government does not act forcefully on this kind of pollution issue," Abel warned, "all hope that this Administration will do something about cleaning up the air in this country is gone."

The OSHA advisory committee, composed of three representatives each from labor, industry and the public, called for the mandating of specific engineering controls and work practices that would virtually eliminate all emissions from the coke oven batteries

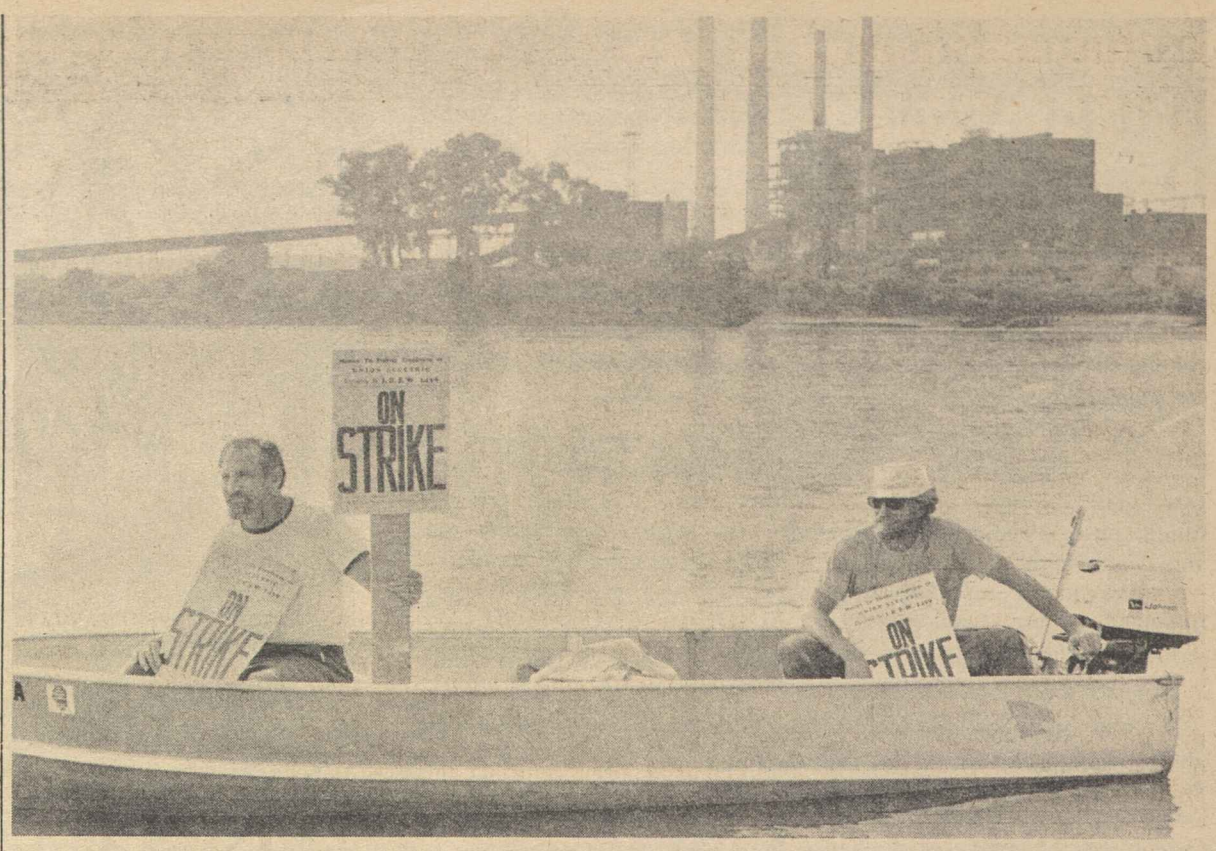
The committee urged an eventual reduction of coke oven emissions to 0.2 micrograms of benzo-a-pyrene per cubic meter of air in the work environment. Benzo-a-pyrene is a known cancer-producing agent, the USWA pointed out.

The union also noted that industry representatives on the committee had agreed that such controls would be effective, but did not want them made mandatory. It said that the Labor Dept. adopted the industry viewpoint in the final proposal.

Under another committee recommendation, a worker could demand to be transferred from a coke oven without affecting his pay or seniority if he felt his health was being endangered by continued exposure to coke oven emissions.

But this recommendation also rejected by the Labor Dept., the USWA said. As the proposal is now written, the standard would not give coke oven workers any earnings safeguards or protect them from discharge because of health impairment.

Abel said the USWA will continue its fight to get effective measures reinserted into the standard. The Labor Dept. has scheduled public hearings on the proposal to begin Nov. 4.



PICKET BOAT manned by members of Local 1439 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers patrols the Mississippi River at St. Louis in the IBEW strike against Union Electric Co. The union local has the boats in operation around-the-clock to alert barges hauling coal to the company's generating plant of the strike. A number of union barges have refused to cross the "picket line," the union reported.

Labor Dept. Calls Imports Cause Of 18,000 Chrysler Auto Layoffs

The Labor Dept. has certified 18,000 of 41,000 jobless and underemployed Chrysler Corp. employes eligible for trade adjustment assistance because imports of cars and auto parts from Canada adversely affected their jobs.

About 23,000 other Chrysler workers were denied certification even though the Auto Workers insisted in petitions filed with the Labor Dept. that all 41,000 were equally hurt by the imports. The Labor Dept. ruled that there was no proof the imports "contributed importantly" to 23,000 of the layoffs.

The UAW legal department said it will likely ask the U.S. Court of Appeals to review the denials under provisions of the 1974 Trade Act. The law provides for judicial review of decisions denying certification.

However, because of the certification of the 18,000—the largest group of workers yet to qualify for trade adjustment benefits — the UAW is now considering petitions for Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp. workers whose jobs also were wiped out by imports from other countries.

According to Labor Dept. reports, a total of 26 certifications covering 12,000 workers were issued under the 1974 law prior to the Chrysler-UAW action, while 3,600 workers covered by eight petitions were denied benefits.

Although the statistics appear to show that more workers displaced by imports are certified for benefits than denied, labor economists have warned that the Labor Dept. figures do not take into account "partial certifications."

These involve union petitions on behalf of a group of members who lost jobs to imports, but for which only a portion of the group is certified while the remainder is not counted as being denied certification.

AFL-CIO Economist Elizabeth Jager said that the Labor Dept. has failed to make available data on the number of workers who lose out on benefits in the partial certifications.

The 41,000 workers covered by the UAW petition were employed at 10 Chrysler plants in Michigan, Missouri, Delaware and Illinois. The affected workers were involved in the production of engines and trim and in assembly work.

Certifications were issued for workers at Chrysler's Mound Road engine plant and Lynch Road assembly plant in Detroit; an engine plant at Trenton, Mich.; a trim plant at Lyons, Mich., and an assembly plant at Fenton, Mo.

However, workers involved in the production of six-cylinder engines at the Trenton plant and in the assembly of compact cars in Fenton were not covered by the certification.

The 23,000 workers denied certification were employed at a trim and an assembly plant in Detroit and at assembly plants in Hamtramck, Mich.; Newark, Del., and Belvidere, Ill.

Trade adjustment assistance also has been approved for 1,200 workers who lost their jobs because of increased imports of television and aircraft parts. But at the same time, union petitions for assistance to another 435 workers in the electronics and shoe industries were denied.

Certified eligible for benefits were 800 Machinists formerly employed at a Rohr Industries, Inc., plant in Chula Vista, Calif.

After the IAM filed a petition on behalf of the displaced aircraft workers, the Labor Dept. found that increased imports were a key factor in the job losses.

Also approved for assistance were 400 members of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers who were laid off by the GTE Sylvania plant at Batavia, N.Y. The Labor Dept. attributed the job cutbacks to higher imports of transformers for television sets the IUE members had been producing.

However, another 300 IUE members were denied assistance because Labor Dept. investigators held that imports did not significantly contribute to their layoffs at the Wurlitzer Co. plant at North Tonawanda, N.Y.

The Labor Dept. also denied assistance for 135 workers producing women's footwear components at the Northland Shoe Corp. plant in Fryeburg, Me.

Under provisions of the Trade Act, workers whose jobs are adversely affected by imports may become eligible for cash readjustment allowances, training, testing, counseling and job placement.

The cash benefits amount to 70 percent of the worker's wage—not to exceed the national average in manufacturing — for up to 52 weeks.

NLRB Toughens Rule On Employer Violations

Employers illegally blocking union organizing drives may find their unfair labor practices costlier under a new National Labor Relations Board ruling.

The NLRB in a 4-to-1 decision ruled that remedial orders against employers found guilty of refusing to recognize or bargain with a union take effect the date the unfair labor practices began.

Previously, the bargaining remedy order took effect on the date of the board's decision, allowing employers to profit by continuing their unfair labor practices during lengthy NLRB proceedings and court appeals.

The new policy ruling came in a case involving a wholesale grocery firm in Albany, N.Y., and the Teamsters. The board found that Trading Port, Inc., committed flagrant violations of the labor law in combatting efforts of IBT Local 249 to organize the firm's warehouse employes.

In effect, the decision revises the remedial procedures specified in the NLRB's Steel-Fab ruling issued a year ago.

Citing deficiencies in the past date-of-decision remedial bargaining order, the board said:

"In some instances, this left unremedied an employer's unilateral changes in working conditions made after a union had established its majority status.

"This led to the unwanted result that an employer, by committing serious unfair labor practices, could delay the holding of an election indefinitely . . . and insure himself a substantial period of time until the board issued a remedial bargaining order, during which he would not have to deal with a union."

An employer has a right to an election so long as he does not fatally impede the election process, the decision pointed out.

But once the employer has impeded that process, the board stressed, "he has forfeited his right to a board election and must bargain with a union on the basis of other clear indications of employes' desires. It is at that point, we believe, the employer's unlawful refusal to bargain has taken place."

Signing the majority decision were NLRB Chairman Betty Southard Murphy and Board Members John A. Penello and Howard Jenkins, Jr. Member John H. Fanning concurred and Ralph E. Kennedy dissented.

Ralph Mueller Named To Labor Dept. Post

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop announced he has appointed Ralph R. Mueller as deputy assistant secretary of labor for policy, evaluation and research.

Mueller, who is 38 years old, served previously as a program planning and review official in the Transportation Dept. He has been in government service since 1960.

Miss Thierens Dies, AFL-CIO Paris Staffer

Paris—Jeanne de Thierens, secretary to the AFL-CIO European representative with service to the American labor movement dating back to 1948, died of a cerebral hemorrhage July 30. She was 58.

Miss Thierens's secretarial duties as a bilinguist included assisting the American worker delegation at conferences of the International Labor Organization in Geneva.

A native of Belgium, Miss Thierens had been with the federation's European office in Brussels before it was moved to Paris.

In a message of sympathy to her sister, Mrs. Simone Peeters, AFL-CIO President George Meany said it was a shock to learn of her death.

"To all of who have known her these many, many years, it was not only a great personal loss, but a professional loss as well.

"We knew Jeanne as a charming girl, but we also knew her as American labor's standard bearer in Europe. She will be greatly missed. Mrs. Meany joins me in extending to her family our most heartfelt condolences," Meany said.

Government by Veto (1)

WITH CALLOUS DISREGARD for the American people, President Ford vetoed the Education Appropriation bill. He said it was "too much to ask the American people—and our economy—to bear."

We wholeheartedly disagree.

Unless this veto is overridden local taxpayers will have to bear the increased burden of maintaining the standards needed for a decent education for their children, and parents will have to dig deeper into their savings to subsidize the increased costs of higher education.

Among the programs which would be severely crippled or altogether eliminated by the President's proposed cuts are: Vocational and bilingual education, impact aid, education for the handicapped, institutional assistance in higher education and library resources. If these cuts are made, education will suffer.

The AFL-CIO, its members and their families have a vital stake in education. The future development of this nation's human resources is under attack by an administration that has no faith in America's economic strength.

We call upon the members of the Congress to vote to override this ill-conceived veto by the President.

Government by Veto (2)

PRESIDENT FORD has scared the Congress and some opinion makers into putting a higher priority on keeping the budget deficit down than on meeting the needs of the people.

As a tactic in his campaign to govern by veto, he has created a phony issue. The real issue in America today is the needs of the people, not figures on a chart.

America today is in an economic war for the survival of its way of life, as vital and with as much at stake as in World War II, when the nation fought for the survival of free, democratic governments.

The Congress must not surrender to this phony issue. The 535 men and women elected to represent the American people must have the courage, confidence in America and the foresight to provide the legislation needed to put America back to work. That is the way to insure a healthy economy tomorrow. That means they must pass legislation to create jobs for unemployed Americans, recognizing that government by veto is really the minority forcing its will on the majority.

The policies of the Administration will inevitably prolong the period of large deficits. Every 1 percent decrease in unemployment cuts the deficit by $16 billion—$14 billion in tax receipts and $2 billion in the social costs.

Therefore, we call upon the Budget Committees in the House and the Senate, in their upcoming budget review, to demonstrate concern for the plight of the American people and provide necessary funds for programs to create jobs, ease the suffering of the unemployed and thus reduce the budget deficit.

—From statements by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Chicago, Ill., July 30-31, 1975.

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'Looks Like Smooth Sailing Ahead!'

A Word Edgewise:

Smart Operators, Giant Firms Manipulate 'the Dismal Science'

By John P. Roche

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FEEL about it, but by me it's too hot for politics. New England has joined the tropics, and besides my wife is going through that disconcerting exercise called anticipatory packing. That is, she is thinking about what to pack for our vacation when she gets to packing.

This involves a complete inventory and a number of baffling questions. For example, "If it's been this hot in July, don't you think we'll have a chilly August?" This question is not abstract—it concerns the direct matter of whether or not to pack that category known as fall clothes in addition to light summer wear. Since, as you know, my prophetic powers are limited, I suggested she consult the National Weather Service on the long-range forecast. This was decidedly not, from her point of view, a friendly reply.

Thinking about this exchange led me to meditate on my vast areas of ignorance, particularly economics. In the fall of 1940 I enrolled for an economics course in college but, after two weeks devoted to the law of marginal utility, departed for philosophy. Except to study the history of economic theory, I have never revisited "the dismal science."

I have also never played the stock market (which always struck me as the country club version of the numbers racket) though, of course, I am involved indirectly through my pension fund. Thus, as a complete and dedicated amateur, I find there are certain aspects of the economy that defy rational explanation—and logic is an area in which I am thoroughly at home.

For example, take the Dow-Jones average. What precisely controls its gyrations? The phases of the moon? I vividly recall the day President John Kennedy was murdered: I was at a legal conference at the University of Chicago Law School and we had just sat down for lunch. The grim news arrived and a radio arrived with it, and as we sat there—food uneaten—the dreadful coverage from Dallas was interrupted by a bulletin: the Dow-Jones average had plunged. This struck me as insane—the United States was still the United States—and I turned to my neighbor and long-time sparring companion Father Robert S. Drinan (then dean of the Boston College Law School, now my congressman) and said with some anger, "What did they throw that in for?" Bob, a true Jesuit and always more wordly than I, replied, "So smart operators can buy." Within several days the Dow-Jones was back up, and I suppose a lot of panic-stricken suckers took a bath.

Then there is the intriguing question of how great American corporations could hide their domestic political contributions and their baksheesh to various foreign potentates from their auditors. Every year I get a statement from the Teachers' Insurance & Annuity Association, which handles educational pensions, that lays out in detail its annual operations. At the end is a solemn statement by a distinguished auditing firm that they have gone over the books and everything is kosher. Presumably stockholders in various corporations like United Brands, Mobil, Exxon and American Airlines receive similar documents winding up with an auditor's statement virtually signed in blood.

WHEN THE PRESIDENT of United Brands committed suicide, the Securities & Exchange Commission suddenly awoke and discovered that the firm had been paying off the President of Honduras to get cut-rate bananas. Since then it has been disclosed that other corporations have been engaged in the same practice.

I know enough about the seamy side of life to know that in many countries you can't shake hands with a potential supplier without paying off everybody above the rank of colonel in the dictatorship. (Indeed, a similar "finder's fee" used to exist openly in many states here—and, for all I know, still does.) But my question is: How do you hide a million-dollar bribe from the auditors—and thus from the stockholders? And what about the Internal Revenue Service?

To put it in personal terms, if I gave 10 professors $1,000 each to assign my latest book to their big classes (and I hasten to add that the academic profession is immune to such temptation) and then deducted $10,000 from my income as "Advertising," my hunch is the IRS would shortly be knocking at my door. So under what heading do these corporations carry their "finder's fees?" I can only speculate, but given the up-to-date, "with-it" attitudes of some trendy young executives, perhaps they carry these funds under "Affirmative Action" and "Community Development."

Recovery Claims a 'Sham':

Program Pressed by Council To Revive Housing Industry

Following is a statement on housing by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on July 30, 1975, at Chicago.

ADMINISTRATION CLAIMS of a recovery in housing construction are a sham. Rhetoric cannot hide the facts:

- The annual rate of housing starts for June was 1,070,000 units, down 5 percent from May, and the lowest June level in 28 years.
- Unemployment among construction workers generally is 21 percent. Unemployment among workers in housing is much higher. Additionally, a significant portion of the 12 percent unemployment rate in manufacturing is attributable to the depression in the housing industry.
- The unsold inventory of new homes at the end of May was 382,000, despite some increase in new home sales related to tax credits of up to $2,000 for new home purchases. The median price of a new home sold in May was about $40,000.
- Housing starts for the first half of 1975 were fully 33 percent below the total for the first half of 1974. Even if there is some improvement in the second half of the year, housing production in 1975 will be only about half the 2.2 million units per year needed to meet the nation's basic housing needs.

The picture on the price scene is equally disturbing.

Inflationary pressures upon rents and prices of housing are already being felt as shortages develop. During the past year, rents have increased 5 percent, the median price of existing homes sold has increased 10 percent and the median price of a new home has gone up 12 percent. Further increases can be expected so long as the nation is building only half the housing units it needs.

Mortgage interest rates are still at levels of about 9 percent for homes and 10 percent for apartment projects. These high rates place monthly housing expenses and required rents beyond the economic reach of most American families.

Nevertheless, the President vetoed the original Emergency Housing Act that would have made 6 and 7 percent mortgage financing available.

The subsequent Emergency Housing Act he did sign authorizes the Government National Mortgage Association to purchase mortgages with 7½ percent interest rates. That is little change from the 7¾ percent mortgage funds available during 1974 which utterly failed to spark a housing recovery. Furthermore, GNMA is reselling at substantial discounts the mortgages that it has acquired, thus providing lenders with 9 percent yields, absorbing large amounts of savings capital and helping to sustain the high private mortgage interest rates so disastrous to the housing industry.

At the same time, the Administration has in effect vetoed effective use of low-income housing programs that could generate needed housing construction. While funds were reserved for 35,000 new units under the Section 8 program by June 30, it will be many months before those units are under construction because of delays in processing the applications.

Meanwhile, another 300,000 units still have not received final approval even though they have been in the processing pipeline since 1973, primarily under the Section 236 and low-rent public housing programs. Further, effective use of the housing for the elderly loan program has been blocked by the Administration's refusal to make long-term loans. Instead, the Administration offers only construction loans, contrary to the intent of the law.

CONTINUED HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT is making it increasingly difficult for out of work homeowners to meet their mortgage payments. Mortgage delinquency figures for the first three months of 1975 were the highest in 23 years, foreshadowing an increase in foreclosures.

The history of past recessions is that a revival in the housing industry leads to a recovery. By its actions in holding down the housing industry, the Administration is deliberately prolonging the recession.

Therefore, to stimulate recovery, provide needed housing and reduce unemployment, we demand that the Administration take the following immediate actions:

1. Expedite issuance of final commitments for housing projects—especially under Sections 235, 236 and public housing—that have been delayed in the processing pipeline since 1973, so that construction can be started.

2. Accept and process new applications under the same programs to the full extent permitted by existing authorizations.

3. Cease actions to keep mortgage interest rates high by stopping the sale of previously-purchased mortgages from the GNMA portfolio.

4. Make long-term mortgage loans for housing for the elderly projects.

5. Implement the emergency mortgage relief provisions of the Emergency Housing Act of 1975 to protect unemployed homeowners against loss of their homes.

On Wages, Benefits:

Federal Employes Still Lack Effective Bargaining Rights

TRUE COLLECTIVE bargaining on wages and fringe benefits for federal workers is needed to put sense and stability into federal labor-management relations, President Clyde Webber of the Government Employees declared on Labor News Conference.

The product of those negotiations would then be part of the proposed budget the President sends to Congress, Webber said, stressing that pay adjustments in the private sector would be a major factor in the bargaining.

"The principal difference," he said, would be the "give-and-take of true collective bargaining, with the possibility of going to a third party if we failed to reach agreement," instead of the present "unilateral system in which we are only consulted." He said the system would operate along the same lines as negotiations are now conducted between the postal unions and the Postal Service.

Webber said it is "tragically true" that federal employes have been "patsies" for the Administration's so-called anti-inflation wage controls. He pointed out that even the last federal pay increase was based on "data gathered under wage controls," although the increase didn't take effect until five months after controls had expired.

Webber charged that "as a practical matter, federal employes are still being paid under the wage controls of the Nixon Administration."

Turning to the drive to amend the Hatch Act to expand the rights of federal employes to take an active part in politics, he said the AFGE strongly supports the Clay bill, which has now cleared the House Post Office & Civil Service Committee. He said the main provisions of that measure would permit federal employes to work in campaigns, make contributions and be candidates for office. He said the present Hatch Act provisions are overly restrictive on the rights of federal employes, who should be able to be active in politics on their own time, if they so choose.

Reporters questioning Webber on the AFL-CIO produced interview were Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs and Harry Conn, of Press Associates, Inc. The program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

SINCE 1866 the metric system has been a legal but not a mandatory system of measurement in this country.

As other industrialized nations adopted the metric system there has been a growing pressure for the United States to take a similar step. In 1966 Congress passed a measure requiring the Dept. of Commerce to study the feasibility of greater use of the metric system.

Finally, in 1972 the Senate passed legislation to implement the recommendations of the Commerce Dept. study but the move died in the 92nd Congress when the House failed to act.

In October of 1973, the House Science Committee reported legislation that would have set up a national board to coordinate and plan a voluntary conversion program.

The problem faced by the 1973 legislation, leading to its defeat on the House floor, was the committee's argument that the costs of the conversion should "lie where they fall" and that there should be no funds to assist small business to convert or to help workers buy the new tools or complete any necessary retraining. Faced with this, many unions opposed the measure.

Recently the House Science & Technology Committee reported out a new metrics bill that carefully bypasses the position taken by the House Committee in 1973.

It would set up a 25-member national board to help coordinate voluntary conversion to metrics. The board would deal with such questions as subsidies for workers, retraining and so on. The 1973 bill called for a 10-year conversion period target. The new measure does not set a time period.

Basically, the board under the new bill would have three basic responsibilities. It would draw up a broad program to plan and coordinate voluntary conversion by industry, carry out education programs to make the metric system familiar to the public and conduct research to determine the effects of conversion on consumers, labor, small business and other groups.

Trade union representatives would have preferred that the bill call for protection of workers during the conversion period. But since the bill did not deal directly with this issue it was thought that unions could go along with the measure.

However, the report of the committee may well undermine that prospect. A committee report is part of the critical legislative history of a bill and therefore has a hefty impact on interpretation.

"The committee feels that minimum costs will be incurred if conversion is accomplished, in general, without federal subsidies," the report said. "A program of automatic general reimbursement by the federal government would be very difficult to administer."

Then, almost as an afterthought, the committee report suggested that the board could recommend legislation if it identified "unresolved problem areas."

Union representatives who have been working on the metrics bill believe that the language in the committee report seems to condemn the whole concept of a general subsidy program to help workers pay for metric tools. This, apparently, is contrary to the understanding labor representatives worked out with the committee.

Tom Hannigan of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, one of the union representatives, observed: "The bill is acceptable. The report is a disaster."

Several steps may yet be taken to bring labor support to the bill. One could be amendments on the floor of the House that would correct the legislative history as provided in the committee report. Meetings have been held with Rep. James W. Symington (D-Mo.), chairman of the subcommittee that wrote the original bill, to decide on a course of action.

But if Committee Chairman Olin E. Teague (D-Tex.) wins a rule from the House Rules Committee that would bar amendments this could well lead to defeat of the measure as in 1973.

SENSE AND STABILITY in federal labor-management relations would be the sure product of true collective bargaining for wages and fringe benefits for federal workers, Government Employees President Clyde Webber, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates and Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs.

House Rollcall on Oil Price Rollback

The House on July 30 approved a labor-supported amendment to an energy conservation bill that would retain price ceilings on oil from "old" wells and partially roll back the inflated price being charged for "new" oil. The vote was 218-207.

Right votes (R) for the price rollback amendment were cast by 203 Democrats and 15 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 79 Democrats and 128 Republicans.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Jones (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) PR
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Mills (D) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) W
15. Sisk (D) W
16. Talcott (R) W
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) W
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) A
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) A
32. Anderson (D) W
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) W
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Sarasin (R) W
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Haley (D) W
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) R
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) R
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) A
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) R
9. Landrum (D) A
10. Stephens (D) W

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) W
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) W

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) W
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) W
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) W
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) R
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) W
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) W

MAINE
1. Emery (R) R
2. Cohen (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) A
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
6. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) W
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) W
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) W

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) W
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) W
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) W
34. Horton (R) W
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) R

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) R
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) W
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Risenhoover (D) W
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) W
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) W
3. Duncan (D) W
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) W
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) W
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) A
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) W
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) W
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) R
4. Evins (D) R
5. Fulton (D) A
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) W
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) PW
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) W
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) W
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Young (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) W
21. Krueger (D) W
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) W
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) W

Committee Actions:

Labor-Backed Bills Clear Key Hurdles

Two union-backed bills won committee approval before Congress began a summer recess that will last through Labor Day.

The Senate Labor Committee approved a construction site picketing bill almost identical to the measure the House passed on July 25. And the House Judiciary Committee endorsed a bill designed to crack down on employers who hire illegal aliens.

Senate voting on the jobsite picketing bill is likely to be considerably closer than the 13-1 margin in the Senate Labor Committee.

The committee added to the bill passed up by a subcommittee several amendments similar to those adopted by the House. One would retain existing restrictions on common site picketing in cases where, in order to comply with state laws, cities and states had let out bids for each phase of a construction job instead of operating through a general contractor who hires subcontractors.

But it turned down anti-union amendments that are likely to be offered when the bill reaches the Senate floor, including one by Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.) that would prohibit common site picketing in "right-to-work" states that ban the union shop.

Laxalt was the only committee member to vote against sending the bill to the Senate floor. Its chief sponsors are the chairman and senior Republican on the committee—Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.).

The House Judiciary Committee voted 26-5 for a bill that is intended to crack down on employers who hire illegal aliens — usually as a source of cheap workers who can be intimidated by threats to turn them in to immigration officials.

As approved by the committee, the bill seeks to strike a balance by combining its penalties for employment of aliens with an "amnesty" provision that would make it possible for many "illegals" with long residence in the United States to obtain permission to stay, and reinforcing the ban against job discrimination based on national origin.

The legislation would set up a three-tier system of penalties.

The first stage would be a "citation"—a form of warning without penalty to any employer who hires an illegal alien or employment service which refers an illegal to a job. For this stage, it is not necessary to prove that the violation was "knowing."

Within two years thereafter, however, an employer who knowingly repeated the offense would be subject to a fine of up to $500 for each illegal alien in his employ.

Further such violations are made misdemeanors, subject to fines of up to $1,000 and imprisonment up to one year for each illegally employed alien.

The so-called amnesty provision would authorize, but not require, the Attorney General to grant permanent resident alien status to illegals who have been continuously in the United States since June 30, 1968, and who are closely related to U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens.

Under present immigration law, there is no penalty for employers who hire illegal aliens and they are specifically exempted from being prosecuted for unlawfully "harboring" an illegal alien. The House bill would remove that exemption.

Similar bills have passed the House in both the 93rd Congress and the 92nd Congress, but on both occasions were kept off the Senate floor by an Immigration subcommittee headed by Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.).

The AFL-CIO Executive Council noted at its mid-winter meeting this year that Eastland's only interest has been in reviving the bracero program which admitted large numbers of farm workers from Mexico each year.

Federal Wage Law Violations Jump Sharply

(Continued from Page 1)

Union economists point out that additional millions of dollars in income is lost by thousands of workers because numerous cases of wage chiseling go undetected or unreported.

Labor Dept. investigations cover only a small percentage of employers each year, and these are largely based on complaints filed by workers.

Employer violations of the time-and-one-half wage rate for overtime work again led the illegal underpayments during the last fiscal year, although the amount of income lost was down slightly from fiscal 1974.

In fiscal 1975, 254,968 workers were underpaid $45.8 million for overtime work. This compares with 214,412 workers being underpaid $47.1 million in the preceding year.

An additional 228,210 employes were underpaid $29.8 million because of minimum wage violations, an increase from the 138,370 workers who lost $22.4 million in minimum wage underpayments a year earlier.

Violations of equal pay provisions that guarantee women the same wages men receive for substantially equal work increased to $26.4 million from $20.6 million in fiscal 1974.

Age discrimination violations were $6.5 million, up from $6.3 million.

Reed Elected To No. 2 Post By Laborers

W. Vernie Reed, first vice president of the Laborers, has been elected secretary-treasurer by the union's executive board to succeed Terrance J. O'Sullivan.

O'Sullivan, who held the post since 1968, submitted his resignation to the executive board at a recent meeting in Chicago.

Mason Warren, manager of the Laborers' California-Arizona-Nevada region, was elected a vice president to fill a vacancy.

Reed, 59, has been a member of the Laborers since 1936 and held a number of offices in LIU Local 252 at Tacoma, Wash. He also served in regional posts of the union and with the Washington state Building & Construction Trades Council.

He was appointed to the LIU headquarters organizing staff in 1960 and later that year was named director of the department of organization and jurisdiction. He was elected a vice president of the LIU in 1961.

MODEL NATIONAL AGREEMENT to protect the rights and jobs of transit workers is signed by union and employer association officials as Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop watches. From left are President Daniel Maroney of the Amalgamated Transit Union, President Matthew Guinan of the Transport Workers, Stanley Gates and B. R. Stokes of American Public Transit Association.

Transit Pact Protects Job, Union Rights

The Amalgamated Transit Union and the Transport Workers signed a national agreement with an employers' group to protect workers who may be affected by federal operating assistance grants to local transit systems.

The model agreement between the two unions and the American Public Transit Association, which has 270 public transit employer affiliates, establishes standards and procedures to safeguard the jobs and interests of transit workers.

It provides protection from layoffs, job downgrading and relocation resulting from technological changes and the takeover by municipalities of private transit systems.

Under the agreement, employers are required to preserve and continue collective bargaining rights of their workers, assure jobs to employes of acquired mass transit systems and provide training programs and paid allowances to laid-off workers.

Operating assistance grants to transit systems are administered by the Dept. of Transportation under the 1964 Urban Mass Transportation Act. A section of the act gives the Secretary of Labor the responsibility of guaranteeing the rights of transit workers.

Witnessing the signing of the document, Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop said he expects the National Employee Protective Agreement to set a national pattern for unions and employers. He pointed out, however, that the national agreement may not be appropriate in some situations.

Several other unions representing railroad and transportation workers participated in the negotiations, but final approval is under review by their leadership.

Dunlop congratulated the parties in the agreement, stressing that effective collective bargaining again proved successful in resolving conflicts over federal rules affecting labor and management. He also praised the role of Lewis M. Gill, a Philadelphia mediator, who helped bring the sides together after the discussions reached an impasse.

The Labor Dept. said that the agreement is expected to speed certification of applications for grants. The number of certifications during the first half of 1975 have been running well above the total number for all of 1974.

President Matthew Guinan of the Transport Workers and President Daniel V. Maroney, Jr. of the Amalgamated Transit Union were the signatories representing labor.

Public Bargaining Law Pressed by McClennan

Chicago—A federal labor relations law covering public employes and giving their unions the same kind of protection the Wagner Act provided for unions in industry is the principal legislative goal of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., President William H. McClennan said at a news conference here.

"There are some problems that have to be worked out by the various government employe unions so that we can talk with a single voice in support of an agreed-upon approach," McClennan said.

Some of these problems involve the determination of the bargaining unit, the eligibility of supervisors to belong to the union, and the question of the right to strike, particularly as it applies to uniformed services like the fire fighters and police.

"If the right of strike is to be denied these two groups, there must be a satisfactory alternative, through impasse mediation and binding arbitration," McClennan said. He is also president of the fire fighters.

He reported that the Public Employee Dept., which is preparing for its second convention on Sept. 3 and 4, has moved ahead since its creation last November and now has 29 affiliates with a total membership of about 2.5 million.

He charged that the "cities are in crisis" and badly need financial aid if they are to survive. "We have helped people all around the world," McClennan commented, "and now we ought to be able to help our own people in the cities of America."

Some politicians are recommending a wage freeze for municipal employes, the PED president said, "but that didn't work for the nation in the Nixon Administration and it won't work now in the public sector. The cities have terrible problems; I know the unions recognize this and want to cooperate. But we can't expect public employes to subsidize the cities through wage cuts or a wage freeze."

Inflation Impact Pushes Families Into Poverty

Although the income of American families increased last year, it did not keep up with inflation, and the number of people living in poverty rose for the third year in the last five, according to the Census Bureau.

Median family income—the point at which half of all families are above and half are below—was figured by the bureau at $12,840, up seven percent over 1973. But real median income declined by some 4 percent because of an 11 percent increase in the rate of inflation last year.

Among families whose breadwinners were able to keep their jobs in 1974, median income was $16,072, up 10 percent from 1973, but down about one percent when adjusted for rising prices.

The bureau reported that families with income over $20,445 were in the top 20 percent among America's 55.7 million families; those over $31,948 were in the top 5 percent; those over $50,000 were in the top 1 percent.

The bureau's latest report showed once more that distribution of family income has changed little over recent years. The top 20 percent of all families had about 40 percent of the income. The bottom 20 percent had only about 5 percent of all income.

The bureau also found that 24.3 million persons lived below the government's official poverty line of $5,038 in annual income for a family of four—an increase of 1.3 million, or 5.6 percent, from 1973. That meant that 11.6 percent of the country's population—about one out of nine persons—were living in poverty as the government defines it.

Since 1959 when the government first began keeping an official figure as to what income was needed to keep a family from being classified as living in poverty, the number has increased in only four years and three of them have been in this decade: 1960, 1970, 1971 and now 1974.

The bureau also released figures to show which groups of people live in poverty. Last year, the impoverished included 15.7 percent of all people over 65; 8.9 percent of the whites; 31.4 percent of the blacks; 15.5 percent of all children under 18 and 40.7 percent of all black children under 18.

Overall Rate 8.4%:

Severe Joblessness Grips Record 131 Major Centers

(Continued from Page 1)

Even with the statistical gains, the BLS report showed that the jobless rates remained the same or showed little improvement for adult men, full-time workers, household heads and white workers.

Over the month, the jobless rate did ease a bit for adult women, teenagers and black workers. Yet unemployment in July for women was 7.9 percent, for teenagers 19.1 percent and for minority workers 13 percent.

While the jobless rate declined for blue-collar workers from 12.6 percent to 12.1 percent in July, the rate for white-collar workers held steady at 4.8 percent.

Based on the household survey data, the unemployment rate for construction workers was 20.8 percent in July, down slightly, and dropped almost a full percentage point in manufacturing to 11.1 percent.

Yet, the BLS payroll survey showed that the number of jobs in contract construction dropped by 44,000 in July to 3,360,000 and in manufacturing declined 39,000 to 18,032,000.

These losses were offset by the employment gains in the service-producing industries, including 55,000 more jobs in retail trade, 65,000 in services and 25,000 in state and local government.

BLS pointed out that the number of manufacturing jobs in July was 2.3 million below the pre-recession high in December 1973, noting that most of the falloff occurred since last September.

Even with the 88,000 increase in payroll employment over the month, the total number of jobs remains about where it was in March and 2.1 million below the level of July 1974, the BLS report showed.

Although the household survey showing the 630,000 increase in employment over the month pleased some government economists, they expressed doubt that it was the beginning of a long-term trend.

The Wall Street Journal quoted one White House economist, who cited the contrast between the household and payroll employment gains, as suggesting that the current unemployment rate may actually be closer to 8.9 percent and that the August survey could bear this out.

The household survey is conducted and tabulated by the Census Bureau for the BLS and is the basis for establishing the unemployment rate. Statistics on payroll employment are collected by state agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the BLS.

Both surveys are generally conducted during the week containing the 12th day of the month.

BLS said that the number of unemployed workers who lost their last job declined by 240,000 to 4.6 million July, the first decline in 11 months.

However, the number of long-term unemployed continued to rise last month. There were 3 million workers unemployed 15 weeks or longer, comprising 3.2 percent of the labor force. This is triple the rate of July 1974.

The average duration of unemployment was unchanged in July at 15.4 weeks and is about five weeks longer than a year ago.

For workers covered by state unemployment insurance programs the jobless rate declined in July to 6.2 percent from 7 percent in May and June, BLS reported.

It also noted that the number of workers who had taken part-time jobs because no full-time jobs were available declined 700,000 from the April-May level to 3.2 million last month.

The average workweek for all production and nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls edged up to 36.1 hours after holding steady at 36 hours for three months.

The average workweek in manufacturing rose four-tenths of an hour in July to 39.5, but was still 1.4 hours below pre-recession levels of early 1973.

Factory overtime also rose last month by two-tenths of an hour to 2.6 hours. However, this was eight-tenths of an hour below July 1974 and 1.5 hours below April 1973 peak.

BLS said that the hourly earnings index rose only two-tenths of 1 percent last month. And after adjustments for increased prices over the year, the purchasing power of the average worker declined seven-tenths of 1 percent during the 12-month period ended in June.

Job Quality Index

Handbag Jobs Periled By New Tariff Slashes

Further reduction in tariffs on imported handbags would soon wipe out the entire domestic handbag industry, leaving thousands of additional persons jobless, the Leather Goods Workers warned at U.S. foreign trade hearings.

"Our industry is fighting for its life," Leather Workers President Benjamin Feldman declared, and "our workers for a livelihood that has already been depressed by imports."

In a six-year period through the end of 1974, Feldman said, employment in the U.S. handbag industry dropped 17 percent—from 24,000 in 1968 to about 20,000 last year—because of the competition from low-wage imports.

Feldman presented the testimony to the Trade Policy Staff Committee, an interagency panel that advises U.S. negotiators currently involved in trade talks in Geneva.

He reiterated the union's position against additional cuts in tariffs and stressed that his members are opposed to extending preferential tariff treatment to so-called developing countries that are exporting handbags to the United States.

"Any government action which would accelerate the rate of import growth—such as would result from reduced import duties in general or granting duty-free treatment on handbags from developing countries—would only hasten the demise of this industry," Feldman declared.

He said that Leather Goods Workers have lost more than just their jobs to the imports, since the foreign competition has eroded wages.

"Workers who remain are largely members of minority groups whose alternative employment opportunities are limited," Feldman told the panel. "Their earnings are substantially below the national average for workers in manufacturing industries."

He also noted that the unemployment rate in the handbag industry is about double the national rate.

This all stems from the substantial rise in imports over the past several years to the point where at least 40 percent of the U.S. market has been captured by foreign handbags, Feldman said.

Tracing the increase in imports, he pointed out that in 1967 foreign handbags in the U.S. market amounted to 40 million units valued at $45 million. By 1973, imports totaled 67 million units valued at $108 million, representing a 67 percent rise in quantity and a 140 percent increase in value.

Feldman said it is essential for the survival of the industry and the jobs of his members that U.S trade negotiators refrain from extending duty-free treatment to the developing countries which pay their workers substandard wages.

He also called on the committee to seriously consider negotiating an increase in tariffs on imports that endanger American industries. He pointed out that it was the intent of Congress in drafting the 1974 Trade Act to provide such protection for endangered industries through an increase in tariffs.

Plan for On-Site 'Consultations' Hit As Dilution of Job Health-Safety Act

Enforcement of the federal Occupational Safety & Health Act shouldn't be diluted to provide on-site "consultative" services to employers, union witnesses testified at House hearings.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. F. Howard McGuigan, Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the federation's Industrial Union Dept. and Steelworkers Legislative Director John J. Sheehan expressed concern at bills that would direct the Labor Dept. to offer guidance to employers on compliance with safety and health regulations.

The thrust of their testimony to a House Labor subcommittee was that this would divert the Labor Dept. resources from the key enforcement mission and would be a wedge for employer groups who would like to see the teeth extracted from the job safety law.

McGuigan said most states already provide consultative services for employers — either through state-operated programs approved by the Labor Dept. or through the 50 percent federal financing available to states that do not operate their own safety enforcement programs so they can set up advisory consultation services to employers.

McGuigan and George Taylor, who is executive secretary of the AFL-CIO's standing committee on job safety and health, noted that labor doesn't object to on-site consultation as "one means" of encouraging safety compliance.

But McGuigan stressed that state reliance on "consultations without enforcement" was a principal reason why a federal job safety and health law became necessary.

As for protests by or on behalf of small employers about their problems with enforcement, McGuigan suggested that there are better means than a "consultation" program, which experience indicates would seldom be used.

There is a real need, he suggested, "for OSHA to develop simple pamphlets which tell an employer who runs a laundry, a machine shop, a small construction company, a retail establishment, a service station, what OSHA standards apply . . . and how to obtain further, detailed information and assistance."

Clayman told the subcommittee that the IUD has supported small business educational programs "because most workers are employed in small shops and because conditions in these workplaces probably exceed in horror conditions found in most large industries."

He spoke of auto mechanics inhaling deadly asbestos fibers while working on brakes and clutches, of cleaning fluids used by dry cleaners that carry a high cancer risk and of difficult to comprehend standards "developed in the language of the technicians of the major industries."

With Clayman were Sheldon W. Samuels, the IUD's health, safety and environment director, and associate Legislative Rep. Howard Hague, Jr. A study they undertook found a broad array of private and public consultative services available, but often little used.

There is more that can be done with "will and leadership," Clayman said, but it would be a mistake to merge the role of enforcement with education.

Sheehan told the panel that labor's position has always been that enforcement should remain a federal responsibility while the states should be encouraged to provide education, training and consultation services in the job health-safety area.

He charged that much of the pressure to get the Labor Dept. involved in consultative services to employers is generated by groups whose real objective is to weaken the enforcement of the law and eliminate first-violation penalties.

SL-6-8

Council Calls Seniority Rule Key Safeguard

(Continued from Page 1)

that there is no justification for conferring "preferential rights" upon minorities.

The council statement stressed that seniority is a safeguard even for those who are laid off, because it assures that they will have preference in rehiring over other job-seekers. They don't have to "start from scratch in securing re-employment."

In other action, the Executive Council:

- Passed a resolution of tribute to Arnold Zander, first president of the State, County & Municipal Employees, who died recently. Public employes and all trade unionists are in his debt, the council said.
- Asked AFL-CIO affiliates to "respond generously" to the fund drive to sustain the Jewish Daily Forward, a Yiddish-language newspaper that "has been in the forefront of labor's battles" since 1897 and a champion of freedom at home and abroad. The council voted a $10,000 contribution to start off the fund drive.
- Voted contributions also to the following organizations: Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, League for Industrial Democracy, Clergy Economic Education Foundation, Jewish Labor Committee and National Planning Association.

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'Hometown Lobby' Spurs Labor's Legislative Goals

Meany Asks Updating of Jobless Aid

Congress was urged by AFL-CIO President George Meany to use the 40th anniversary of the Social Security Act as a catalyst for improving the unemployment compensation system, rather than as an occasion for platitudes.

Unemployment insurance was one of the income safeguards written into the 1935 law, Meany noted, along with the basic retirement and survivor benefits, grants to the states for aid to dependent children, and an array of social and health services.

But while other portions of the law have been frequently updated, the federal-state unemployment compensation provisions are "virtually unchanged" and are keyed to the economy of the 1930s, Meany said.

It's been the "first line of defense against poverty and recession . . . but the line has become very thin. Millions of workers are still not covered," Meany said. "Benefits are far too low and their duration often too short. Employers have forced the states to underfinance the program and to impose harsh disqualifications on workers who are entitled to unemployment insurance protections."

To remedy these defects, the AFL-CIO is supporting the bill introduced by Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.). Meany termed the Corman bill "the first serious effort in many years to provide the nation with an unemployment compensation program to meet the needs of a modern industrial society."

The labor-backed bill would provide close to universal coverage of unemployment compensation, set benefit payments at two-thirds of lost wages for most workers, establish a program of extended benefits without a cumbersome "trigger-on" mechanism, strengthen financing and establish qualifying standards.

Quick enactment of this legislation, Meany said, "would be the ideal way to celebrate the 40th anniversary of social security."

Meany termed the social security system "basically sound" and noted that currently:

- More than 31 million persons —retirees, disabled persons, dependents and survivors — receive $5 billion a month in benefits under the old age, survivors, disability and Medicare programs.
- Another 4 million aged, blind and disabled persons receive about $500 million a month in Supplemental Security Income payments.

(Continued on Page 8)

Grain Costs Continue to Shoot Up

U.S. grain prices shot upward as traders anticipated shortages due to poor growing conditions and the likelihood of more large-scale grain sales to the Soviet Union.

"We do want to sell more to the USSR, and if this crop materializes it will be easily within our capacity to do so," Agriculture Sec. Earl L. Butz told a news conference even though the department had just announced that the outlook for the 1975 harvest had deteriorated from earlier forecasts.

Butz nevertheless backtracked and said he would ask grain exporters to refrain from further sales to the Soviets for an indefinite period. He said forecasts for the 1975 harvest should be clear by Sept. 1. The Soviets already have contracted to buy 9.8 million tons of American grain.

The fear in many quarters, including the labor movement, is that huge sales of grain to the USSR at a time of domestic shortages will drive up food prices for American consumers. Massive purchases of U.S. grain by the Soviets in 1972 touched off sharp price rises that led to double-digit inflation.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, at its recent mid-summer meeting in Chicago, warned against another great grain giveaway to the Soviet Union.

The council called for "effective government regulation of exports . . . when such exports will create domestic shortages and inflation."

(Continued on Page 8)

CLOTHING WORKERS PICKETING the AMF-Head sporting goods plant at Boulder, Colo., are joined by Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.), center, who urged the strikers to "stick to it." Colorado AFL-CIO President William F. Smith is at left. The AFL-CIO Executive Council earlier called for support of the ACWA boycott of skis and tennis rackets produced by the firm.

Inflation's Toll:

Expenses Jump 11% For Retired Couples

New evidence of the toll taken by the nation's double-digit inflation last year is provided in government figures showing that the cost of living for a retired couple rose 11 percent above the year before.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics says it costs a retired couple $6,041 a year to maintain an "intermediate" standard of living in an urban center. That's 11 percent more than the previous budget.

But the $6,041 figure is for the fall of 1974 and the BLS notes that the consumer price index went up another 5 percent while the figures were being compiled.

That would bring the cost to $6,343 for the middle level, $4,439 for the "lower" budget and $9,417 at the higher level. The October 1974 figures were $4,228 for the lower budget and $8,969 for the higher.

The budgets are based on a hypothetical package of goods and services that might be purchased by a man aged 65 or more and his wife. They are assumed to be self-supporting and in reasonably good health.

The jump of 11 percent between 1973 and 1974 did not stem as much from food costs as did the increase of the year before. Yet the food cost increase was still sizable, up 10.4 percent in the latest intermediate budget, compared to 20 percent between 1972 and 1973.

But some other costs increased even more. Transportation, reflecting the surge in oil and gasoline prices, jumped 15.7 percent for the higher budget, 14.1 percent for the middle and 14.3 percent for the lowest.

Retirees who relied on public transportation fared slightly better than the auto owners. Housing and medical care cost increases were

(Continued on Page 6)

Major Bills Top Agenda In Congress

The AFL-CIO's state and local central bodies are using the August recess of Congress to push labor's legislative program at hometown meetings with congressmen and senators.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller wrote central body officers that their help is "of vital importance" to the AFL-CIO's program. He listed a series of major votes coming up soon after Labor Day, including two attempts to override President Ford's vetoes.

Only once this year has Congress mustered the two-thirds majority needed to overturn a veto, and important parts of labor's program depend on improving that record.

The first veto override attempt will come in the Senate on the bill extending present limited price controls on oil for an additional six months. Without such controls, the present $5.25 a barrel price for oil from old wells would be free to rise to the $13 range of uncontrolled oil, or to whatever the market will bear.

If the Senate votes to override, a House vote will follow.

"Termination of controls means continued escalation of oil prices to the consumer," Biemiller warned.

On Sept. 9, the House is scheduled to vote on overriding Ford's veto of the $7.4 billion education appropriations bill.

"Unless this veto is overridden," the AFL-CIO Executive Council said at its recent meeting in Chicago, "local taxpayers will have to bear the increased burden of maintaining the standards needed for a decent education . . . and parents will have to dig deeper into their savings to subsidize the increased costs of higher education."

(Continued on Page 8)

HEW Chief Urged to Cancel Plan To Ban Aid to Strikers' Children

AFL-CIO President George Meany has asked the new Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare to withdraw a punitive anti-striker welfare regulation that had been initiated by Caspar Weinberger before he left office.

In a telegram to HEW Sec. F. David Matthews, Meany said the proposed regulation would "unfairly penalize the children of strikers" in states that allow aid for dependent children payments to needy families where the father is unemployed. About half the states make such federally-assisted payments.

If the regulation becomes final—after a 30-day period for public comment—a state would not be permitted to pay AFDC benefits to a family with a father unemployed because of a labor dispute, unless that state's law also allowed unemployment compensation to be paid under those circumstances.

Only two states allow jobless payments to strikers, and then only after long waiting periods. And some states even disqualify workers laid off because of disputes in which they are not directly involved.

The AFL-CIO's position, Meany said, is that "welfare benefits should be available to citizens who are demonstrably in need without regard for the cause of that need. We firmly oppose the concept of punishing children because their father is exercising his legal right to strike."

Meany asked Matthews "to withdraw this proposed regulation pending your personal study of the question."

The controversy has been simmering since the Supreme Court in 1972 struck down a Maryland state regulation that barred welfare aid to families of strikers. The court held that the restriction was not in accord with HEW regulations that were silent on the issue.

In 1973, HEW responded with a regulation that had been opposed by labor, church and child welfare groups allowing a state to disqualify

(Continued on Page 3)

Network Schedules Set for Labor Day

AFL-CIO President George Meany, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice President I. W. Abel will make nationwide radio addresses on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1.

The networks and times set for the broadcasts are:

Abel, CBS, 7:35 p.m. (EDT)

Kirkland, Mutual, 7:45 p.m. (EDT)

Meany, NBC, 9:45 p.m. (EDT)

Local radio stations may air these broadcasts at different hours and should be checked for exact broadcast times.

ADVANCEMENT OF LABOR during the nation's first 200 years is covered in an eight-page booklet presented by the Air Line Employees Association to AFL-CIO President George Meany. The bicentennial observance booklet, titled Labor's Long, Hard Road, is based on a series of talks by Constance LaPare, an ALEA local council chairman in Miami, who makes the presentation with ALEA Eastern Regional Director John Manchester.

Texas Delegates Spur Massive Voter Drive

Dallas—Emphasizing the convention theme of "time to clean house," the 950 delegates to the Texas AFL-CIO convention voted to undertake a six-point political action program which would begin with a massive voter registration drive.

The delegates left no doubt about what "house" they hope to clean as they cheered speaker after speaker who urged the election of a Democrat as President in 1976.

In his report, Texas AFL-CIO President Harry Hubbard said, "We cannot stand eight more years of Republican rule. Unfortunately, we cannot depend upon the Democratic Party to provide the leadership or the mechanism for a general election campaign.

"That's why it's so important that we develop our own mechanism for contacting union members and encourage them to vote."

National COPE Director Al Barkan criticized the foreign policy of the Nixon-Ford Administration, as well as its domestic policies, and encouraged delegates to show their support for the COPE program by raising voluntary funds and working on voter registration and get-out-the-vote programs.

Hubbard and Sec.-Treas. Sherman Fricks were both re-elected without opposition on the convention's final day.

Fricks reported that affiliated membership in the Texas AFL-CIO had increased by more than 15 percent in the last two years to over 240,000 and that because of this the federation was in sound financial condition.

The convention also voted to establish a special task force to develop and carry out a long-range program aimed at passage of a "right-to-contract" law in Texas, whose legislature has prohibited union and agency shop agreements.

During the U.S. Senate debate on extension of the Voting Rights Act, delegates passed a resolution supporting the bill including the provision for extending the act's coverage to Texas.

The bill was approved by Congress and Texas's Democratic Senator, Lloyd Bentsen, who had been scheduled to be a speaker at the convention, stayed in Washington to vote for it.

Two other announced candidates for the Democratic nomination for President, former Sen. Fred Harris of Oklahoma and former Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter, did speak to the convention and stressed the need for a new morality in the White House.

Programs urged by the convention included:

- Establishment of a regular Community Services institute.
- Establishment of a labor studies center in a state university.
- A campaign for passage of national legislation to prohibit the hiring of illegal aliens.
- Establishment of a public employes department within the Texas AFL-CIO.
- Cooperation with the Texas Senior Citizens Association to promote voter registration and political awareness among retired union members.
- Overhaul of the state's unemployment benefit system.
- A campaign against the unrestricted import of foreign goods and for use of the union label to signify that products are "made in America."
- Major changes in the state's worker's compensation law.
- Passage of a farm workers labor act, similar to the one recently approved in California.

Shopcrafts Set Rail Deadline As Talks Stall

The four shopcraft unions that make up the AFL-CIO Railway Employees' Dept.—still without a contract since their old one expired last Dec. 31—threatened to strike the nation's railroads Sept. 4 if a new agreement is not reached.

"All practical methods provided in the Railway Labor Act for adjusting the dispute have been exhausted without effecting a settlement," said Department President James E. Yost.

The main differences focus on work rules, wage inequities and local issues. The National Mediation Board, which has been involved in the dispute, has asked both sides to meet in Washington on Aug. 19.

If a settlement is not reached soon, President Ford could name an emergency fact-finding board to recommend a solution. That would delay any possible strike for 60 days.

The four shop unions involved are the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers, Carmen and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. All other rail unions, except the Yardmasters, have settled with the carriers in this year's round of negotiations.

Further Job Losses Forecast:

Unions Push Fight to Block New Round of Tariff Cuts

Additional tariff cuts on imports should be delayed until there is a substantial reduction in U.S. unemployment and a marked rise in the utilization of the nation's productive capacity, labor representatives urged at government trade hearings.

Further U.S. tariff concessions would bring an increased surge of imports and the economic consequences on American workers and industry would be devastating, the Stone, Glass & Clay Coordinating Committee of nine AFL-CIO unions warned.

The committee's position statement was delivered by Executive Sec. Howard P. Chester before the Trade Policy Staff Committee, an interagency panel that advises U.S. foreign trade negotiators.

Under the 1974 Trade Act, the President was given extensive authority to slash duties on thousands of imported products. Duties on most products in the stone, glass and clay industries could be totally eliminated and duties on other products could be cut 60 percent.

"We cannot see how cuts of this magnitude can help our economy," Chester declared. He charged that earlier tariff reductions helped wreck a number of U.S. industries and wipe out U.S. jobs.

American foreign trade policy and actions should relate directly to the nation's domestic employment situation, the labor committee said in its advice to U.S. negotiators currently engaged in international discussions in Geneva.

"We submit that negotiations go forward," the statement said, "but implementation of duty cuts be delayed until unemployment falls below 5 percent."

The committee also called for postponing other tariff cuts until the nation's output reaches 90 percent of capacity. Currently, output is running at about 68 percent, the statement noted.

"This plan would insure a healthy U.S. economy," Chester attested, "instead of prompting additional devastation of an already sick economy by allowing torrents of imports to flow into the U.S. market, displacing American workers and American business.

"Other countries consider their labor force and industry in their trade policies. Why shouldn't the U.S.?" he asked.

Noting the adverse impact of imports on American jobs, Chester said that displaced workers would prefer holding onto a productive job than collecting trade adjustment assistance.

The direct effects of imports on a particular industry were traced by President Lester H. Null of the Pottery Workers, who pointed out that the workforce in the domestic earthenware industry has been reduced by 70 percent since 1954—from about 15,000 to the current 4,500.

These 10,000 displaced workers, Null said, are "victims of goods produced in the sweatshops abroad where wages are measured in pennies an hour. They have been the victims of the actions of foreign governments, by which they directly or indirectly subsidize their exporters, while America has sat idly by and discussed the outmoded philosophy of 'free trade.' "

Null also submitted in his testimony a list of 35 pottery firms that were forced out of business between 1950 and 1972 because of imports, resulting in thousands of layoffs. He said there were undoubtedly many other firms the union is unaware of that had been forced to shutdown.

Executive Vice President Wayne Yarman of the Glass & Ceramic Workers detailed the extensive inroads foreign products have made into U.S. markets and the resultant loss in jobs in both the ceramic tile and flat glass industries.

Chester said that a major cause of the flow of imports to the United States stems from the exploitation of workers in underdeveloped countries by U.S.-based multinational corporations that pay substandard wages.

Chester cited a recent Wall Street Journal article which explored the practices of some U.S. firms in quest of ever-cheaper labor that employ prison inmates in Colombia to avoid paying the minimum wage, which was recently raised to $1.33 a day.

Chester said that American-based firms making use of this "slave prison labor" include Marcor Inc.'s Container Corp of America, B.F. Goodrich and others. He also noted that efforts to expand the source of prison labor in Colombia are getting financial support from Dow Chemical Co., IBM and the Bank of America.

"This is scandalous exploitation of slave labor for a profit," Chester declared. "And the U.S. is proposing duty-free treatment to a country that permits this exploitation of human beings?"

Private Aid Group Names Meany Adviser

AFL-CIO President George Meany was named to the national advisory council of No Greater Love, an organization that sponsors programs of friendship and care for the children of servicemen missing or killed in action, hospitalized veterans, GIs overseas and senior citizens without families.

Meany was named to the council by baseball star Hank Aaron, who is president of No Greater Love. Other labor members are Presidents John H. Lyons of the Iron Workers, S. Frank Raftery of the Painters, Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers and William H. McClennan of the Fire Fighters.

The No Greater Love office, in the United Unions Building, 1750 New York Ave., Washington, D.C., was donated by the four unions.

Federal Workers Ask Bargaining As Best Route to 'Comparability'

Collective bargaining is the best means to achieve "comparability" in pay between the private sector and federal government, union witnesses told a panel of government officials.

The pay panel, headed by Vice President Rockefeller, is exploring problems that have arisen in carrying out a congressional mandate to relate federal salaries to private industry rates through an annual pay survey and consultation with public worker unions.

Some business groups complain government workers have been overpaid under this formula; unions contend it is the federal employes who have been shortchanged.

Clyde M. Webber, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, charged that the Executive Branch—"especially under the Nixon Administration" — has acted to delay and reduce pay adjustments so as to "frustrate" achievement of comparability.

He and John A. McCart, executive director of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., pointed to the experience of the postal workers in negotiating comparability.

"The record speaks for itself," McCart said. "It is one of massive underpayments to classified federal workers versus the comparability acquired by postal workers through collective bargaining."

Before 1970, the pay level of the largest group of postal workers was tied to the Grade 5 level of the classified civil service, McCart noted.

Since then, he said, collective bargaining has raised the postal pay level 28.8 percent above the current pay of a Grade 5 federal employe.

Webber told the Rockefeller panel that the 1970 revisions of the Federal Pay Comparability Act were intended as a transitional step towards collective bargaining. He said the machinery of consultation with unions in the pay-setting procedure should have developed into a form of negotiations "similar to the spirit of collective bargaining in the private sector."

Instead, he said, union proposals have been generally rejected or disregarded, while the White House has in recent years consistently sought to delay or reduce comparability pay adjustments.

The AFGE president proposed national negotiations to set the salaries of the government's 1.3 million white-collar employes and regional negotiations to establish wage rates for the 536,000 blue-collar workers whose pay is now keyed to area prevailing wage rates in private industry.

Comparability with private industry can be achieved only if federal workers are not singled out to be involuntary examples of wage restraint sought by the Executive Branch, Webber stressed.

"Federal employes should receive identical treatment with private enterprise employes," he said. "To the extent that private enterprise pay and benefits are affected by congressional statutes or presidential orders, the pay and benefits of federal employes should be equitably and concurrently modified."

But government workers shouldn't be subjected to pay freezes, ceilings or delays that aren't required of private sector workers, the AFGE declared.

Over Past 10 Years:

Public Unions Pace Membership Growth

Three AFL-CIO unions in the public sector more than doubled their membership over the 1964-74 decade, according to a preliminary listing by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

They were among 14 unions—12 of them AFL-CIO affiliates—that reported membership gains of more than 100,000 over the decade.

The BLS report showed a 344 percent gain for the Teachers between 1964 and 1974, to reach the 444,000 mark. The State, County & Municipal Employees listed a 176 percent rise to 648,000 last year, and the Government Employees posted a 116 percent increase over the 10 years to reach 300,000.

On a percentage basis, other big gainers over the 10 years were the Service Employees, Communications Workers, Meat Cutters, Retail Clerks and Laborers.

Three unions with more than 1 million members had the biggest numerical gains over the 10 years — the Teamsters, Auto Workers and Steelworkers. But their percentage rise was smaller because of their size.

During the two years since the previous BLS tally, membership in what the BLS terms "labor unions and public and professional employe associations" rose 4.8 percent to 24.2 million in 1974.

Membership in organizations the BLS lists as labor unions rose 700,000 to 21.6 million—a total that includes Canadian members of U.S. unions.

Within the United States, the BLS said, union membership was up 661,000 over two years—substantially more than the 54,000 rise from 1970 to 1972 and the biggest gain since the 1966-68 period.

As a portion of the labor force, however, there was little change. Union members made up 25.7 percent of the nonagricultural workforce and 21.6 percent of the total labor force.

The BLS report listed AFL-CIO affiliates with 16.9 million members in 1974, compared with 16.5 million in 1972. These represented 78 percent of all union members in AFL-CIO unions, compared with 79 percent in 1972 and 77 percent in 1970.

Most of the 17.5 percent rise in employe association membership reported by the BLS was credited to the National Education Association, which functions as a union in a number of collective bargaining situations.

Overall, the BLS said, unions and employe associations had 5.9 million members in white-collar occupations in 1974, an increase of 673,000 over a two-year period. It said white-collar workers made up 24.3 percent of membership, up from 22.6 percent in 1972 and 21.8 percent in 1970.

The number of women members rose 300,000 to 6 million in 1974, but their proportion of total membership has been close to 25 percent since 1970.

HEW Hit On Child Aid Ban For Strikers

(Continued from Page 1)

from welfare aid a needy family headed by a man who left his previous job for a reason that would disqualify him for unemployment benefits in that state.

In states that chose to impose that restriction, strikers would be disqualified along with persons fired for misconduct or otherwise deemed ineligible.

A federal district court ruled that was too restrictive in that a man discharged for cause was nevertheless unemployed and the reason he was fired had nothing to do with his family's eligibility for welfare assistance. It said regulations allowing a state to disqualify families of strikers would have to be more narrowly drawn.

Although the issue is currently before the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, HEW isn't awaiting the outcome. Weinberger had published in the Aug. 8 federal register for public comment the labor-opposed proposal that would in effect compel most states to disqualify families of strikers.

That's close to the path that had been urged by the Chamber of Commerce, which sought to intervene in the court case with the argument that no state should be allowed to pay welfare benefits to the family of a striker.

10,000 Press Walkout At Nuclear Sub Plant

Groton, Conn.—About 10,000 members of the Metal Trades Council of New London County continued to picket General Dynamic's Electric Boat Division plant here as their strike neared the end of its seventh week.

The workers, who belong to 11 different unions affiliated with the council, left their jobs at midnight on June 30 when their old three-year contract expired and negotiations reached a standstill.

Talks broke off on Aug. 7 following a brief meeting attended by a representative of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. Work rules rather than economic issues are at the center of the dispute at its present stage.

The plant, located on the Thames River, produces nuclear submarines for the United States Navy, including the Trident and the 688 class of fast-attack submarine.

The striking workers include clerical employes and laborers as well as various categories of skilled workers including welders, machinists, pipefitters and grinders.

Operating Engineers Get New Training Grant

The Operating Engineers received a new Labor Dept. grant of $1.5 million to provide on-the-job training for 530 jobless and underemployed workers in nine states.

MOBILE OFFICE of the Michigan AFL-CIO is pressed into service for the state federation's unique voter identification project in gearing up for the 1976 elections. Inside the van, staff members check union lists against voter registration records and other pertinent information for a voter data bank. Shown in the top photo are from left Paul Treska, State AFL-CIO President William Marshall, Sec.-Treas. Walter Campbell and William Bramam.

Pilots' Pact Solves Strike At Northwest

Minneapolis — The Air Line Pilots ended a three-day walkout against Northwest Airlines that had grounded most of the carrier's operations.

But Northwest has yet to settle its differences with some 2,000 cabin attendants and pursers who have been without a contract for nearly 20 months.

The attendants and pursers, members of the Flight Attendants, an affiliate of ALPA, were to vote Aug. 15 whether to authorize a strike. They have been without a contract since Dec. 31, 1973.

The pilots struck the airline Aug. 4 when a dispute arose over precise provisions in a tentative agreement reached July 19.

"We thought we had an agreement," a union spokesman said. But, he noted, "the company began making major changes" when it came to working out the contract. The disputed provisions centered on pensions, retroactive pay and hours of duty.

With the differences ironed out, the union's master executive council then ratified the pact. A vote by the pilots is not required.

Settlement terms of the new agreement were not immediately available, but the July 19 agreement provided the 1,550 pilots an average increase of 34 percent in wages and benefits over a three-year period.

The new pact replaces one that followed a three-months strike against the carrier in 1972. The pilots had been without a contract since July 1974 when the old one expired. The new agreement is retroactive to that date, and will be in force through June 1977.

For Professional Care!

Mobile Field Office Aids Michigan COPE Project

Lansing, Mich.—The Michigan AFL-CIO is getting a jump on the 1976 general elections through its voter identification project that is geared to boosting registration and increasing participation of union members in political activities.

A key element of the project is the state federation's mobile field office which has been criss-crossing the state to work directly with local unions and central bodies.

The project was launched late last year under the direction of state COPE Director Paul Seldenright and staff representative Dee Lyons. With the cooperation of the central bodies, the voter identification has been completed in several Michigan counties.

Lyons, who has been working with a team of 30 students from Lansing Catholic Central High School, said she expects to have all AFL-CIO union members identified in the majority of the counties by the end of August.

The identification program begins with securing lists of members from national and international unions and checking the names against voter registration logs from cities, townships and counties. Each union member is then identified by precinct and registration status.

Additional cross-checks are made in telephone and address directories to update any changes in location or telephone numbers.

When this phase of the project is completed, the information is relayed to the national COPE office in Washington for processing on the AFL-CIO computer. Here, the data is transferred to key punch cards and will serve as the master list of Michigan AFL-CIO members.

When the final list is compiled, central bodies will be charged with the responsibility of updating the records through periodic checks on address changes, shifting of precinct boundaries and other changes.

State AFL-CIO President William C. Marshall said the tedious task of voter identification will benefit the Michigan labor movement greatly in future elections.

"The work we are doing now is going to pay off in 1976," Marshall declared. "We will know where our members are and we'll be able to reach them during the political campaign with our message and involve them in the election process."

Social Security Bank Deposit Plan Extended

Persons receiving social security benefits will soon be able to have their monthly checks sent directly to a bank, savings institution or credit union for deposit to their account.

This voluntary program is already in effect in many states and will be available in all states by November. The National Council of Senior Citizens termed it "a valuable new service."

No one will have to switch to the direct deposit plan, and checks will continue to be mailed to the homes of people who don't designate a bank. But the direct deposit system eliminates the risk of stolen checks and mailbox break-ins — a major hazard in some neighborhoods.

The retired, disabled and others receiving social security benefits will receive information on the direct deposit option with their social security checks. Banks and savings institutions have the required forms for participation in the direct deposit plan and will set up accounts for persons who do not have bank accounts. Deposits may be made to either savings or checking accounts.

Jobless Aid for the '70s

THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT was meant to be broad in scope. In the words of the presidential committee on whose report the bill was based:

"A program of economic security . . . must have as its primary aim the assurance of an adequate income to each human being in childhood, youth, middle age or old age—in sickness or in health. It must provide safeguards against all of the hazards leading to destitution and dependency."

This aim has been realized only in part. In the 40 years since its passage, the Social Security Act has been amended and updated many times, but its original unemployment compensation provisions, oriented to the needs of the depressed economy of the 1930s, have remained virtually unchanged. The act needs to be modernized and redesigned to meet the needs of the 1970s.

Unemployment compensation is an important economic stabilizer for workers, employers and the whole national economy. For workers who lose their jobs, it means at least a partial wage replacement income to tide them over the period of joblessness and to provide food, housing, clothing, transportation, and other essentials for themselves and their families. It also:

- Reduces the pressure on jobless workers to abandon their skills during temporary periods of joblessness.
- Assists in facilitating the return of unemployed workers to jobs.
- Contributes to the mobility of labor throughout the nation.
- Assists employers and communities to preserve trained work forces. It also helps maintain purchasing power in a neighborhood, town, or region where workers have been laid off and helps prevent the secondary unemployment of workers employed in stores, shops, restaurants, laundries and all other types of firms that serve public needs.

This program has been the nation's first line of defense against poverty and recession for 40 years, but the line has become very thin. Millions of workers are still not covered. Benefit payments are far too low and their duration often too short. Employers have forced the states to underfinance the program and to impose harsh disqualifications on workers.

That is why the AFL-CIO is supporting legislation introduced by Congressman James C. Corman, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Unemployment Compensation.

Congressman Corman's bill represents the first serious effort in many years to provide the nation with an unemployment compensation program to meet the needs of a modern industrial society. It would extend coverage to 12 million workers who are still denied protection. It would improve the benefit structure to reflect current wage levels. It would establish reasonable qualifying and duration standards. It would improve the solvency of state funds and restore financial responsibility within the system.

In short, the Corman bill would restore to the nation an unemployment insurance program consistent with the objectives of the original Social Security Act: to provide economic security for all who are unemployed. We urge the Congress to enact this legislation without delay. It would be the ideal way to celebrate the 40th anniversary of social security.

From a statement by AFL-CIO President George Meany, Aug. 14, 1975.

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"Is That What 'Jerry-Built' Means?"

A Word Edgewise:

College Graduates Must Take Responsibility for Own Future

By John P. Roche

EVERY NOW AND THEN in the course of my varied reading, I come across an item that really hits the funny bone. This one is a letter to a university alumni journal, in the course of which a young woman casually observes: "In my opinion, the university does not do enough for its undergrads or graduate students in terms of securing jobs or graduate school positions for them. Furthermore, there is a dearth of information about possible careers and career alternatives. As seniors, too many students find they have fulfilled the requirements for a major but have no idea where to go from there."

Admittedly my reaction to this wail of woe was influenced by the fact that between the ages of 19 and 23 I had an assured career. I never had a moment's worry about adequate guidance: it was provided by my commanding officer. Furthermore, my draft board in no way discriminated against me because I had majored in history and philosophy; indeed, I never knew them to hold anyone's undergraduate major against him.

Only women were discriminated against: they were exempt from selective service. Allegedly a few conscripts were rejected on medical grounds, but by 1942-43, if you could see lightning and hear thunder, you were in tiptop shape.

So much for therapy. If we take this complaint seriously, what does it suggest about the character and role of a university? Recall that the average senior is roughly 23 years old, but from this description one might conclude that he or she was toddling from nursery school to kindergarten.

Now, of course, there is a case for institutionalized guidance in secondary schools, though my personal reaction to a number of guidance counsellors I have met is that they believe that children are born with college board scores tattooed on their foreheads, scores which will—as in Plato's "Republic"—determine their status for life. But should a college or university be a settlement house?

To say this is not for a minute to repudiate the obligation of the teacher to advise his or her students when so requested. I spent about 20 years as pre-law adviser to interested undergraduates, and I spend a good deal of time trying to place my graduate students in good positions. But this was not a matter of playing psychiatrist or guidance counsellor: If a student came to me and asked, "What should I be when I grow up?" I simply passed. (I know one such student, financially well-off, who after getting his AB went on to three years of law school, received a JD, and is now in his fifth year of work on a PhD. If, when he gets the PhD, he still doesn't know what he wants to be when he grows up, I suppose there is the option of five or six years of medical school.)

One of the reasons I have always been opposed to mechanized education — the allowance of advanced credit for special courses in high school so that a student can enter college as a sophomore, the speed-up to get the AB in three years, or the AB and JD in six—is that I consider a university primarily as a place where young people can mature in an intellectual, challenging environment.

This calls for time; time for seepage, meditation and osmosis. Integration, I have always argued, takes place in the student's mind, not in the curriculum. Education is definitely not collecting the necessary number of green stamps, presenting them for an AB, and then—as the author of the letter which touched this all off suggested—being tucked into one's appropriate niche in society by one's academic mother.

THUS IF A SENIOR has fulfilled the requirements of a major and has "no idea where to go from there," I would recommend—at the risk of seeming unloving—that his or her first stop should be the United States Employment Service to register for a job. Another useful tip would be for him or her to buy the paper and look at the "Help Wanted" advertisements.

If this doesn't pay off, and the old man isn't around with a credit card to tide one over the terrible period of indecision, I recommend my old alma mater, the Armed Forces (which no longer discriminate against women).

You get paid, fed, clothed and, above all, plenty of time to meditate on what you want to be when you grow up. If it isn't too demeaning for a college graduate, you can even learn a useful trade. Right now the prospects for carpenters and electricians are a lot better than those for graduate students.

Inflation-Recession Impact:

New National Priorities Needed To Rescue Cities from Decay

By Bayard Rustin

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS of New York City is a dramatic and much needed reminder of the continuing plight of all American cities. For although New York's plight is more serious, the same woes are affecting other large cities.

Inflation and recession are the immediate causes of the cities' troubles. Enormous price increases for energy and other goods have increased the costs of services that cities provide while the recession has slashed the tax revenues needed to provide those services. To solve immediate problems, nothing would be more helpful than a national economic policy to quickly restore full employment.

President Ford and his advisers not only have no program for a quick and full economic recovery; they provide no remedial program to aid the hard-pressed cities. They condescendingly tell the cities to pull themselves up by their bootstraps, offering a formula of benign neglect that will be as disastrous to the cities as Nixon's benign neglect was for blacks.

The cities have already suffered from decades of neglect that has been anything but benign in its effects. It is no solution to attack the leaders of New York City as spendthrifts, for the problems of the cities are the result of national failures: years of neglect, lack of planning, and racism.

The cities have been forced to bear the nationwide burden of poverty, because we have no national welfare program. Poor people from the South, from Appalachia have moved to the cities to escape grinding poverty and almost nonexistent welfare programs. Compassionate and generous cities are now suffering for bearing the burden for the stingy and hateful.

We have not had a comprehensive, well-thought national program to save the cities. Programs have been enacted ad hoc and all too often have contributed to the decay of the cities. Federal programs have torn up black neighborhoods, destroyed black institutions, while encouraging businesses and middle class whites to move to the suburbs, the tax base has been eroded, making it more difficult to provide services. Deteriorating services in turn lead even more of those able to afford it to flee the cities.

To many of our leaders, the cities have become racial and economic enclaves that are not worth saving. Since the cities are thought to be not worth saving, little aid is given, the cities are allowed to deteriorate further, and the bill for rebuilding them becomes even greater.

Many of the reactions to the problems of the cities not only ignore the fundamental causes of urban decay, but could well be disastrous for workers, blacks, and the quality of urban life. The most common reaction, to blame municipal workers and their unions, is a convenient smokescreen for anti-labor and anti-worker forces to divert attention from the disastrous effects of the Nixon-Ford economic policies and the continuous national neglect of our cities.

MUNICIPAL WORKERS have been underpaid for many years and have only recently begun to catch up. Many municipal workers in New York City still earn less than $12,000 a year, clearly not enough to support a family given New York's high cost of living.

Any effort to place the burden of saving the cities on working people will be unfair. It will be especially unfair to blacks, many of whom are employed as municipal workers.

Raising taxes or cutbacks in service through layoffs are not realistic answers to the problems of the cities. Either course will be self-defeating by hastening the flight to the suburbs and making the cities more and more unliveable.

Steps need to be taken immediately to solve the pressing financial problems of America's cities and to halt their deterioration. Federal aid should be extended to those cities suffering from high unemployment. Emergency aid is needed to keep the cities from collapsing but more will be needed to repair the damage of years of neglect. The federal government must assume a much greater portion of the nation's welfare, mass transit, and health costs.

Above all, we need new national priorities and a basic strategy to make cities places where a modest income can buy a decent life, where parents are glad to raise their children, where streets are not only safe but pleasant, where life is not simply bearable but enjoyable.

40-Year Record:

Social Security System Hailed For Service to Entire Society

THE SOCIAL SECURITY system was praised by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman for its 40-year record of protecting tens of millions of Americans from "destitution, hunger, starvation" and disruption of family life.

Pointing out that social security ranges far beyond the retirement system most people consider the core program, Seidman said it is now time to "take the next big step in social insurance and set up a comprehensive, universal national health insurance program" along the lines of the proposed Kennedy-Corman National Health Security Act. He appeared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Seidman said that while there is a short-term problem with the Social Security Trust Fund resulting from the steep inflation and high unemployment of recent years, the fund is not "in deep danger of going broke" as some critics have charged. He said that the purpose of the trust fund is to balance out periods when income exceeds benefits and periods when payouts are greater than payments into the fund, which they have in the last few years.

But, he stressed, "if we deal with the problems of inflation and unemployment, we are going to right that situation in a very short time," and return to the more usual situation where the fund's income exceeds payouts.

Seidman renewed the call for a general federal revenue contribution to help finance the social security system, noting that most of the countries around the world have tripartite financing through contributions from employers, employes and the national government, recognizing that the system benefits the entire population.

He also urged a gradual increase of the earnings base on which social security taxes are paid, from the present $14,100 to $28,000, within the next few years, and thereafter to keep pace with the increased wages. That, he said, would increase the equity of the financing of the program and get back to the situation at the outset of the program, when taxable earnings were much closer to actual earnings.

Reporters questioning Seidman were Lloyd Schwartz of Fairchild Publications and Tom Joyce, of Newsweek magazine. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Full Measure of Quality!

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

MOST OF THE 19 MILLION Americans receiving food stamps during this recession summer are in families existing on below-poverty incomes. Ninety-two percent of the recipients are earning less than $7,000 a year. Only a small fraction were in the above-$10,000 category.

The incidence of fraud in the food stamp program "is very low" and errors in issuing and payment are as much the responsibility of food stamp certifiers as of food stamp recipients. The program continues to be mainly a low-income program, primarily serving Americans who can least afford an adequate diet.

Those and other findings in a report, "Who Gets Food Stamps?" released by the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition Needs, effectively answer the barrage of attacks on food stamp programs coming from businessmen and the Ford Administration.

The report, which supports labor's call for an adequate, readily accessible program, ought to quiet food stamp critics, but it probably won't. Food stamp legislation is on the agenda when Congress returns from its August vacation and attacks made on the program in recent years are likely to continue.

President Ford, at the beginning of this year, sought to increase the cost of food stamps and cut the budget for the program, but Congress blocked his effort. Facts in the report appear to underscore the importance of the congressional victory.

In an introduction to the report, Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), chairman of the select committee, points out that since last November there have been long lines at food stamp certification centers as "people who once thought they would never need food stamps have needed them, and used them, just to survive economically."

Certainly the cost of a food stamp program has increased, McGovern observes. Lower- and middle-income families have suddenly found themselves in the extremely low- or no-income category as the country's economy has steadily deteriorated.

People who previously supported the program but never used it, he notes, "now are drawing on it to sustain their families during the worst recession since World War II, a national economic crisis that is a personal economic catastrophe for each of them."

Ford, despite his constant fretting over increasing the federal budget even when such increases involve human needs, recently asked Congress to appropriate an additional $3 billion to cover food stamp costs for fiscal 1976, conceding that his original request for $3.8 billion was inadequate.

Still, he again pumped for his scheme of requiring participants to pay more for their food stamps and called for tightening eligibility and participation requirements in the program.

However, McGovern in an introduction to his committee's report emphasized that the rising cost of the program is a side effect of an unhealthy economy and an Administration's refusal to accept measures to get the economy moving.

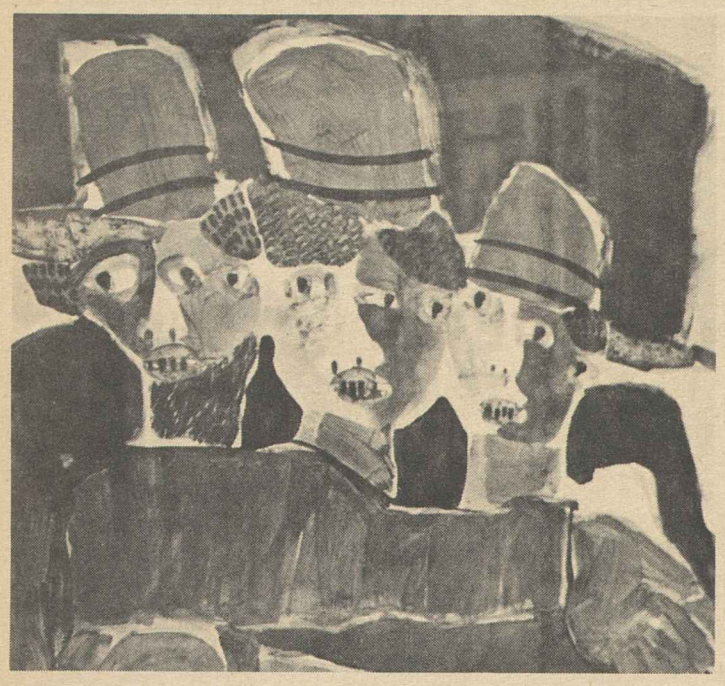
CONGRESS APPEARS to be moving in an opposite direction from Ford. The Senate has passed a bill to extend the food stamp program to the aged, blind and disabled. Similar legislation is expected to be acted upon in the House when the recess ends.

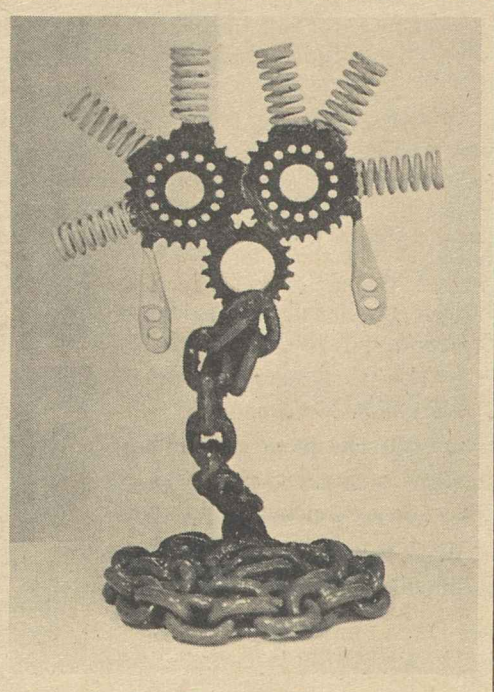
The Senate, in passing its bill, adopted an amendment sought by the AFL-CIO and individual unions that would speed up the certification of food stamp applicants.

The amendment, approved by a bipartisan 61-35 vote, would provide an immediate 30 days of food stamp benefits for a family that appears eligible. A check into the family's finances and resources would then be made during the 30 days of temporary certification.

Meanwhile, Chairman John Foley (D-Wash.) of the House Agriculture Committee has announced that it will launch a comprehensive study of the food stamp program with a view toward seeing that "all those who need food stamps get them promptly," and improving the program, as well as eliminating any abuses.

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS have been spared "destitution, hunger, starvation" and disrupted family life by the social security system created 40 years ago, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Lloyd Schwartz, left, of Fairchild Publications and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine.





MURAL PAINTING commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Ladies' Garment Workers is one of a dozen art works on display at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center. Viewing the mural are the center's curator, Nina Felshin, and Executive Director Fred Hoehler. Below, is an acrylic by Lloyd McNeill of Musicians Local 161-710, and a sculpture by Richard Loffler of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3. The exhibition features works by unionists from eastern states.

Art Works Of Unionists Form Display

A collection of paintings and sculpture crafted by union members from Eastern states is on display at the Labor Studies Center through Labor Day.

The exhibition, titled Union-Made: East Coast, consists of 12 works, including oil and acrylic paintings, watercolors and sculpture.

An up-coming exhibition will feature art works by union members from the West Coast, currently on display by the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO. Future exhibitions are planned by the Studies Center to include the works of union members from other sections of the country.

Art exhibitions at the Studies Center are made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibitions have been rotated periodically since the center opened last year.

In developing the East Coast exhibition, Studies Center Curator Nina Felshin pointed out that the collection does not attempt ot distinguish between "professional" and "amateur" artists. Instead, the focus is on art as an activity that can be created and enjoyed by any worker.

Felshin, formerly a curator with the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., said the selection for the East Coast exhibition was made after viewing hundreds of works.

She said the number of entries was pared down because of a limited exhibition area at the center, but that the final selection provides a wide range of works, including subject matter that is "clearly and proudly labor-related."

BLS Survey Reveals Dollar Value of Unions

A new report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics reveals a dramatic differential in the wages and fringe benefits earned by workers in union establishments above their non-union counterparts.

The biennial report, prepared by BLS's Office of Wages & Industrial Relations, shows unionized workers in the nonfarm economy drew an average rate of compensation of $5.83 an hour in 1972 compared to $3.53 for non-unionized workers.

Unionized workers received an average of 36 cents an hour for paid leave while non-union workers got 13 cents. For private pension plans, unionized workers received an average of 23 cents an hour, non-union workers got 5 cents.

For life-insurance and health-benefit programs, the union worker received an average of 37 cents compared to 13 cents for the non-union employe.

Compensation for non-office workers in both manufacturing and non-manufacturing was higher in establishments in which the majority was covered by collective bargaining agreements than in those in which none or a minority was covered, BLS noted.

"In non-manufacturing, the gap in the level of compensation between workers in union and non-union establishments was nearly double that in manufacturing, reflecting the influence of unionization, as well as industrial composition, and perhaps geographic location," BLS said.

"In manufacturing, unionization is much more uniformly spread among its component industries than in non-manufacturing, where unionization is concentrated in high-wage industries such as public utilities, construction and transportation."

Unionized workers in non-manufacturing areas of the economy received compensation averaging $6.24 an hour compared to $3.36 for unorganized workers.

Organized workers in manufacturing received $5.50 an hour, while non-unionized workers were paid only $4 an hour, the BLS study showed.

Inflation's Toll:

Expenses Jump 11% For Retired Couples

(Continued from Page 1)

close to the 11 percent overall average rise in all three budgets, with personal services slightly higher.

Like the urban famliy budgets for a worker with dependents, the government's retiree budgets show the sheer force of necessity in the spending patterns. For instance, food costs were up a full 2 percent more in the lower budget than in the other two, reflecting the greater share of income the lower-income couple must spend to eat.

But other factors in the cost of living are weighted differently by BLS for the retirees than for workers' budgets. Housing costs, for instance, reflect the higher likelihood of ownership.

Still, the retiree budgets are austere. The lowest reckoning is well below the government's April 1975 poverty level of $5,050 for a working family, and any retired couple that was totally dependent on social security income would be strictly confined to the "lower" level.

In October 1974, the average social security benefit for couples was $341 a month, or $4,092 a year. And the maximum possible social security benefit, $512 for a couple, is still well short of the "higher" BLS retiree budget.

Thus supplemental income of some kind would be necessary for retirees to reach either of the higher two budgets. The social security maximum of $512 would approximate the intermediate budget at the October 1974 level, but not with the 5 percent increase in living costs since then.

In general, the retired couple fares a little better if its home is in a smaller, southern city. In areas classified by BLS as "metropolitan," the costs are decidedly higher.

The intermediate budget average of $6,041 was lifted decidely by such figures as $7,105 for New York City, $7,075 in Boston and $6,489 in San Francisco. In contrast, comparable figures were $5,403 for Baton Rouge, La., and $5,506 for Austin, Tex.

Unlike earlier retiree budgets, the October 1974 figures make no allowance for personal income taxes. The BLS says its entire tax estimation procedure is being reviewed to reflect changes in taxation.

At all three levels, the 1974 budgets reflect the reality that retirees spend almost exclusively on necessities. The allotment for gifts and contributions is tiny in all budgets compared to the share taken for "family consumption," and such items as life insurance premiums are provided in the highest budget only.

Raftery Joins Board Of Arthritis Foundation

President S. Frank Raftery of the Painters has been elected to the board of directors of the Arthritis Foundation.

In accepting the appointment, Raftery stressed that the Painters are vitally concerned with the health of their members on and off the job. He noted that the union is currently conducting a nationwide program of physical examinations to determine the effects of members' exposure to toxic substances on the job.

Clothing Union Seeks Raises For 100,000

New York—The Clothing Workers have called for a substantial wage increase and improved benefits for 100,000 workers it represents in the cotton garment, outerwear and single pants industries.

The union's bargaining program was underscored by ACWA President Murray Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman in negotiations in the three areas of the clothing industry, where existing contracts expire Sept. 1.

Finley pointed out that since the last pact was negotiated three years ago, the Consumer Price Index had advanced 26.7 percent, with another 1.5 percent almost certain before the new contracts would be effective. Since wage increases in cotton garments and outerwear had risen approximately 20.8 percent as a result of the last negotiations, the workers in these industries were already between 7.5 and 8 percent behind where they were prior to the 1972 negotiations.

"And when you consider that the workweek in these industries has declined by 5 percent, the workers have to catch up 12.5 percent just to stay even," Finley said.

In addition to the hourly wage increase, the union is also proposing "just, moral and necessary" improvements to the health, welfare and retirement programs.

PROGRESS IN THE FIGHT against Parkinson's disease is explored at a Chicago meeting kicking off the 1975 campaign of the American Parkinson Disease Association. From left, are William Sidell, president of the Carpenters and campaign chairman; Dr. George C. Cotzias, developer of the L-DOPA treatment for the disease, and Dr. Murray Goldstein of the National Institutes of Health.

Poor Diets Harm Health:

Nutritional Problems Mount For Lack of National Policy

The United States has put a lot of money and commendable effort into fighting hunger, but it has never come close to a national nutrition policy.

And filling an empty stomach is not the same thing as adequate nutrition, food economist J. B. Cordaro writes in the AFL-CIO magazine, the Federationist.

If anything, U.S. diets have gotten worse in the 30 years the government has been keeping tabs on "recommended dietary allowances," Cordaro writes.

He says fad diets and phony, gimmick foods contribute to the poor overall state of the U.S. diet, but it could also be improved by such basic steps as putting some nutritional standards into the food stamp program.

Nutritional problems are tied closely to the state of the nation's health, and Cordaro lists a potential saving of $30 billion a year on the nation's health bill from improved diet.

But the first step would be some form of national nutritional policy, and Cordaro notes that government has danced around that topic for a long time without getting closer to adopting such a policy.

"Contrary to popular belief, U.S. hunger and malnutrition were not 'discovered' in 1967," Cordaro says in tracing a long series of government commissions, study groups and legislative proposals dating back to 1917.

"But it wasn't until 1968, beginning with the activities of the Senate's Select Committee on Nutrition & Human Needs, that an effort was made for the first time at the federal level to develop an overall framework into a national policy," he notes.

Cordaro, a nutrition specialist for the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, notes that during all these same 30 years, the U.S. nutritional level was slipping. He cites these findings from a 1971-72 survey:

- Over half the U.S. population can be said to have poor diets when the intake of basic nutrients —carbohydrates, fats, proteins, minerals and vitamins—of the average person is weighed against the Agriculture Dept.'s required daily allowance, or RDA.
- Approximately 40 percent of the children 1 to 5 years old and 75 percent of the females 18 to 44 years old had vitamin A intakes below the RDA established by the National Academy of Sciences in 1974.
- In the age group 18 to 44 years, approximately 60 percent of the diet provided less than the RDA for calcium; 81 percent of Negro females aged 18 to 44 had inadequate calcium intake.
- Approximately 50 percent of the children 1 to 5 years and 60 percent of females 18 to 44 years had vitamin C intakes below the required norm.
- Approximately 95 percent of children 1 to 5 years and females 18 to 44 years had iron intakes below the norm.

That and other surveys show, quite predictably, that low-income groups are the worst victims of poor nutrition, but Cordaro notes that the need for nutritional improvement is found at all income levels.

"High income does not insure good nutrition," Cordaro notes, citing a 1965 USDA finding that "more than one-third of the households with incomes of $10,000 or more had diets that were well below the RDAs for one or more nutrients."

"Besides, health problems associated with high income diets, or overnutrition, may be greater than the problems of undernutrition," he points out. He cites the claim of one national publication in the field that "the most expensive type of quackery in the U.S. today is the promotion of vitamin products, special dietary foods and food supplements. Millions of consumers are being misled concerning the need for such products."

But for all the studies that have been done, Cordaro isn't so sure but what a little noticed 1975 court decision may have the farthest reaching effect.

"In June 1975, a federal appeals court ruled that the USDA was not complying with the food stamp law since USDA's food stamp allotments did not provide the opportunity for all recipients to obtain an adequate diet," Cordaro writes.

He says it's still anybody's guess as to what this might mean to federal food programs and future congressional actions, but he thinks it gets near the heart of a key problem with the federal initiatives in school lunch, special food services, school milk and the food stamp program.

"The food stamp program puts money in the hands of families and lets them choose their priorities for spending it. That may be a reasonable approach to assisting a family with its food bill, but it does not deal with nutrition as a health goal."

But setting what he calls a "national baseline" of nutritional goals is not an easy task, because at present no one branch of government has adequate information.

Cordaro says the solution can come only from a series of current initiatives which include imposing a single focus on the various government programs; requiring food programs to provide at least 35 percent of RDA with each meal; allowing more fortification of foods than is currently permissible under federal regulations; and providing adequate research to fill the information gap and assess current U.S. nutritional status.

Without this kind of national policy, Cordaro feels, America will go on being the world's best-fed nation—but not necessarily its best nourished.

Board Applies Picketing Notice Rule To Construction Work at Hospitals

A 3-2 majority of the National Labor Relations Board gave a controversial interpretation to a 1974 law dealing with strikes and picketing at private hospitals and other health care institutions.

At issue was whether a requirement for advance notice of a strike or picketing applies to construction at the site of the hospital or, as the union involved contended, merely to picketing by hospital workers or their unions.

The 1974 amendment to the Taft-Hartley Act extended collective bargaining rights to workers at non-profit health care facilities, who had been previously excluded. It also imposed a requirement of a 10-day notice of intent to strike or picket any private health care facility. The notice would enable the institution to make other arrangements to care for its patients.

In the case before the NLRB, there was no picketing of a hospital at Stuart, Fla. The picket signs carried by members of Plumbers Local 630 protested the lowering of wage standards through use of a non-union subcontractor, and the picketing was conducted only at a gate reserved for employes of that subcontractor. It was apparently legal even under the severe restrictions on construction site picketing.

There was no interference or attempt at interference with hospital workers or deliveries.

All of these facts were undisputed, according to the NLRB decision.

But the board was sharply divided over the meaning and intent of this sentence of the 1974 law:

"A labor organization before engaging in any strike, picketing or other refusal to work at any health care institution shall, not less than 10 days prior to such action, notify the institution in writing and the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. . . ."

To the NLRB majority of Chairman Betty Southard Murphy, Ralph E. Kennedy and John A. Penello, this covered any picketing at the hospital grounds, even if not directed against the hospital.

If Congress had intended to exclude construction work at the hospital site, the majority reasoned, it would have specifically done so.

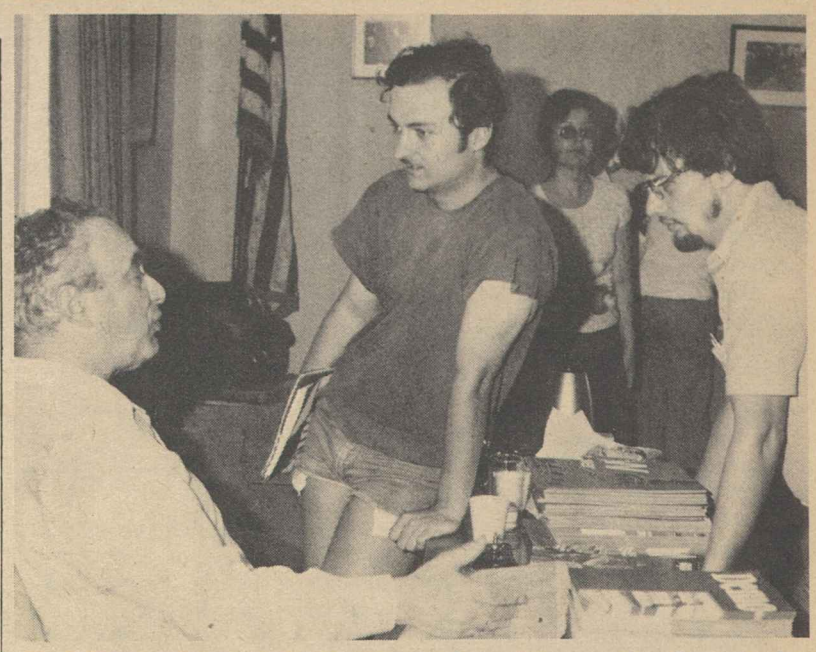
NLRB members John H. Fanning and Howard Jenkins, Jr., vigorously dissented.

The entire thrust of the legislation was to regulate the bargaining relationship between hospitals and their employes, they stressed. The word "at," which the majority took to mean at the site of the hospital, can properly be read as joining the phrase "refusal to work at."

While you can picket a hospital, Fanning and Jenkins noted, you can't "refuse to work a hospital."

And apart from the grammatical dispute, the dissenters emphasized, there is absolutely nothing in the legislative history of the bill to leave the impression that Congress intended to deal with construction industry labor disputes when it extended bargaining rights to a large group of hospital workers.

The 10-day notice dispute as it applies to construction workers may fade away if Congress passes the jobsite picketing bill.



LABOR'S WIDE ROLE in domestic and international affairs is discussed by Deputy Director Donald Slaiman of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services with young political activists at Front Royal, Va. The three-day leadership institute, sponsored by the League for Industrial Democracy, drew 50 representatives from 23 Eastern states.

Youth Groups Explore Causes of Discontent

Front Royal, Va.—Young political activists involved in labor-supported voter education and registration programs gathered at a three-day conference here to explore the growing discontent caused by the faltering economy and government policies.

Participating in the leadership institute were 50 persons between the ages of 16 and 30 from 23 states in the eastern half of the country. The sessions were sponsored by the League for Industrial Democracy in cooperation with Frontlash and the Youth Institute for Peace in the Middle East.

William W. Winpisinger, a vice president of the Machinists, told the group that "if workers are alienated and insecure today, it is because of the state of the economy."

His remarks were underscored by Frank Fernbach, assistant to the president of the Steelworkers, who described the underlying causes of the nation's economic crisis and explained the AFL-CIO program for recovery.

The development of labor's role in political action programs and in the special problems of the minorities was traced by Donald Slaiman, deputy director of the federation's Dept. of Organization & Field Services, and Ernest Green, executive director of the Recruitment & Training Program.

On international affairs, Tom Kahn, an assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, warned that the survival of political democracy is one of the most critical issues facing the world today.

Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. detailed the link between American labor and Histadrut, the Israeli trade union movement, and the continuing support for Israel's defense.

The institute also heard author and Soviet dissident Lev Navrosov, who gave a dramatic account of life and oppression in the Soviet Union.

In workshop sessions, 15 experienced organizers, headed by newly-elected Frontlash Executive Director Chris Gersten, explained the development of programs dealing with voter registration, volunteer recruitment, precinct analysis, increasing voter turnout, election law reforms and media techniques.

Aders Named To No. 2 Post In Labor Dept.

Robert O. Aders, an attorney who formerly was chairman of the board of the Kroger Co. supermarket chain, has been appointed Under Secretary of Labor.

The Labor Dept.'s number two spot has been vacant since February, when Richard Schubert resigned to return to the Bethlehem Steel Corp.

During the wage-price controls period, Aders was a management member of the Cost of Living Council's Wage & Salary Committee.

Since last year, Aders has been a partner in the Washington law firm of Ginsburg, Feldman & Bress. He is 48.

His appointment has been confirmed by the Senate.

Poisonous Gas Release Spurs URW Lawsuit

Ashtabula, Ohio—A $2.5 million damage suit has been filed by the Rubber Workers against the Olin Corp. and General Tire & Rubber Co. for alleged injuries to workers from "repeated and frequent spills or escapes" of phosgene and other gases.

The suit, filed in Ashtabula County common pleas court, seeks $500,000 compensatory damages and $2 million punitive damages on behalf of URW Local 595 members employed at a General Tire plant adjacent to the Olin plant. General Tire owns the property upon which Olin is situated.

URW President Peter Bommarito charged that the release of the gases at Olin not only has caused injury and illness to employes of General Tire but constitutes "a threat" to the surrounding area.

"When these gases are released, stricken Local 595 members at adjacent General Tire have had to crawl to safety for oxygen treatment," Bommarito said. "The dehumanizing and debilitating effects of these emissions are intolerable and must be stopped."

"Imagine going to work each day with the threat of inhaling poisonous gas," Bommarito said.

"This lawsuit comes only after many, many attempts by the local union to persuade the companies to alleviate this health hazard," he said.

Labor's 'Hometown Lobby':

City, State Councils Aid Congress Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

When Congress reconvenes, the House will seek to complete action on a labor-supported energy conservation bill.

Before the recess, the House approved a compromise amendment, by Rep. Harley Staggers (D-W.Va.) that set up price ceilings for various types of oil, including a partial rollback of the inflated price being charged for "new" oil.

"Efforts will be made by the oil lobby to weaken this key provision," Biemiller warned. "We strongly oppose any such crippling amendments."

Biemiller urged central bodies to stress their support for legislation passed by both the House and Senate authorizing more than $4 billion for job-creating public works projects in cities and states. The Senate bill, he noted, includes over $1.5 billion in anti-recession grants to communities with the highest unemployment.

The legislation is now before a House-Senate conference committee and Biemiller pressed for speedy final approval.

Before the recess, the Senate Labor Committee approved a construction site picketing bill similar to the labor-supported measure that passed the House.

Biemiller said it probably will be sent to the Senate floor soon after Congress reconvenes. The AFL-CIO supports the bill without damaging amendments.

A federal unemployment compensation standards bill being considered by the House Ways & Means Committee is "of great importance to workers," Biemiller said. He urged "prompt action" on it.

Coming up in the Senate, Biemiller noted, is a battle over natural gas controls, which the Administration wants to remove. They should be continued, Biemiller urged, and any attempt to link natural gas to oil prices should be rejected.

Labor's opposition to the lifting of controls on domestic oil isn't affected by a 3-2 federal appellate court ruling that President Ford exceeded his emergency powers when he imposed a special $2 fee on each barrel of imported oil.

The import fee, which the AFL-CIO had termed the wrong way to lessen the nation's reliance on imported oil, added substantially to gasoline and fuel prices, particularly in the Northeast.

If the ruling becomes final (it may be appealed to the Supreme Court) the issue of reimbursing consumers who have paid the higher gasoline and fuel prices would be up to the courts or Congress.

Some White House officials have contended that ending the import fee would make the expiration of controls on domestic oil more palatable, since part of the rise in domestic fuel would presumably be offset by the elimination of the import fee.

President Signs Voting Rights Act

President Ford has signed into law a seven-year extension of the Voting Rights Act that had the support of the civil rights and trade union coalition.

In addition to continuing safeguards for southern blacks, the new law also sets up procedures to make it easier for Spanish-speaking Americans and other "language minorities" to register and vote.

The new legislation also permanently bans the use of literacy tests as a voting qualification in any state.

ELDERLY CITIZENS receive pointers on meat purchases in a consumer education program conducted by Meat Cutters Local 342 in Brooklyn, N.Y. Members of the local explain how to economize on meat buying and how to identify and prepare various cuts of meat.

Crop Forecast, Exports Shoot Up Grain Prices

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO President George Meany planned to meet on Aug. 18 at the federation's headquarters with members of the Ad Hoc Committee of AFL-CIO Maritime Unions "because of the urgency of the situation."

The Longshoremen have adopted the position that they will not load grain destined for Russia without safeguards that the American public will not be victimized as it was in 1972. Their stand was supported in statements adopted by the Executive Council.

The government's latest crop estimates, based on conditions as of Aug. 1, showed corn production at 5.85 billion bushels—a record, but still 196 million bushels, or 3 percent, less than the July 1 estimate. This year's wheat crop was estimated at 2.1 billion bushels, again a record and just under the July 1 forecast.

At the same time, the government noted that dry weather has cut yield prospects in Soviet grain production and that the Russians would need to import about 25 million tons, an increase of about 5 million tons from earlier estimates.

Dry weather in key producing areas of the United States—particularly the corn belt of Iowa and Nebraska—has caused concern that the summer's harvest may be considerably less than at first indicated.

The Agriculture Dept. predicted Iowa farmers will harvest 1.1 billion bushels of corn—an 11 percent reduction from estimates earlier this summer.

Don Paarlberg, USDA's chief economist, told newsmen that poor growing conditions since the department's Aug. 1 survey have jeopardized U.S. corn production.

"We don't know how bad the impact is, but the rain has been sparse and scattered," he said.

In reaction to these reports, Midwest futures traders began to bid up prices of various grains at close to their allowable daily limits.

8-16-75

Meany Asks Updating of Jobless Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

- More than 3 million families, including 8 million children, are helped with more than $700 million a month under the public assistance program.
- Over 6 million unemployed workers receive monthly benefits of more than $1 billion under the federal-state unemployment compensation program.

The unemployment compensation portion of the Social Security Act has been "an important economic stabilizer for workers, employers and the whole national economy," Meany noted.

"For workers who lose their jobs, it means at least a partial replacement income to tide them over the period of joblessness and to provide food, housing, clothing, transportation and other essentials for themselves and their families."

Other benefits cited by Meany include lessened pressure on jobless workers to abandon their skills during temporary periods of joblessness, machinery for referring workers to available jobs, and an opportunity to seek work in other communities.

Further, Meany noted, the at least partial maintenance of purchasing power helps prevent the ripple effect of unemployment from costing additional jobs in retail stores and other firms serving the community.

It is especially important, Meany said, as what economists term "an anti-cyclical force" to combat economic downturns.

Congress Given Plan On Rail Reorganization

Congress within the next two months will decide the fate of a plan to reorganize the country's bankrupt Northeast-Midwest railroads. What the lawmakers do will have far-reaching impact on the rail industry, its workers and the nation's economy.

The final plan for restructuring the giant Penn Central and six other bankrupt carriers—Central of New Jersey, Lehigh Valley, Lehigh & Hudson River, Reading, Ann Arbor and Erie Lackawanna—was sent to Congress by the U.S. Railway Association.

USRA was established by a Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, passed with support from railroad unions. The plan becomes effective if Congress does not disapprove of it within 60 working days. However, the lawmakers must amend the act to implement the plan, primarily with regard to financing.

Through this route Congress could make changes. Some opposition already has developed to USRA's proposal that marks 5,100 miles of so-called "low density" (branch lines) for elimination. Bills are pending that would require a new Consolidated Rail Corp. (ConRail) to operate them for two years with the federal government picking up the tab for their deficits.

A number of members of Congress also maintain that reorganization of the seven carriers, to be profitable, will have to be accompanied by some form of government ownership of tracks and rights-of-way, which would in turn be leased to ConRail. At one time, USRA had considered recommending such a corporation, Consolidated Facilities (ConFac), to go with ConRail.

The reorganization plan calls for a federal investment of $1.8 billion in ConRail over a five-year period, 1976 through 1980, to provide for rehabilitation, capital investments, working capital, and early operating losses.

USRA Chairman Arthur D. Lewis said at a Washington press conference that ConRail will operate at a deficit of about $232 million in 1976, its initial year. However, he projects that deficits can be reduced so that the new rail system will be $36 million in the black by 1979, and show a profit of some $579 million by 1985.

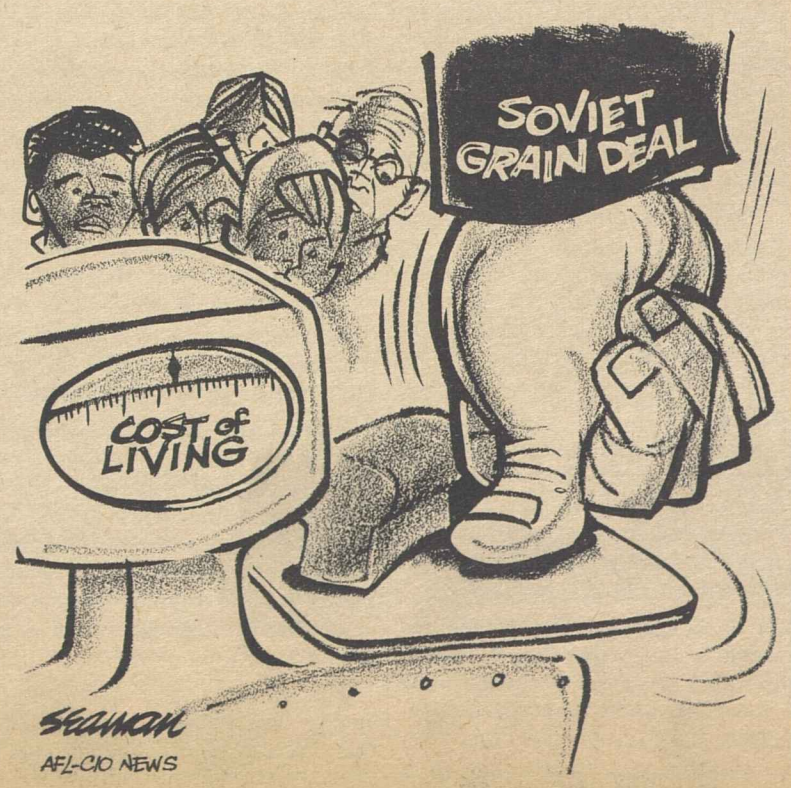
ConRail also needs the benefit of "competitive rail service into the major markets" of the East and Midwest, Lewis said. The reorganization plan proposes selling about 2,000 miles of the Reading and Erie Lackawanna, plus small segments of the Penn Central, to the Chessie System. The plan also envisions purchase of sections of the bankrupt carriers by the Norfolk & Western and the Southern Railway.

The plan projects a ConRail work force of approximately 90,000 employes. This would mean the loss of jobs by some 3,300 workers, Lewis said. It is USRA's estimate that between 8,100 and 10,800 employes to be acquired by the last three mentioned roads, mainly the Chessie, would keep their jobs. However, Lewis admitted that this isn't a certainty.

Rail unions fought hard and successfully to maintain job protective conditions in the 1973 act that were the result of a labor-management agreement. The Nixon Administration tried unsuccessfully to knock out the provisions while the legislation was moving through Congress.

In summary, the protective features require that any worker with more than five years service, if released, is guaranteed monthly earnings until he reaches 65, dies or retires. Employes with less than five years service who might lose jobs are guaranteed severance pay geared to length of service. Employes can be transferred to other locations, but they must be paid moving expenses, including any loss on sales of homes.

The American Weigh



Food, Fuel Send Price Index Soaring

1.2% Rise Steepest In 10 Months

By James M. Shevis

Massive retail price hikes—particularly for food and fuel—lifted the government's consumer price index by 1.2 percent in July, the steepest monthly increase in the CPI in 10 months, raising the specter of a return to double-digit inflation.

"Obviously consumers are in for more bad news in the near future," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared, pointing out that the "incredible" price increases were registered before the impact of the following developments could be determined:

- "The fantastic 1.2 percent jump in wholesale prices announced on Aug. 7, with food prices up an astounding 6.6 percent in one month.
- "The staggering increase in grain prices already occurring as a result of the new Russian grain deal.
- "The certain increase in fuel prices that will take place if the President's announced veto of continuation of oil price controls is not overridden."

In a separate report, the Bureau of Labor Statistics noted a further drop of five-tenths of 1 percent in the buying power of the average worker's pay.

Real spendable weekly earnings for a worker with three dependents averaged $90.88 in July, a decline of 48 cents from June and 30 cents from a year earlier. The figure is expressed in terms of take-home pay stripped of the effects of inflation since 1967.

Reporting on the latest round of price increases, BLS said the July CPI was 162.3 percent above its 1967 average, nearly 10 percent higher than a year ago.

The July rate, if it were to continue for the next 12 months, would put the inflation rate at 14.4 percent—the same blistering pace that seared the nation's economy in 1973 and 1974.

Sidney L. Jones, the Treasury Dept.'s assistant secretary for economic affairs, described the new inflationary surge as "not representative of what we have seen . . . or what we are likely to see."

Yet, in remarks earlier in the week at an American Accounting Association conference in Tucson, Ariz., Jones warned that the next few months likely will be a "turbulent" period for the American economy.

Last month's CPI increase compared with a rise of eight-tenths of

(Continued on Page 8)

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Meany Supports Dockers On Soviet Grain Embargo

MARITIME TRADES leaders discuss with AFL-CIO President George Meany the economic impact of the 9.8-million-ton Russian grain purchase on American consumers and the U.S. shipping industry during a meeting at the federation's headquarters.

Asks Action To Protect Consumers

By John R. Oravec

AFL-CIO President George Meany strongly reaffirmed support for the Longshoremen on holding up new shipments of grain to the Soviet Union unless the interests of the American consumer and the U.S. maritime industry are fully protected.

Organized labor wants assurances that the new grain sales will not bring a repeat of the economic consequences that grew out of the 1972 Russian wheat deal, Meany said in support of the ILA policy.

Meany told a press conference that consumers, the shipping industry and even American farmers were "ripped off" by the secret grain deal three years ago. The resultant higher food costs paid by consumers did not really benefit farmers, he stressed.

Meany said the position of the maritime trades unions—which met in an ad hoc committee session earlier—is quite clear: "They're not going to load any grain to the Soviet Union under the new purchase arrangements made since the first of July unless there is a policy set forth and agreed to that will protect the American consumer and the American shipping industry."

Within hours after the ILA grain embargo was announced, dockworkers in Houston halted loading operations on ships destined for Russian ports. But they were ordered back to work a day later under a temporary restraining order issued by a federal district judge

(Continued on Page 8)

At Second Convention:

Farm Workers Gear For Key Union Votes

Fresno, Calif.—The Farm Workers second biennial convention geared up for crucial representation elections in California's growing areas and called on the state's new agricultural labor relations board to clarify organizing and balloting rules.

UFW President Cesar Chavez told some 700 delegates that current regulations do not provide ease of access to the state's ranches for union organizers.

Unless a clear access rule is spelled out, Chavez warned, UFW members will stage protests at the state capital in Sacramento.

Chavez, who arrived at the convention site after a six-week 1,000-mile walk from the Mexican border to build support for the elections, also asked the board to permit the symbols of the two major competing unions—the UFW and the Teamsters—to be printed on the ballots. He wants the UFW's black eagle emblem on the ballot to make it easier for farm workers to make their choice.

Chavez and the UFW received solid assurances of help and support in the elections from a broad representation of organized labor. California's new law giving farm workers the right to petition for secret-ballot elections to decide which union, if any, they want to represent them goes into effect on Aug. 28.

Enacted by the state legislature and signed by Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., less than three months ago, the law provides that an election must be held within seven days after the initial petition is filed. Chavez predicted that the UFW will win back a majority of the contracts it lost to the Teamsters two years ago when many growers signed "sweetheart" pacts with the larger union.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, at its midsummer meeting in Chicago, instructed the Dept. of Organization & Field Services to provide assistance to the UFW, consistent with the federation's long

(Continued on Page 7)

Court Okays New Reforms On Elections

The 1974 election reform law—propelled through Congress by the Watergate scandal and strongly supported by organized labor—has met and passed its first legal test.

In unanimously upholding most main provisions of the law, an eight-judge panel of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia said any "incidental impact" it might have on free speech is fully warranted by the history of big-money abuses in American politics.

The law authorizes public financing of presidential elections, calls for strict disclosure of contributions

(Continued on Page 7)

Studies Center Offers 28 Training Courses

The AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center will begin its new academic year in September with a schedule of 28 tuition-free training courses for full-time union officers, representatives and staff members.

Most of the one-week or two-week programs will be presented at the center's new 47-acre campus in Silver Spring, Md., which opened last October.

Eight institutes will be held at state university campuses in Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Michigan and California.

The program of training for union officials includes three types of courses:

- Improvement of personal skills such as speaking, writing, reading, presiding, administration, handling media relations, budgeting and bookkeeping and psychology.
- Background on major issues such as economics, corporate power, international affairs and women in the labor force.
- The sharpening of skills for specific union activities in such areas as arbitration, negotiating,

(Continued on Page 3)

Complaints Up Sharply On Wage-Hour Chiseling

Workers' complaints of employers violating the federal wage-hour law rose sharply over the last two years while investigations initiated by the Labor Dept. dropped substantially.

In fiscal year 1975, complaints totaled nearly 53,000, a steep rise from 41,000 in the previous year and 38,400 in fiscal 1973.

Warren D. Landis, director of the Labor Dept.'s Wage-Hour Division, noted in an interview with the Bureau of National Affairs that 85 percent of the agency's investigations last year were based on complaints and only 15 percent were "directed" investigations.

Three years ago, 40 percent were directed investigations and 60 percent grew out of workers' complaints. The decline in agency-initiated investigations points up labor's contention of the lack of adequate federal funds to provide for more wage-hour compliance officers.

About 10 percent of the 53,000 complaints filed in fiscal '75 involved employer violations of new provisions added by the 1974 amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The amendments not only in-

(Continued on Page 2)

Birthday Wish

Woodworkers Submit Forestry Pacts to Vote

Vancouver, B.C.—The Woodworkers reached tentative agreement with the British Columbia forest industry on new two-year contracts covering 38,000 members throughout the Canadian province.

The agreement, which calls for a $1.55 an hour wage increase over the two-year period, has been submitted to IWA members for ratification votes on a local by local basis. The tally is expected to be completed by Aug. 28.

IWA negotiators recommended acceptance of the terms which were proposed by a special mediator appointed by the provincial government.

Meanwhile, members of two striking pulp and paper unions rejected similar proposals. The unions — the Canadian Paperworkers Union and the Pulp, Paper & Woodworkers of Canada—walked out at 21 pulp and paper mills in British Columbia and in Ontario on July 16.

CPU officials have been critical of the industry, charging that it has failed to bargain in good faith. The union, which gained autonomy last year from the Paperworkers, reported no significant progress toward settlement of any of its 80 or so contracts covering 40,000 members.

Some 7,200 CPU members are on strike in British Columbia; another 3,400 have struck in Ontario. Nine of the struck mills are newsprint producers.

The differences in the British Columbia dispute center on wages and length of contract. The CPU wants a one-year agreement, not two. In Ontario, the obstacle is management's refusal to accept the makeup of the union bargaining group.

The IWA pacts cover about 30,000 workers at logging, sawmill and plywood plants along the coast of British Columbia and on Vancouver Island and another 8,000 elsewhere in the province.

The union negotiated with the Forest Industrial Relations Association, representing about 100 coastal companies and the Interior Forest Labor Relations Association embracing a smaller number of firms in the southern and interior sections of British Columbia.

When talks between the three unions and the industry broke down earlier this summer, IWA members remained on their jobs pending the special mediator's proposals.

The IWA agreements retain the cost-of-living escalator clause first negotiated last year. Top wages under the tentative agreement woul rise to $9.29 an hour at the start of the second year of the contracts next June.

Other benefits include management agreement to increase its contribution to pension plans, a move that would more than double the benefits.

Safety Review Panel Gets New Chairman

President Ford has appointed Frank Barnako, the newest member of the Occupational Safety & Health Review Commission, to serve as chairman of the panel in place of Robert D. Moran.

Moran, who headed OSHRC since it was established in 1971, has two more years remaining in his term and will continue as a member of the commission. Union safety representatives have been sharply critical of his approach to enforcement of the federal job health and safety law.

Barnako, a former official of the Bethlehem Steel Corp., was confirmed by the Senate in mid-July to succeed James F. VanNamee, whose term expired Apr. 27. Timothy F. Cleary is the third member of the commission.

OSHRC reviews citations and proposed penalties issued by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration for violation of federal job safety standards.

Network Schedules Set for Labor Day

AFL-CIO President George Meany, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice President I. W. Abel will make nationwide radio addresses on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1.

The networks and times set for the broadcasts are:

Abel, CBS, 7:35 p.m. (EDT).

Kirkland, Mutual, 7:45 p.m. (EDT).

Meany, NBC, 9:45 p.m. (EDT).

Local radio stations may air these broadcasts at different hours and should be checked for exact broadcast times.

Enforcement Staff Limited:

Wage Law Chiseling Spurs Sharp Jump in Complaints

(Continued from Page 1)

creased the federal minimum wage —currently $2.10 an hour and due to reach $2.30 next Jan. 1 for millions of workers—but also extended coverage to an additional 7 million workers and reduced the number exempt from overtime pay protections.

Landis told BNA that the '74 amendments don't pose a serious enforcement problem for the wage-hour agency, noting that only 5,500 of the 53,000 complaints in the past fiscal year resulted from the "new coverage."

However, the lack of needed manpower restricts the scope of the agency's enforcement activities. The division is requesting an additional 100 compliance officers in the fiscal 1976 supplemental appropriations bill now before Congress.

The agency's current compliance staff of less than 1,100 must enforce provisions of not only FLSA, but also the Davis-Bacon Act, Equal Pay Act and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

Although he expressed little concern for overall enforcement of the new amendments to the FLSA, Landis did cite certain areas that could be troublesome.

One is the use of tips to supplement the federal minimum wage. Congress made it clear that tipped employes are to retain all their tips. If the tips add up to enough, the employer may deduct up to one-half of the worker's minimum wage.

While the amendments do not prohibit the pooling of tips among employes who are customarily tipped, employers cannot designate other workers to benefit from the tip pool if they normally are not tipped. Thus, a restaurant employer could not use the tip pool to supplement the wages of kichen workers, janitors, laundry attendants and others.

Another problem may arise with a suit against the Labor Dept. by a group of employers in fast food service operations—such as vending machines, ice cream stands, hamburger carryouts and caterers—seeking to be classified as restaurant operations.

The reclassification would mean that such establishments would have to pay overtime premiums only for work in excess of 46 hours a week, an exemption reserved for restaurants.

In a recent opinion letter, Landis pointed out that a business place selling food is not a restaurant unless the customer can come in and sit down and place his order from a full menu.

Landis told BNA that he expects increased activity in child labor civil penalties under new regulations that went into effect July 18. Penalties may go as high as $1,000 per violation.

In fiscal '75, the number of minors found illegally employed amounted to 16,966. Of the total, 10,452 were in retail trade and 5,622 in restaurants. The remaining 900 were in other industries.

The federal law forbids employing a minor under age 16 in nonfarm work and bars employment between ages 16 and 19 in hazardous nonfarm occupations. The 1974 amendments also prohibit employment of children under age 12 on farms other than those operated by their families and on farms not subject to the federal minimum wage. Children between 12 and 14 may be employed on covered farms where their parents are employed.

On state and local government employes, the wage-hour agency has run into an enforcement obstacle with the stay by Chief Justice Warren Burger of regulations covering fire fighters and police. A suit brought by the National League of Cities challenges the extension of the act to all state and local nonsupervisory employes.

Amendments to FLSA in 1966 extended coverage to 3 million employes of public schools, hospitals and transportation systems, and the 1974 amendments added the remaining 3.4 million nonsupervisory workers in state and local governments.

Landis said recently that the Labor Dept. has adopted the position "to take no action with respect to noncompliance situations involving employes covered for the first time as a result of the 1974 amendments where the local government entity places in escrow any monies that might be required to cover potential back wage payments resulting from noncompliance situations.

Normal enforcement activities are continuing, however, with respect to other state and local government workers, Landis said.

Last year's FLSA amendments also extended coverage to most federal employes and some others in related services. Enforcement authority for most of the government workers was given to the Civil Service Commission. The wage-hour agency was assigned enforcement for workers in the Postal Service, Postal Rate Commission, Tennessee Valley Authority and the Library of Congress. But the library was also given a degree of self-enforcement authority.

Textile Workers Hit NLRB Ruling Upholding J.P. Stevens Discharges

A three-member panel of the National Labor Relations Board ruled in a split decision that J. P. Stevens & Co. had the right to discharge 22 employes who got up and asked questions at company meetings held to discourage organizing efforts by the Textile Workers Union of America.

The ruling was branded "a rank injustice" by TWUA President Sol Stetin who charged the decision "legitimizes the brain-washing activities of employers."

The NLRB has, "in effect, turned its back on workers who had the courage to stand up and challenge company propaganda during the course of a 'captive-audience' meeting," Stetin said. "It now appears to be a crime for pro-union workers to exercise their right of free speech."

Upholding a 1974 finding by an NLRB administrative law judge, Board Members John A. Penello and Ralph E. Kennedy held that the workers' questions were aimed at disrupting the company meetings at several plant locations between late 1972 and early 1974.

A different majority of Penello and Member John H. Fanning ordered the reinstatement of a 23rd worker who they found had not taken part in the alleged plan to disrupt the company meetings. Kennedy would have approved the discharge of all 23.

Fanning, however, said that the entire group of workers should be restored to their jobs because their rights under the National Labor Relations Act were clearly violated.

Fanning charged that the facts of the case do not "even remotely suggest" the existence of a scheme to disrupt speakers at the company metings. In a lengthy dissent, he declared:

"There is not a scintilla of evidence of a conspiracy to heckle or otherwise interrupt respondent's speakers so as to prevent an effective presentation of the speech. Nor is there testimony of an agreement among employes, explicit or implicit, to ask disruptive questions."

The NLRB ruling covered a consolidation of charges involving J.P. Stevens plants in Wallace, S.C.; Turnersburg, N.C.; Roanoke Rapids, N.C.; and Rockingham, N.C. The events of the case occurred during a bitterly contested campaign by the TWUA to organize Stevens employes.

Two days before the Sept. 19, 1973, representation election at the company's two Wallace plants, the plant managers arranged meetings for employes to hear their arguments for not voting for the union.

At these and similar meetings at other plant locations, employes arose during the company speeches and asked for an opportunity to speak or to ask questions. Other employes commented on the firm's anti-union campaign.

In upholding the subsequent discharges, the NLRB panel majority maintained that the employe speakers sought to disrupt the meetings with questions that were "loaded, loud and distracting."

But Fanning, in his dissent, objected to this characterization of the facts and noted that Stevens's "entire course of conduct in the latter stages of the union campaign clearly reflected its desire to chill concerted partisan activity by inquisitive employes rather than to insure the unencumbered presentation of its speeches."

Fanning said the firings were indiscriminate and without advance warning. "Three people were fired for merely standing without saying anything," he observed.

Airline Unionist Named To CAB Advisory Unit

President Kelly Rueck of the Flight Attendants, a division of the Air Line Pilots, is one of 20 persons named to a special Civil Aeronautics Board advisory committee on procedural reforms.

The panel members—all of them from outside the government—represent a cross-section of interests in the aviation industry. Rueck is the only union representative.

The committee was established to study the procedural aspects of the CAB, and to recommend changes to reduce costs and delays in the administrative processes.

'Recovery' Claim Rejected:

Plasterers' Parley Stresses Job Needs

Las Vegas—The head of the Plasterers & Cement Masons blasted both the Ford Administration and Congress for failure to adopt strong measures to restore the economy's health.

Hard times are even more keenly felt in the building and construction industry, which today "has its back to the wall," President Joseph T. Power declared at the union's 43rd convention here.

Power strongly criticized President Ford's vetoes of bills to aid the construction industry as well as the Democratic majority in Congress for its inability to override the vetoes. He urged the delegates to undertake a massive letter-writing campaign to secure passage of the situs picketing bill which the Senate is slated to take up when it returns from its recess next month.

He noted that while average joblessness in the construction industry is about 21 percent, it is about 30 percent among plasterers, cement masons and shop hands who belong to the union.

This figure easily climbs to as high as 55 percent in some of the nation's highly urbanized areas, Power said.

"No matter what the Administration economists pronounce about the business end of the recession," Power declared, "the human recession of unemployment will continue for the rest of this decade unless strong actions are taken immediately."

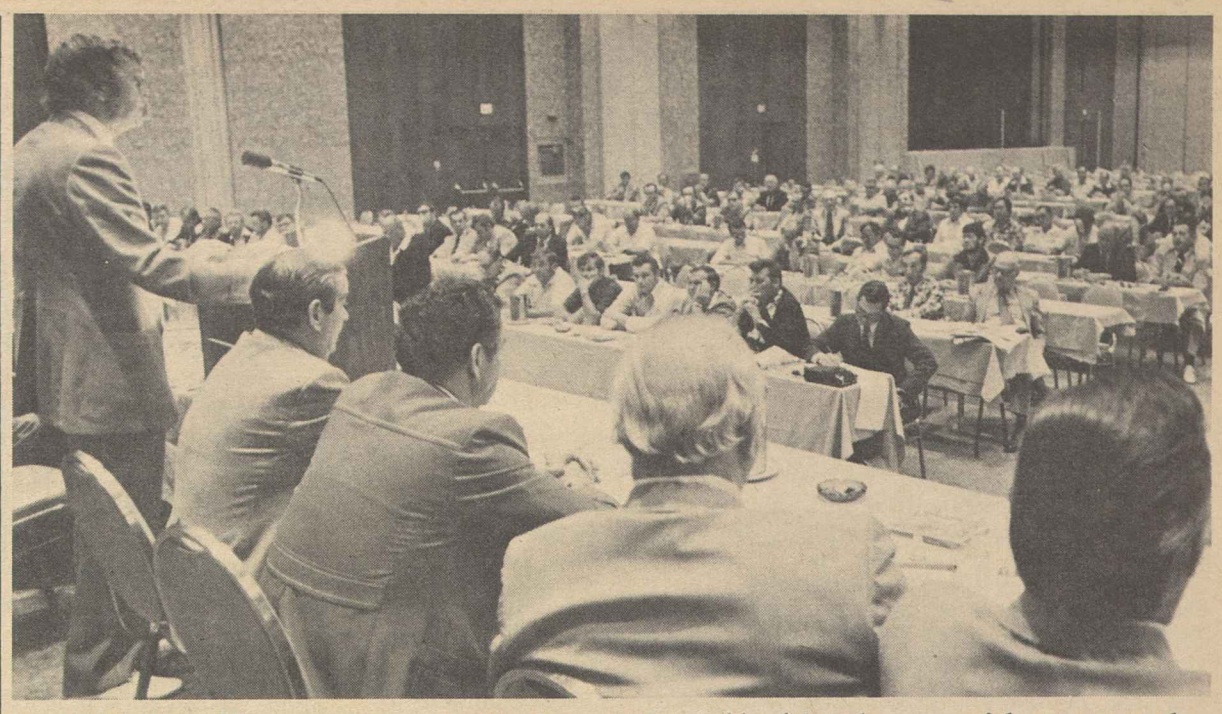
The delegates re-elected Power to a new four-year term of office along with Sec.-Treas. John J. Hauck, Executive Vice President Melvin H. Roots, seven members of the executive board and 15 vice presidents.

The labor-backed site-picketing bill received strong support from William J. Usery, director of the Federal Mediation & Concilation Service, who told the delegates that the measure now making its way through Congress "represents another step toward finding our way to mutual labor-management peace."

Usery said he viewed the legislation as "the first adjustment in what I feel is a long overdue tuneup of construction industry labor-management practices." He noted the high incidence of strikes in the industry, and added that "not only do we have more strikes in the construction industry; they last longer."

Usery said the average work stoppage in the industry last year lasted 29 days compared to 19 for all other industries. He noted, however, that the Plasterers & Cement Masons had fewer strikes than the average building trades union, "and those walkouts ended sooner than the average by nearly five days."

Also addressing the convention during its early stages were Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services; Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning of the California AFL-CIO and Daniel O'Sullivan, executive vice president of Union Labor Life Insurance Co.



SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS under development for residential and commercial use to cut the need for oil consumption would bring about new job opportunities, Sheet Metal Workers President Edward J. Carlough told a conference of the union's business agents in Toronto.

Sheet Metal Workers Open Drive For Solar Energy Development

Toronto—A major effort to use solar energy—sunlight—for air heating and cooling in America's commercial and residential buildings was touched off here at the National Business Agents Conference of the Sheet Metal Workers.

President Edward J. Carlough told the 600 union officials that by the most conservative estimates, use of solar energy systems could cut the nation's oil consumption by an eventual 400,000 barrels a day. Immediate "retro-fitting" of the heating and air condtioning systems in present commercial, industrial and institutional buildings could lead to savings of 100,000 barrels of oil a day, Carlough added, citing Treasury Dept. estimates.

He said the volume of work involved in the conversion of heating and cooling systems using large quantites of energy could provide jobs for "every unemployed sheet metal worker. . . . It would guarantee full production and full employment for our industry."

The Sheet Metal Workers, he added, will ask Congress and the state legislatures to pass emergency laws for tax credits for business expenditures made now to achieve energy savings for the future.

The conference devoted a day to a workshop on solar energy—theoretical, scientific and practical—by leading experts in the field. They included Prof. George Lof of Colorado State University, known as the "father of solar energy;" Vice President Charles Zraket of the Mitre Corp., a Boston non-profit engineering firm; Dmitri Gorschov of the Mitco Corp., which is developing solar engineering systems; and several representatives of contracting and supply firms.

All agreed that the use of air, rather than water, in solar energy heating and cooling could open the way to vast expansion of these systems in the years ahead.

A study prepared for the union by the Mitre Corp. indicated that within the next 25 years the sun's energy would provide heating and cooling for nearly 2.5 million single family homes, 22,000 apartment buildings, 80,000 retail stores and 66,500 low-rise office buildings.

Solar energy work would be a welcome lift for an industry now hit with heavy unemployment, Carlough told the union business agents.

President Robert Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. told the conference that in the construction industry "1974 was a disaster, and 1975 looks no better."

The dollar volume of building permits is still very low, he said, and the electrical utilities industry has had to cut $61 billion out of a projected $81 billion construction programs.

That means, he estimated, a loss of 220,000 construction jobs in the next four years.

"There is folly and waste in our present economic policies," Georgine declared. "People stand ready to work, while we cut back needed projects to make us independent on the energy front."

He hailed the recent House passage of the bill to permit construction unions to picket unfair subcontractors at the job site and asked for heavy mail to members of the Senate, where action on the bill is due in September.

The conference gave unanimous support to Carlough in a flaring dispute with "SMACNA" — the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning National Association, which represents a majority of contractors in the union's jurisdiction.

The dispute involves the action of SMACNA's board of directors in rescinding, after a period of several months, an agreement with the union on arbitration of disputes involving payments to the industry fund that finances SMACNA and other activities, including a lid on the spread of non-union work. Although agreement had been reached with the union officers and had been ratified, a group of directors forced the trade group to repudiate the action.

The union has notified the employer group that unless it lives up to the original agreement the Sheet Metal Workers will withdraw from the joint national labor committee of SMACNA and notify local unions and non-affiliated contractors they have no further obligation to negotiate or make payments into the industry fund.

Labor Studies Center Offers Varied Courses

(Continued from Page 1)

organizing, administering pension plans, worker education, job safety and health and civil rights.

Special programs will be offered this year for building trades representatives and for union editors.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, chairman of the Labor Studies Center trustees, announced the new program in a 48-page catalogue just published by the center. He said:

"It is clear that labor leaders now have the opportunity to keep pace with the long standing AFL-CIO objective of improving the quality of labor's voice in the affairs of the nation and in speaking for the interests of the members they represent."

Meany urged all AFL-CIO unions to plan their educational activities around the center's 1975-1976 calendar. Last year 14 unions used the center for their own training programs.

The AFL-CIO has provided all funds for the purchase and operation of the 47-acre campus, including reconstruction, redecorating and furnishing of the three buildings now in use. A fourth building, an auditorium, is being rebuilt and a fifth, a second residence hall, will be built during this academic year.

Since the center was organized six years ago, its enrollment has totaled 3,451 union leaders, 845 since it moved to its new campus last fall.

CONVENTION

The New Hampshire State AFL-CIO convention will be held Oct. 23-26, 1975, in Nashua.

Participation in a Labor Studies Center institute is limited to 25 persons, normally not more than three from any one national or international union. Leaders and staff personnel of the AFL-CIO state and local central bodies are also eligible.

Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., formerly a professor at Michigan State University, is the center's executive director.

A copy of the new AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center catalogue for 1975-1976 is available on request from the AFL-CIO Dept. of Public Relations, 815 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Window Glass Cutters, GBBA Complete Merger

Media, Pa.—The Window Glass Cutters merged with the Glass Bottle Blowers effective Aug. 1 after members of the Glass Cutters overwhelmingly approved the action in a referendum, Presidents Harry A. Tulley of the GBBA and Arthur L. Markham of the Glass Cutters announced in letters to the AFL-CIO.

GBBA officials were authorized by convention action to make merger arrangements with other unions in the stone, glass and clay industries.

The Glass Cutters, headquartered in Columbus, O., have been affected by a declining membership in recent years brought on by foreign imports, a severe drop in housing construction, and industry conversion to float glass production.

The seven remaining Glass Cutters' locals with a membership of about 460 were redesignated as new locals of the GBBA.

Markham has joined the GBBA staff as an international representative to service the Glass Cutters' membership in the GBBA. Albert Noe, Jr., secretary-treasurer of the Glass Cutters, is retiring.

Cotton Dust Warnings Urged in Textile Mills

Columbia, S.C. — The Textile Workers urged the South Carolina Dept. of Labor to require the state's cotton textile mills to post warning signs alerting employes to medical evidence that has clearly established that cotton dust is a serious threat to their health.

Fire Fighters Form Unit on Study of Burns

The Fire Fighters have established a union committee to encourage expansion of governmental research on burns, their treatment and rehabilitation of burn victims, President William H. McClennan announced. The committee will also serve as a clearinghouse of information for IAFF local unions on activities in the field of burn treatment and prevention.

Announcing his appointment of the committee, McClennan noted that the IAFF has long sought to focus attention on the problems of burn prevention and treatment. Many IAFF views on the subject are contained in the "America Burning" report of the National Commission on Fire Prevention & Control.

"A good start has been made," McClennan said. "Many organizations are now operating in the burn research and prevention field in the United States. The Fire Prevention & Control Act of 1974 has authorized an appropriation of $8 million for burn care facilities.

"Now we must make the next move. We must see that funds are made available and are used wisely, in research, treatment and rehabilitation programs. We in the IAFF are going to do everything we can to see that this vitally important work goes forward as it should."

The Public Interest

AS NEW YORK slowly sinks into financial disaster, it becomes urgent for other communities to examine the fate of the nation's greatest city. No wall separates this massive pile of people and property from the rest of the country. This shining metropolis is the mirror in which other towns and cities, states and indeed the nation itself can see what the future may hold in store for them.

The shadow of bankruptcy falls on all. Rich and powerful as we are, we have not been able to balance the books, to reconcile hope with capacity, need with resources. A powerful force, transcending all boundaries, tears us apart with conflicting inventories of profits up and human values down.

Desperate for help, New York has sought it to no avail in Washington and Albany. The answer has been "stew in your own juice," or "live within your own means." Thus denied, the City Fathers, as a last resort, have turned for salvation to the bankers.

Some may find irony in turning for help to those who have in the first place been the cause of much of the present difficulty. To them, the bankers have always been in charge, in any case. The joint board of financiers, affectionately dubbed by New Yorkers as Big Mac, is merely a formal device whereby the money community may more directly take over the running of the city.

The assumption now is that what the elected officials are unable to do, Big Mac will accomplish. It deals directly with the heads of the municipal unions. And presumably, in time it will itself direct, or dictate to those with the elected authority to direct, programs for streets and schools, bridges and tunnels, subway fares, etc. etc.

BY AND LARGE, financiers are fine fellows when encountered on the golf links or on the yacht or at the club. But during so-called working hours, they concentrate on business—and their business is to maximize profits. In banking, their major interest is the interest rate. Their responsibility is all pervasive; they provide the fuel for profit-making throughout the entire American economy.

Presumably, they will run the city as they run any other enterprise. There will be no interference with what they skim off the economy. And if the store doesn't make money, they may have to close it down. Before that happens, they will cut here and trim there. The fate of the city will be determined by whether or not the rate of return to the financiers can be maintained.

Americans who 200 years after the founding of this nation may still believe one of its basic purposes is to provide for the general welfare, must now learn that municipal governments may have to be excluded from this purpose, as the pursuit of happiness and the pursuit of the buck become synonymous.

All levels of our government provide proof of the wisdom of the money men. Those who put the interest rate above human fate have packed our cities with empty office towers while the housing shortage grows more crushing, are preparing once again to ship wheat to nations determined ultimately to destroy our way of life and at profit-laden prices underwritten by higher food prices for the American worker.

They are ready to do business with blackmailing oil suppliers because tax loopholes insure their own record-breaking profits, while in our own garment industry, they hesitate not for a moment to wipe out jobs by pioneering in the establishment of sweatshops throughout the world.

—From an editorial in the Aug. 1, 1975, issue of Justice, publication of the ILGWU.

AFL-CIO News

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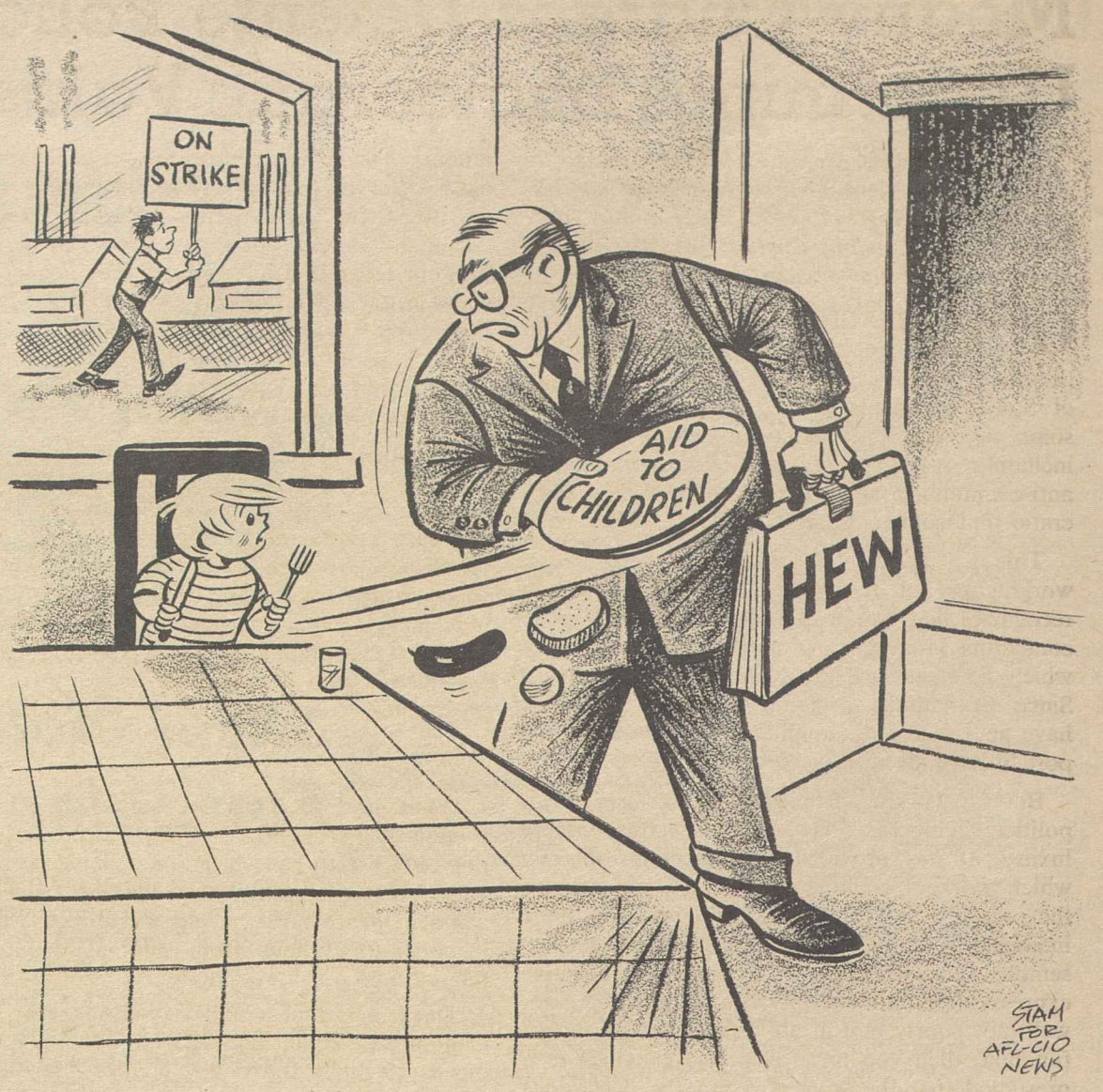

A Word Edgewise:

Summer 'Retreat' by the Sea Refreshes Body, Mind, Spirit

By John P. Roche

IT WAS 21 YEARS AGO this summer that my wife and I discovered Martha's Vineyard. It was quite a drowsy spot in those days: you could simply drive to the ferry station at Wood's Hole and invariably, without reservations, get your car on the next boat. We loved it, particularly since we were welcomed by friends to membership in a family cooperative that dated back to 1919, and have thus been able each summer to renew our acquaintanceship with the same sturdy band, their children, grandchildren, and now even an occasional great-grandchild. Like ourselves in the 1950s, new families have joined; alas, the formidable matriarchs of yesteryear have joined God and doubtless give Her as much good advice as we received.

One of the nicest aspects of this permanent yet changing commune, and the one I'm convinced that has assured its survival, is its total absence of ideology. Over the years dedicated animosities have developed, but always of a non-theoretical character. If, from time to time, when the spirits were high and the flagons low, some sharpness surfaced, the aura of civility was always restored by the next morning. Again, no formalities, no structured apologies: just the pretense that nothing worth remembering had occurred. Now and then, perhaps, some malicious gossip behind the Barn, but St. Augustine's analysis of human character is not altered by a boat ride.

Sometime in the 1960s the Vineyard was "discovered" and became the "in" vacation spot among the exhausted elites of New York, Cambridge and Washington. Various members of our outfit, on encountering friends from these spots who had bought or rented houses, have always returned with the same story: it is impossible to explain our setup to "foreigners." We have, for example, a regular meal schedule seven days a week: breakfast at 8, lunch at 1, and dinner at 7 —all announced by vigorous ringing of a large ship's bell.

This strikes some observers as positively monastic; indeed, when my wife and I are invited to a friend's place for a drink after the beach and quietly exit around 6:30, I always explain we have to be back for Vespers. But our meals are not just food inputs—they are opportunities for conversation with friends one has not seen since last August and will in all probability not again encounter till next summer.

There are probably as many definitions of a "vacation" as there are people. The two main schools of thought on the island are those interested in recharging their batteries and others who are dedicated to overcharging their livers. Never having signed the pledge, I have no intention of criticizing the latter. However, we live on different wavelengths—for me a vacation is a kind of secular retreat. I have never been a "nature boy" and most of the savages I have known were anything but noble, but I find that I am refreshed by contact with the sea and the sky.

There is an elemental power in the sea that is virtually immune to human meddling. As a child whose father spent years at sea, and later as a devoted reader of Joseph Conrad, I learned respect for the ocean, respect later empirically buttressed by riding breakers and feeling their prodigious power.

OFTEN IT SEEMS as though the sea and sky are in competition. Some evenings, notably those which follow very hot days on the mainland, we sit in the barn door and watch the fog roll in. The first stars to vanish are on the horizon, but gradually the soft night extinguishes the others and your flashlight throws an eerie tunnel of illumination. However, when the skies are clear the view is literally stunning. Not only is there very little smog, but the metropolis of West Tisbury throws little reflection into the night sky.

The other night, for example, you could reach up and grab the Kite's tail, and other constellations were equally overpowering. On top of this, we are in the shooting star season, and in the course of three hours spotted a couple of dozen slashing down through the heavens. My wife claims that watching the sea and the stars brings out the secret mystical strain in me.

I can't testify to the truth of that, but I will admit I get a probably badly needed sense of humility from stargazing and sea-watching. A columnist, who by definition is supposed to act as an authority on everything, suddenly realizes that the light he is seeing from a distant star set out on its journey when our earth was still lifeless, molten mass.

Significance for Workers:

Meany Charges Detente Policy Undermines Democratic Values

The following is excerpted from an article by AFL-CIO President George Meany which appeared in the Aug. 14, 1975, issue of the Daily Telegraph of London, England, on detente and the interests of the democratic workingman.

ON THE RECORD SO FAR detente has brought about no favorable changes within the Soviet bloc—certainly no easing of the plight of Soviet dissidents—but it has brought about some unfavorable developments within the West, including, it would seem, the downgrading of anti-communism as an integral part of the democratic philosophy.

This is a matter of no small importance to the workingman of the West. Political democracy recognizes that groups and classes of people have conflicting interests, and lays out the means by which conflicts can be expressed and resolved. Since Communist societies proclaim that they have abolished class conflict, they naturally purport to have no need of these means.

But for working people in the western world, political democracy has not been a dispensable luxury. It has provided the essential tools by which workers could create unions and acquire the power to advance their social and economic interests. Without the freedoms of speech, assembly, association, and other modes of collective expression, a union simply cannot function—not well, not poorly, not at all. And if unions cannot function, then you have a society in which it is presumed that the worker is not the best judge of his own interest—that those interests must be defined and decided by somebody else in the society, i.e., the state.

This is, of course, the very system that prevails in the Soviet Union. The destruction of independent workers organizations—no less thorough than under fascist regimes—is justified in the Communist world by an ideology that claims to have seized control of the state for the workers. The bitter and illuminating irony, of course, lies in the absence of any means by which the workers themselves can, even indirectly, ratify—or reject—this seizure of power in their name.

This is why the AFL-CIO has refused, and will continue to refuse, to engage in exchange visits with representatives of so-called unions behind the Iron Curtain. They simply are not unions. They are instruments of the state whose function is the regimentation, not the representation, of workers. To legitimate them as trade unions amounts to a betrayal of the Russian workers.

Governments must relate to one another regardless of the social systems they represent. The dreams of anarchists to the contrary notwithstanding, there can be no power vacuum within a country: somebody has to govern.

The same standards cannot be applied to unions. There are countries where they don't exist; there are parts of my country where unions are weak or non-existent—or where so-called "company unions" exist. We don't invite them into our federation just because they are the only show in town. We think it is vital to maintain the distinction between real unions and phony unions. Western history in this century is full of examples of the terrible consequences that flow from calling things unions that are not unions.

In sum, then, I am arguing that to the extent that the present policy of detente leads to a depreciation of democratic values in the West—and I see considerable evidence of this already—it will be even more harmful for the workingman than for anyone else. Remember, the trade union movement's commitment to democracy grows out of the very commonsensical observation that a system that puts numbers above wealth is likely to produce a better deal for the worker than any system that diminishes, frustrates, or obliterates majority rule.

WE BELIEVE THAT the cause of social and economic justice in the United States must be pursued directly and head-on. That's what the AFL-CIO is in business for. We also believe the cause of peace must be pursued directly, not as a hoped-for fallout from dubious commercial relationships.

The fact is that a policy of firm resistance to Communist expansion, backed by the military means to make the policy credible, is the best way to keep the peace. When such a policy was followed in Cuba in 1962, it brought no conflagration but a Soviet retreat (and subsequently a slight thaw in Soviet-American relations based on a healthy respect for American power.) Our stand in Korea stopped Communist expansion there—without bringing on World War III. Scare words like "cold warrior" should not blind us to the fact that it was America's nuclear superiority that prevented World War III, not peaceful Soviet intentions.

No policy for peace—whether it goes by the name of detente or something else—can be successful unless it is based on a clear recognition of where the threat to peace comes from. In our era, that threat comes mainly from the Communist world—from its imperialist drive to dominate world society. Not accidentally, the greatest threat to workers rights emanates from the same source.

There is a peace to be had by accommodating to this threat—or by remolding our institutions and values in its image or in an image more to its liking. But that is not a peace in which the workers of the world can hope to advance their deepest aspirations for a better life.

Whatever our government may do, whatever our capitalists may do, we will not accommodate to the commissars.

Prospects Brightest Since '51:

Drive for Jobsite Picketing Bill Gains Momentum in Congress

FEDERAL LEGISLATION to give craft unions the same jobsite picketing rights long held by industrial unions is closer to passage now than at any time in the struggle that began in 1951, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. said.

Georgine said the measure is aimed at allowing craft unions to "peacefully advertise" grievances in a way that will bring about prompt settlement of disputes. He said that although the proposal has strong bipartisan support in both Congress and the White House dating back to President Eisenhower and every Administration since, employer groups determined to stop passage and their supporters in Congress have used all possible parliamentary roadblocks to prevent a vote on the issue. He pointed out that House passage of the measure shortly before the August recess is the best progress ever for the bill.

Appearing on Labor News Conference, Georgine said that the two central arguments made against the measure—that it would legalize secondary boycotts in construction and would give the unions a powerful hammer in collective bargaining—just don't stand up.

The bill does nothing to legalize secondary boycotts, he asserted, but only corrects improper definition of such action. He also stressed that the measure doesn't affect collective bargaining at all, since the craft unions already have the right to picket and shut down a whole jobsite when a contract has expired.

Turning to the economy in the construction industry, Georgine said that the predicted turnaround in housing never has developed. "During the current recession, no industry has been hit harder than construction," he said, and while employment has picked up in some industries, there has been no rebound in construction—particularly housing. He blamed the Administration's tight money and high interest rate policies.

He said the craft unions have urged the Administration and Congress to adopt policies and programs that will hold mortgage interest rate to "no more than 6 percent—maybe 6½ percent."

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE LABOR DEPT.'S Occupational Safety & Health Administration has completed the first stage of hearings on a permanent noise standard in the workplace with the cries of industry that it could not afford lower limits on sound still ringing in the ears of those in attendance.

Industry touted a study commissioned by OSHA which estimated that if the standard was set at 85 decibels it would cost $30.5 billion. The Environmental Protection Agency, which supports the 85-decibel level along with organized labor, had its own study which showed that the OSHA estimate was nearly twice as high as it should be.

All of these warnings that safety on the job and the protection of the limbs and health of workers cost just too much money are hard to believe—and for good reason.

Businessmen traditionally proclaim that it is economically and technically impossible for them to meet reasonable environmental and health standards.

We don't have the returns in yet on noise standards but we do have sufficient data on polyvinyl chloride (PVC) to fully appreciate the "crocodile tears" of industry.

In January 1974 the B.F. Goodrich plant in Louisville reported deaths of several of its workers who handled PVC. They died from a rare form of liver cancer known as angiosarcoma. In six months 21 confirmed deaths from the disease were reported, 15 in the United States.

In May 1974 OSHA, reacting to strong pressure from organized labor and scientific groups, issued proposed PVC standards that would limit the concentration in a plant's atmosphere to "no detectable level"—in practice, one part per million.

The industry let out a howl and let loose with its biggest scare tactic—a claim that the standard would close out 2.2 million jobs and as much as $90 billion in production.

THE INDUSTRY CONTENDED that even though 50-ppm of vinyl chloride produced many forms of cancer, including angiosarcoma of the liver in experimental animals, it was still safe enough for the American worker.

President Peter Bommarito of the Rubber Workers, testifying on behalf of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., lashed out at the industry's claims as "blackmail."

On April 1, 1975, the permanent PVC standard went into effect and all the dire predictions of management apparently have withered and died in the summer winds.

Last month the Wall Street Journal featured an article headlined: "Crying Wolf? Vinyl chloride plants keep humming under new federal rules."

The WSJ went on to report that four new plants have opened in the past six months and not one has closed. Industry found that not only can they live with the new regulations but are even boasting of their success in reducing work exposure in the chemical.

Then, the other day the Louisville Times, which had a role in first reporting the deaths at the B.F. Goodrich plant, suggested that the standards might be tightened even more without causing any hardships and offered this observation:

"The disparity between what the doomsayers predicted and what actually happened should cause the public to be wary of those, including strip miners, who claim that society cannot afford to make them operate responsibly. Usually that is not true, as the plastics industry discovered to its surprise and, we suspect, embarassment.

"There may be a lesson for industrialists in all this as well. They might find more sympathy for their admittedly very serious problems if they didn't always kick and scream like spoiled children, when told to do the right thing."

And the Labor Dept. might well remember these words in considering the permanent noise standards in the workplace.

EQUAL RIGHTS for craft and industrial unions are closer to reality now than at any time in the 25-year fight to correct a distorted definition of secondary boycotts, President Robert A. Georgine, center, of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO public affairs interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

How to Buy:

Bait-Advertising Complaints Hit Big Retail Chain Stores

By Sidney Margolius

SOME OF THE BIGGEST retail chains recently have been charged by federal and state agencies with exaggerating claims of sale savings on both general merchandise and food.

Latest to be charged is the giant Sears Roebuck chain. A court complaint filed by California State Atty. Gen. Evelle J. Younger alleges false advertising and unfair business practices.

The basic question raised by this and some of the other recent complaints is, when is a sale really a sale?

The complaint claims that Sears offers goods at "price reductions" although the sale price really is the price at which Sears usually sells such merchandise. The attorney general's office charged that the "sale" price doesn't result in any real savings to consumers since it is offered so often and regularly, and such a large percentage of the sales occur at that price, that in fact it is the company's regular price.

The complaint alleges that the time limit is also misrepresented; that statements such as "four days only" were misleading in that the goods could be bought at the advertised price any time the consumer went to the store.

One of the most interesting aspects of this complaint is the reference to Sears' frequent washer and dryer sales. The complaint alleges that Sears advertises a combination of these two items to create "the misleading impression" that the consumer will save by buying them together. But no savings will be made by buying both, the complaint charges.

The complaint has not, of course, been tried and settled by a court decision.

In past years Sears often has been the object of charges by competitors that its salesmen tried to "trade up" consumers to higher-priced models than the advertised specials. Trade papers making surveys of Sears sales practices have reported experiences both ways in various Sears stores: hard-sell efforts to trade up, and willingness to sell the advertised special without a fight.

In 1972 the Wisconsin Office of Consumer Protection also took legal action against Sears. The state agency showed that the two low-priced sewing machines which appeared almost all the time in Sears' ads actually comprised only 6 percent of the stores' sales of all sewing machines. The state's records showed that Sears advertised its Model 1104 at prices from $46 to $58 at that time—sometimes even less than the $53.64 Sears itself had paid for the machines, Home Furnishings Daily reported at the time.

Sears signed a consent order to discontinue the practice but did not admit the charge. It denied it had intentionally used such selling methods.

The Wisconsin authorities at that time also reported complaints that Sears salesmen had tried to discourage purchases of TV sets and deep freezers advertised at low prices. But the agency said its investigation on these items was not conclusive.

The Federal Trade Commission also has charged Sears with using "bait" ads to try to sell costlier zig-zag sewing machines than the $58 model it had advertised. The FTC also alleged that Sears' compensation system "rewarded" salesmen for selling higher-priced models and discouraged sale of the low-priced special. The charges have not yet been decided.

THIS REPORT is not to pass judgment on Sears' values. Nor is Sears the only large chain to have faced charges of bait advertising. The rug, furniture and jewelry trades have been especially notorious for such complaints.

Many large food chains also have been recent targets of complaints for failure to have enough stock to back ads for specials. A & P has figured in several such actions. Other large chains that have been targets of FTC or local actions include National Supermarkets, Thriftimart stores and Vons.

Another revealing type of questionable "savings" claim was reported by Gerald Gold in the New York Times. One chain had posted "Special 69 cents" shelf signs on baked goods when the packages themselves were labeled with the non-special price of 69 cents.

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Soup to Nonsense:

You, Too, Can Put on Pounds By Sticking to Low-Cal Foods

By Jane Goodsell

I'VE BEEN DIETING for six days. This morning I weighed myself, before breakfast and stark naked (I even removed my wristwatch) and I'd gained, yes gained, three-quarters of a pound. Now that I've calmed down enough to think more or less rationally, I'm beginning to understand how, and why, it happened.

The trouble with a diet is that when I'm on one I can't think about anything but food. Instead of reading the morning paper at breakfast, I study my diet list and calorie chart to learn what I can and cannot eat.

I bypass cinnamon buns at 200 calories each, and munch dry melba toast (25 calories) and sip tea. So far, so good. But my appetite, normally not voracious in the morning and diminished further by the daily news, is whipped up by that diet list.

I develop a craving for corned beef hash with a fried egg on top (300 calories). As I continue my study of the calorie chart, I come to doughnuts (200 calories each) and the thought of a plump glazed doughnut refuses to go away.

To get my mind off doughnuts, I start contemplating lunch. Should I have a tomato and cottage cheese salad or a poached egg on dry toast? I do not normally think about lunch until lunchtime. Now I can't think about anything else. By ten o'clock I can stand it no longer, and I eat an apple (100 calories) in the hope that it will dull my appetite and take my mind off a liverwurst and cheese sandwich on pumpernickel. No such luck.

So I scan the diet list again to find something else that might satisfy me without making me fat, and I discover to my surprise that a banana is only 100 calories. I eat one but this time, in looking over the calorie chart, I set my taste buds screaming for a stuffed pepper (300 calories). At 11 o'clock I eat three saltines (100 calories), and I want a club sandwich more than I have ever wanted anything. But I resist temptation. Instead, for lunch I eat a poached egg (76 calories) on rye toast (43 calories) and a glass of skimmed milk (89 calories). Although I have eaten not one single thing I really want, I have consumed 633 calories by 12:30 p.m., which is a lot more than I normally eat, and I still have the afternoon to live through. It's a long afternoon.

IN A DESPERATE effort to get my mind off hashed brown potatoes, lemon tarts, veal paprika, fettucini and popovers with strawberry jam, I munch my way through 325 calories of cottage cheese, celery stalks, carrot sticks, grapefruit, apples and diet crackers. I eat a spartan dinner of ground round (150 calories), one-half cup of green beans (26 calories), a small dish of pickled beets (50 calories) and a 100-calorie orange. I feel very sorry for myself.

To get away from the refrigerator, I go to bed and try to think of something more exciting to think about than food. A size 10 ultra-suede dress. Paul Newman. It's no use. Visions of meatloaf with mushroom sauce dance in my head. I tiptoe downstairs and eat a couple of hard-boiled eggs and five low-calorie crackers.

And that is how it happened that I gained three-quarters of a pound. I'm going off that diet tomorrow. I can't go on like this, thinking about food all the time.

Public Employee Dept. Slates 2nd Convention

The AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. has scheduled its second convention in Washington Sept. 4-5. The two-day session is expected to draw 125 delegates from the department's 29 affiliated unions.

The federation's newest department was established at a founding convention last November. Its affiliates represent 2.5 million employes of federal, state and local governments and the U.S. Postal Service.

The convention, to be held at the Shoreham Americana Hotel, will open with a keynote address by PED President William H. McClennan. Scheduled speakers include Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Gale W. McGee (D-Wyo.) and Representatives Carl Perkins (D-Ky.) and Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.).

Future departmental conventions will be held biennially.

Bureau's History Traced:

Fight to Create BLS Led by Early Unions

BEFORE THERE WAS a U.S. Dept. of Labor there was a Bureau of Labor Statistics, founded in 1885 after a 20-year fight by organized labor.

Although several state labor agencies preceded it, the BLS was the first national agency of its kind in the world. Six years after it began operation, France organized the first European labor agency, Office du Travail. England established a similar agency in 1893, Spain in 1894, Belgium in 1896, Austria in 1898 and Germany, Italy and Sweden in 1902.

"The European countries had been ahead of America both in collection of statistics and in enacting social legislation," Jonathan Grossman, labor historian of the Dept. of Labor and department historical researcher Judson MacLaury write in the department's Monthly Labor Review.

However, they note that the United States was clearly the leader in creating labor bureaus.

"Altruism and fear were the guiding stars of the drive for a labor statistics bureau," say the authors, "but the political power of the growing labor movement was the wind in its sails."

During the Civil War decade, unions fought for both national and state labor bureaus. In 1864, Rep. Gottlieb Orth of Indiana introduced a bill to create a federal labor department. Although the bill failed it was probably the first time that Congress considered establishing a department of labor.

Under the leadership of William Sylvis, the National Labor Union in 1868 urged that the national census include labor statistics and called for a federal bureau of labor with its "sole object the care and protection of labor."

In 1871 Congress did consider two bills to create a labor bureau but neither was acted upon. One passed the House but was tabled in the Senate. And with the death of Sylvis the idea died for a decade.

On the state level, labor politics, write Grossman and MacLaury, produced the first successes. In 1869 the governor of Massachusetts signed a bill creating the first government bureau of labor in the world. Other states followed so that 15 states had such bureaus by 1885.

In response to increasing pressure by labor, in 1882 the Senate Committee on Education & Labor opened a hearing into the "relations between labor and capital, the wages and hours of labor . . . strikes . . . and the causes thereof."

Among the unionists who testified were such figures in labor history as Peter J. McGuire, the founder of the Carpenters union; Adolph Strasser, president of the Cigar Makers; Louis Post, a journalist and a member of the New York City Central Labor Union; John Jarrett, president of the Amalgamated Iron & Steel Workers Union, and John Swinton, a leading labor journalist and publisher of John Swinton's Paper.

Also testifying was Carroll D. Wright, then commissioner of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics who was destined to head the new federal bureau. He said that a federal bureau "should be constituted entirely on a scientific basis; should not be run on theories at all, but absolutely as a statistical bureau." He wanted it free of policies and lodged in the Interior Dept. rather than as a separate bureau.

Grossman and MacLaury said that "the strong support and growing power of organized labor and the labor press were crucial to the success of the drive for a federal labor bureau." The fledgling Federation of Organized Trades & Labor Unions, the predecessor of the AFL, strongly favored such a bureau.

From a trickle in 1879 a stream of bills by late 1883 and early 1884, Congress started seriously considering a labor statistics bureau.

Ironically, the bill finally winning House approval was authored by Rep. James Hopkins (Pa.) chairman of the House Labor & Education Committee, who was also vice president of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. The Senate subsequently passed it.

GAIU Delegates Told:

Bargaining Strength Held Vital in Slump

Toronto—Although the graphic arts industry is normally the last to feel the effects of any economic downturn, "the harsh reality of the current economic recession, for the first time since 1929, has confronted the industry with the problem of high unemployment," the first constitutional convention of the Graphic Arts International Union was told by President Kenneth J. Brown.

Brown warned the 353 delegates that there is a growing militancy by employers, who are increasingly trying to take advantage of the situation by "testing" the union as never before with take-it-or-leave-it ultimatums and a willingness to take a strike to see if the union can withstand the pressure.

Two main employer weapons being used, he reported, are strike insurance and the formation of PACT (Printers Accommodate Customers Together), whereby arrangements are made with other companies to handle struck work.

To counter the depression, the union will continue to support the remedial proposals of the AFL-CIO and the Canadian Labor Congress, Brown said, but he stressed two facets of the union's bargaining as more valuable than ever.

Those with cost of living clauses, he pointed out, (4 cents for every point rise in the Consumer Price Index) "have gained approximately 4 percent over the rise in the cost of living, while those without such contract protection have not even maintained their purchasing power through 1973 and 1974."

The other bargaining stress was placed on even closer coordination of negotiations, such as in Canada, where the most substantial contract packages and improvements are being obtained.

This first regular GAIU convention since Labor Day 1972 (there was a special one in 1973), when the three unions of Lithographers, Photoengravers and Bookbinders were combined into one, was described as "the end of phase 1." During that time, Brown said, the merged union "has achieved functional integration in all its departments, with everyone on the staff able to handle the numerous day to day problems on which locals request assistance. Our organization now has a new focus."

Two of the three leaders who formed the three former unions into the GAIU announced their retirement as of next Apr. 1. Given ovations by the delegates were Executive Vice Presidents William J. Hall, former president of the Photoengravers, and John Connolly, former president of the Bookbinders.

With a membership that is one quarter women, the GAIU has taken "a steady and positive position on equal opportunities in the three years since merger," the officers reported. "Our constitution reflects this. We have initiated many programs for equal opportunities, changing local constitutions, revising local bylaws, changing local contracts."

Compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regulations was called "a fact of life" that all locals must respect. "However," Brown stated, "it's time we turn completely from responding to the requirements of the law to practicing equal opportunity as a way of life—as a matter of course, so that we will be in the forefront of those organizations practicing equal opportunities."

Special attention was given to the relationship of the international union with its Canadian members, "where the winds of nationalism are blowing in opposition to foreign domination in many areas."

A conference of Canadian local presidents in September 1974, Brown reported, "unanimously approved a policy statement that recognized the international has, by its structure and full representation for Canadian members, been in full compliance with the CLC guidelines even before such guidelines were issued." Brown decried "separate Canadian internationals, artificially divided from U.S. union members solely by virtue of nationality."

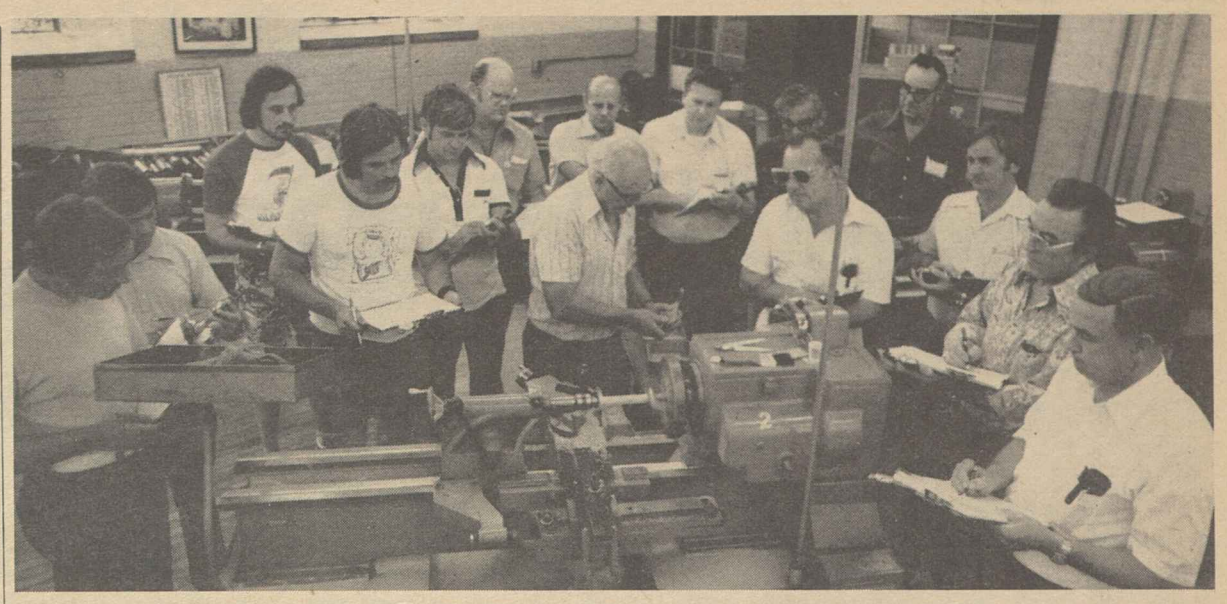
CLC Executive Vice President Shirley Carr enumerated a list of programs to the delegates on which the AFL-CIO and CLC "see eye-to-eye," including measures to counter the high unemployment in both countries.

President Charles A. Perlik, Jr. of The Newspaper Guild drew the vigorous response of the delegates on his proposal for "a joint no-raiding agreement among all four major unions in the industry (Guild, GAIU, Typographical, Printing & Graphic Communications)." He called for "a summit meeting of all four union presidents in San Francisco during the AFL-CIO convention."

Brown responded that it was "a practical presentation" and that the merged GAIU "will be prepared to explore any and all opportunities to create a new era of cooperation among all of the graphic arts unions."

Perlik reported that the recent TNG convention was enthusiastic about the first joint legislative conference GAIU and the TNG conducted last May and "wholeheartedly" authorized another joint effort for next year.

Delegates faced a workload of 76 resolutions that were cleared for floor action. They also prepared to make nominations for the first elections since GAIU's formation. Despite the merger agreement's attrition formula that will reduce the governing council from 50 to 32, there will be 48 positions to be filled in a membershipwide referendum later in the year.



WORK MEASUREMENT STANDARDS widely used in industry are studied by union representatives and staff members at Union Industrial Engineering Institutes at Madison, Wis. Two-week courses in work standards, job evaluation and related collective bargaining are cosponsored annually by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research and the University of Wisconsin School for Workers. Fifty-six students participated in this year's sessions.

Farm Workers' Delegates Gear For Key Elections in California

(Continued from Page 1)

established policy of support to the union.

Alan Kistler, the department's director, recalled Federation President George Meany's assurance to Chavez a year ago in Washington:

"When a member of our family is in trouble we don't stand on the sidelines. We get into the battle. It becomes our fight."

Kistler, addressing the delegates, declared:

"Let the black eagle fly over every ranch in California. Let it be stamped on every box of grapes and every box of lettuce that comes from the soil of California."

The AFL-CIO has urged all of its affiliated unions and central bodies in California to extend all possible aid to the struggling union.

Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning pledged the California AFL-CIO's full support of the UFW, stressing that "if the union is to survive, it must win the elections." Executive Sec.-Treas. Sigmund Arywitz of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO observed that the spirits of the convention delegates were high "because you know the labor movement is behind your efforts."

A resolution given a ringing endorsement by the delegates cited "the solidarity that has been built with the affiliation" of the UFW with the AFL-CIO and expressed the union's gratitude to the federation's leaders and members.

It hailed Meany's position "in the forefront of the fight for human dignity and social justice in America, especially in leading the condemnation of the Teamsters for their strikebreaking activities in 1973."

Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock was among the speakers pledging support for the union's cause. Others included AFL-CIO Region VI Director William L. Gilbert; John Squires, vice president of the British Columbia Federation of Labor; and William Soltero, representing the Building & Construction Trades of Arizona.

Also addressing the convention was Msgr. George C. Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference who said the Farm Workers could count on the support of the Catholic community. He added his prediction that the UFW would win "a minimum of 85 percent" of the upcoming elections.

Appeals Court Upholds Election Reform Law

(Continued from Page 1)

and expenditures, and limits the amount of money a person may give to candidates for federal office as well as candidates' spending.

The legal challenge is being led by Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.) and former Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.). They expressed "disappointment" and indicated they would appeal to the Supreme Court. Although four judges dissented to portions of the ruling, dissents generally centered on incidental sections of the law.

Warning that the "corrosive influence of money" has blighted the election process in recent years, the judges concluded: "The situation not only must not be allowed to deteriorate further but . . . cannot be tolerated by a government that professes to be a democracy."

The court used unusually strong language in discussing abuses and particularly addressed itself to the abuses in former President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign.

"Revelations of huge contributions from the dairy industry, a number of corporations (illegally) and ambassadors and potential ambassadors, made the 1972 election a watershed for public confidence in the electoral system," it said.

The principal argument made by challenges to the law was that its new limits on financial contributions curtail the freedom of contributors and candidates to express themselves in the political process.

The judges decided that these impositions were overshadowed by the need for curbing "ever-increasing campaign expenditures and reliance on large contributions from monied and special interests."

As to the plaintiff's objections to the rules on disclosure—including the requirement that names and addresses of $10 contributors be recorded—the court said that openness in political expenditures justifies a small sacrifice of privacy.

The court rejected arguments that public subsidies for Presidential candidates are a misuse of taxpayers' money and give candidates of the two major parties an unfair advantage over minor-party and new-party candidates.

The judges emphasized that anyone who does not want his money to go to candidates he doesn't support "can simply refrain from checking off his dollar" in the tax-return box. The system for financing minority- or new-party candidates, the court added, is not "invidiously discriminatory."

The panel found only one provision of the law unconstitutional —a provision requiring disclosure of information by anyone who spent money to influence an election. The wording in the law, it said, could be interpreted to include groups involved in "completely nonpartisan discussion of issues."

The court did not rule on a challenge to the legality of the Federal Election Commission, created to enforce the act. Since the commission has not yet exercised most of its power, the question is not yet a "ripe" constitutional issue, the judges declared.

Larson, Glaspar Boats On Labor's Boycott List

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has endorsed a consumer boycott against Larson Industries of Little Falls, Minn., which produces boats sold under the Larson and Glaspar labels.

The boycott action was taken at the July 31 meeting of the Executive Council in Chicago. Announcement was delayed in an effort to encourage the company to negotiate a contract with the Steelworkers, which represents Larson workers.

Following is the text of the council's statement:

"In October 1974, the United Steelworkers of America won an NLRB election at the Larson Industries in Little Falls, Minn., which manufactures boats for recreational purposes. From November until March the union unsuccessfully sought to negotiate a reasonable contract with the company.

"By its refusal to bargain responsibly on such basic issues as grievance procedure, seniority provisions and union security, the company forced the union members to strike on Mar. 24, 1975.

"The union members remain determined to win their struggle for their first contract and are backed by broad community support.

"Because of the company's intransigence, the USWA has called a consumer boycott on Larson boats, which are also sold under the name Glaspar.

"The AFL-CIO wholeheartedly endorses and supports this boycott and calls on those union members, who as a result of their union contracts now enjoy leisure time and the financial means to afford Larson products, to refuse to buy Larson or Glaspar boats until the company negotiates a decent and fair contract with its workers.

"We urge our state and local central bodies to rally union members and all consumers behind this boycott and the labor press to fully publicize it."

John C. Miller Named Acting NLRB Counsel

John C. Miller, a member of the National Labor Relations Board's legal staff since 1958, has been designated by President Ford to serve as the agency's acting general counsel.

Miller, 49, took over the spot on Aug. 15 when the term of Peter G. Nash, ended. Nash, appointed four years ago by former President Nixon, was not a candidate for reappointment.

Real Earnings Drop Further:

Cost of Living Index Takes Sharp Upturn

(Continued from Page 1)

1 percent in June and an average monthly increase of about five-tenths of 1 percent in the first five months of the year. The July rise was exactly double the increase for January.

Price increases for meat, poultry, fresh fruits and vegetables, gasoline and used cars accounted for about three-fourths of the July CPI rise, BLS noted.

Food prices overall jumped by 1.7 percent, the largest increase since August of last year. Prices in this category rose 1.5 percent in June. Leading the way last month were large boosts in prices for meat, poultry and fish.

"Since April when price increases for these products began to accelerate, beef, pork and poultry prices have risen almost 20 percent," BLS noted.

"Prices of dairy products increased noticeably for the first time this year, and egg prices moved up after declining in the two preceding months."

Food purchased in supermarkets rose 2.9 percent from June to July. The cost of food away from home —restaurant meals and snacks— rose by five-tenths of 1 percent, more than in both May and June.

About one-third of the July increase in grocery-store prices stemmed from an astronomical 16.7 percent jump in fresh vegetable prices, BLS noted. Increases were particularly sharp for potatoes, green peppers, onions and tomatoes.

Almost three-fifths of the June-to-July increase of nine-tenths of 1 percent in commodity prices was due to higher prices for gasoline and fuel oil. During the past four months, BLS noted, gasoline and motor oil prices have increased about 9 percent.

The U.S. city average price of a gallon of regular grade gasoline last month went from 56.7 to 59.1 cents, with premium gas going from 60.7 to 63.2 cents.

Other sharp non-food price rises were recorded in July for used cars and for other commodities such as toilet goods and housekeeping supplies.

Charges for services rose five-tenths of 1 percent last month, with almost a third of the increase due to higher costs of medical care.

"Among household services, charges for electricity rose sharply, and home-maintenance and repair services continued to increase," BLS noted.

The outlook for the consumer is for almost certain retail price increases in the coming months as higher wholesale prices are passed on to shoppers. The government's report on wholesale prices earlier this month showed prices rising at their sharpest rate since April.

Corporate Profits Show 2nd Quarter Rebound

Corporate earnings bounced back in the second quarter of the year, with manufacturers' after-tax profits rising 10 percent seasonally adjusted over the previous three-month period, the First National City Bank of New York reported.

Furthermore, the bank noted in its August newsletter, the quality of profits was "significantly better" since less of the gain was attributable to inventory profits arising out of inflation.

The findings were based on Citibank's regular quarterly survey of corporate earnings which in the April-June period covered 912 manufacturing firms and 420 non-manufacturing companies, with total reported after-tax profits of $11.5 billion.

The start of an apparent turnaround in manufacturing profits—they had plunged 40 percent on an adjusted basis from third-quarter 1974 to the first quarter of 1975—was of little consolation to millions of unemployed workers, however.

In the week ending Aug. 9, another 475,300 jobless persons filed initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits under various state and federal programs. And, for the latest reporting period (the week ended on Aug. 2), 6,406,100 workers drew jobless benefits.

The marked upswing in second-quarter earnings was better than seasonal, Citibank noted, and seemed to indicate a slow recovery in production might be under way.

At about the same time, the Federal Reserve Board reported that industrial output registered a slight rise of five-tenths of 1 percent in July, the second consecutive monthly rise. Earlier, the Commerce Dept. announced retail sales were up last month.

Personal income, however, dropped in July after an unusually strong advance in June, the Commerce Dept. noted. The June increase was boosted by the one-time $50 bonus to social security and railroad retirement beneficiaries plus Supplemental Security Income payments to elderly, poor and disabled persons.

Housing starts in July increased 14 percent over the previous month, the Commerce Dept. said, but were still 6 percent off the year-ago level. July starts were at an annual rate of 1,238,000, compared to 1,314,000 in July 1974. Both rates were depressed and contrast with rates in excess of 2 million in 1971, 1972 and 1973.

Obstacles in the way of a strong recovery in the housing field include rising mortgage interest rates and higher prices for homes. Interest rates generally, including the key prime rate that major banks charge their best corporate customers, are moving up again and threaten to abort any meaningful recovery, economists observe.

8-23-75

SUPPORT OF LONGSHOREMEN in their decision to hold up loading American grain for the Soviet Union is announced by AFL-CIO President George Meany. He said assurances are needed that interests of U.S. consumers and shipping industry are protected before the embargo is lifted.

Meany Asks Grain Sale Policy To Protect Consumer, Shipper

(Continued from Page 1)

pending a full hearing on the issues.

The boycott covers the 9.8 million tons of "new grain" that the Soviet Union had arranged to buy since July 1. "Old grain," which includes some of the original orders placed in 1972, is not affected by the boycott, the ILA said.

"New wheat" that was being loaded at Gulf of Mexico ports constitutes part of the harvest from southern states. The full impact of the ILA embargo will not be felt until mid-September when wheat, corn and soybeans still to be harvested in the Midwest will be reaching Gulf, Great Lakes and Atlantic ports.

Drawing a parallel between the grain deals of 1972 and this year, Meany noted that prices already have risen substantially since July 1.

In the 45-day period through Aug. 14, he cited price increases of 23 percent for flour, 36 percent for wheat, more than 13 percent for corn 20 percent for soybeans.

"What this adds up to in the name of detente," Meany observed, is that "we're giving the Russians an open door to our private grain market and doing it in a way that is going to cost the American consumer billions of dollars."

Reflecting on the impact of the 1972 Russian grain deal, Meany said the price of a bushel of wheat shot up from $1.65 a bushel to as high as $6.50 after Russian purchases—"and the American housewife is still paying for that."

"The Maritime Trades, with the backing of the AFL-CIO, have made up their minds that that is not going to happen again," Meany stressed.

The ILA boycott position has been building since the Agriculture Dept. announced the new Soviet grain purchases in early July. Within days, ILA convention delegates unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing President Thomas W. Gleason to take the boycott action.

Attempts by maritime union leaders earlier this month to get assurances from Agriculture Sec. Earl L. Butz that the Russian grain sales will not have a negative impact on consumers and the shipping industry were unfruitful.

The maritime union leaders were not persuaded by Butz's claims that the Russian purchases would have "minimal impact" on U.S. food prices.

One day after the meeting, the report on the government's wholesale price index for July showed that it had shot up 1.2 percent, or at an annual rate of 14.4 percent. Most of the increase was attributed to higher prices for farm products.

After the Agriculture Dept. revised downward its estimates of the American grain harvest, Butz called for a freeze on further sales to Russia until the department's September grain report is issued.

Meanwhile, President Ford told Iowa farmers during a political campaign swing through several midwestern states that he expects additional grain sales to be made to the Soviets.

Meany told reporters there were no new meetings scheduled with Ford Administration officials and suggested that any future discussions would have to be initiated by them. A problem afflicting American foreign policy, Meany observed, is Henry Kissinger's lack of knowledge in economics.

"Foreign policy is too damned important to be left to the Secretary of State," he declared. "The American people should have a voice in every phase of foreign policy, and it shouldn't be conducted behind closed doors and kept secret from the American people."

Ford subsequently called Meany from the presidential vacation retreat in Vail, Colo., asking him to meet with Labor Secretary John T. Dunlop to discuss the grain loading embargo.

Expressing concern over the continuing decline in maritime jobs, Meany said at his news conference that American shipping interests are being wiped out by U.S. foreign policy and the situation should be changed.

The Executive Council at its July meeting noted that U.S.-flag ships were grossly short-changed on the 1972 Russian grain shipments.

Although U.S. merchant fleets were assured of handling one-third of the grain cargo to the Soviet Union, ships manned by American seamen carried only 11 percent, the council statement noted.

Meany warned that the heavily subsidized Soviet maritime fleet is wrecking the American shipping industry. He said U.S. lines are being priced out of the market because the USSR is not part of the competitive system and can set any rates it wishes.

Meany also called for government-to-government negotiations on grain sales to the Soviets. He proposed that the U.S. government purchase the grain from American farmers and sell it to the Soviet government, rather than allowing private grain traders to cut their own deals.

Meany noted that Congress would probably be holding hearings in September on such legislation. A bill introduced by Rep. James Weaver (D-Ore.) would make the Commodity Credit Corporation the agent for export sales, provided adequate domestic reserves are established.

Among the maritime trades representatives meeting with Meany and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, in addition to Gleason, were Presidents Paul Hall of the Seafarers, Jesse Calhoun of the Marine Engineers, William Steinberg of the American Radio Association, and Frank Skavo of the Masters, Mates & Pilots and Sec.-Treas. Mel Barisic of the National Maritime Union.

Musical Salute, Picnic Open Bicentennial Year

Union members in the Washington area will kick off the AFL-CIO's Bicentennial activities September 1 with an old-fashioned family picnic and a "Musical Salute to Labor Day" at Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts.

The affair is sponsored by Wolf Trap, the National Park Service, the AFL-CIO and the Musicians union's Music Performance Trust Funds. Admission to the park, situated in the Virginia suburbs of Washington, will be free and the general public is invited. The program will start at 2 p.m.

Appearing on the big park's main stage will be AFL-CIO President George Meany along with such performers as Theodore Bikel, president of Actors' Equity, folk singer Odetta, the Billy Taylor Trio and singer Oscar Brand, the show's coordinator.

Scores of local musicians will perform on three stages and while strolling the grounds. Their offerings will range from 18th Century chamber music to Dixieland, country and western, the "big band" sound of the 1940s and the newest contemporary music.

Traditional labor songs will be featured by the Folk Lore Society of Greater Washington. Masters of Ceremonies will be Washington radio personalities Hardin & Weaver.

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Action to Cut Joblessness Keys Labor Day Demands

ECONOMIC PLIGHT of workers whose jobs were wiped out by imports is described by Manuel Vega, second from left, a member of the Clothing Workers. He was on hand for an ACWA press briefing announcing the union's intention to seek trade adjustment assistance for 20,000 union members adversely affected by imports. From left are ACWA Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman, Vega, President Murray Finley, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and ACWA Vice Pres. Howard Samuel.

Meany Says U.S. Nearing 'Calamity'

Administration policies that "perpetuate recession while fueling inflation" have brought America to "the edge of another economic calamity," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared in his 1975 Labor Day message.

"But it is not too late for the President and the Congress to prevent it from happening," Meany said, as he outlined labor's program for cutting the nation's high level of joblessness.

"There is nothing wrong with the American economy that more jobs wouldn't cure," he observed. "Putting people to work means more tax revenue and a lower budget deficit. Jobs mean workers can sustain their standard of living and enjoy a more prosperous life."

Jobs are what Labor Day is all about, Meany noted. "On this day, when America honors workers and their labors, there should be a new resolve on the part of the government to put America back to work," he declared.

In a separate message AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland also focused on the economic woes besetting America's workers. Labor Day 1975 is no holiday for the nation's unemployed, he observed.

For the jobless, Kirkland said, "today is just like every other day, filled with enforced idleness that dulls the spirit, fraught with fear of the future, consumed with worry about somehow keeping the family together."

Meany warned that the current high unemployment—nearly 8 million—represents "a time bomb ticking in the foundation of this society."

Even for those lucky enough to

(Continued on Page 8)

Grain Deal Opposition Unaltered

AFL-CIO President George Meany said labor's opposition to the Soviet grain deal was not altered after initial meetings with President Ford and Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop.

The federation is supporting the Longshoremen's boycott of the grain loading in an effort to get assurances that the sale of American grain to the Soviet Union will not be done at the expense of U.S. consumers and the American maritime industry.

Following a 90-minute meeting at the White House that included Ford, Administration officials and maritime trades leaders, Meany said that the session produced more information, but that the "situation has not changed." Additional discussions between the Administration and labor were scheduled.

Agriculture Sec. Earl L. Butz was not present at the White House discussions. Maritime trades officials, who had met earlier in

(Continued on Page 2)

Postal Unions Approve New 3-Year Pacts

The nation's 600,000 postal employes have approved new agreements providing each worker a total of $1,500 in wage increases over a three-year period.

Latest to ratify the settlement was the Postal Workers which voted acceptance by a majority of better than 3 to 1.

A week before the APWU vote was announced, the Letter Carriers ratified the contract by a 2 to 1 margin. The Mail Handlers, a division of the Laborers, does not require formal ratification. Earlier in the month, the unaffiliated Rural Letter Carriers, the fourth union involved, approved the settlement at its convention.

(Continued on Page 8)

Imports Slash Jobs:

Clothing Union Files Aid Bid for 20,000

By John R. Oravec

The Clothing Workers are seeking federal benefits to aid 20,000 of the union's members whose jobs have been adversely affected by imports of men's and boys' apparel.

Petitions will be filed with the Labor Dept. covering 10,000 workers laid off by plant shutdowns and production cutbacks and an additional 10,000 whose earnings were severely reduced because of the import competition, the union said.

Organized labor views adjustment assistance under the 1974 Trade Act as temporary relief for affected workers, but not as an adequate answer to the problems of job erosion caused by rising imports.

Those points were stressed by ACWA leaders and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at a press conference as the union announced its intention to file the petitions.

ACWA President Murray H. Finley said that the "real answer would be more adequate regulation of imports. The government's present program of import agreements, although better than nothing, is not doing the job it was meant to do: protecting jobs of workers in this industry."

Kirkland said that trade adjustment assistance "is at best only a Bandaid" and not a cure for the import problem and the lack of jobs. "But," he stressed, "these 20,000 Clothing Workers need the Bandaid immediately."

Unemployment caused by Ford Administration policies must be answered by massive government programs to get the unemployed back to work, Kirkland declared, "not optimistic rhetoric and more tax breaks for corporations and banks."

He suggested that the government start by acting swiftly to approve the adjustment assistance for the ACWA members and urged that Congress move immediately to improve the nation's unemploy-

(Continued on Page 3)

Textile Workers Rally Against Stevens Stalling

Roanoke Rapids, N.C.—A year ago the Textile Workers Union of America scored a breakthrough victory in a National Labor Relations Board election at area plants of J. P. Stevens & Co. employing 3,500 workers.

The win followed a decade of organizing efforts and came in the face of repeated union-busting tactics and court-defying actions by the company. But it was only the prelude to a new round of virulent anti-union tactics by Stevens, TWUA President Sol Stetin told a rally marking the anniversary.

"It is now one year since the Roanoke Rapids workers chose TWUA as their union in a government-run election," Stetin said, "and there still is no contract—not even a sign of the company's intention to negotiate an agreement with its employes."

In a telegram to Stetin, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared the Stevens workers have "the full support of the

(Continued on Page 8)

Stalemate on Controls Clouds Oil Price Scene

Congress and President Ford remained stalemated over government oil price controls as they were due to expire over the Labor Day weekend, raising the prospect of a quick surge in prices and new damage to the economy.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana was to have met with Ford on Aug. 29 to try to persuade the President to withdraw his threat to veto a congressionally-passed bill extending the controls for another six months.

The law controlling domestic petroleum prices is scheduled to expire on Aug. 31. Under the current price controls, oil from "old wells" that were in production before 1972 sells for an average ceiling price of about $5.25 a barrel. Oil from wells put into production since 1972 is not controlled and currently sells at $13 a barrel.

The AFL-CIO has warned both the President and Congress that "an energy crisis of massive and ominous proportions" exists, and that removal of federal price controls from old oil would nearly triple oil prices, sending shock waves reverberating throughout the economy.

The federation's Executive Council at its midsummer meeting in

(Continued on Page 3)

LIGHT CONVERSATION between President Ford and AFL-CIO President George Meany precedes serious discussions at the White House on the Longshoremen's Soviet grain embargo. Joining in the talks were Administration and maritime trades officials.

Labor Remains Firm On Soviet Grain Deal

(Continued from Page 1)

August with Butz, criticized his claims that consumers would be affected only "nominally" by the Russian grain sales.

Butz has since forecast that food prices would increase about 9 percent in 1975 with 1.5 percent of that rise attributable to the sale of 9.8 million tons of grain to the Soviets.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns later predicted that additional sales to Russia would force food costs even higher. He estimated the grain sale impact would be closer 2.5 percent by end of next year.

Because of extensive crop failures in the Soviet Union, some government officials have estimated that the USSR will have to import 25 million tons of grain this year.

Public reaction—based on letters, telegrams and telephone calls to the AFL-CIO—has been overwhelmingly in favor in labor's opposition to the Soviet grain sales.

The federation's Dept. of Public Relations said that mail on the issue has been running 20 to 1 in support of the boycott. Most of the mail is coming from housewives and non-union workers expressing fear of rising food costs resulting from the grain sales. Included in the group are hog, cattle and dairy farmers who are already feeling the impact in rising feed prices.

One Minnesota pig farmer said that feed prices had shot up $32 a ton in a 10-day period.

Opposition to labor's position on the grain embargo has come largely from businessmen who deal with grain farmers and organizations representing large farms.

In addition to securing guarantees that consumers will not bear the brunt of the Russian grain sales as they did in 1972, maritime unions want assurances that U.S.-flag ships will get a larger portion of foreign shipments.

Although U.S. shipping firms were assured of carrying one-third of the 1972 grain cargoes, American crews actually handled only 11 percent.

Shortly after the Longshoremen put their boycott into effect at Texas ports, they were ordered back to work under a temporary restraining order issued by a federal district judge. That court action was followed by a temporary injunction forbidding the dock workers to refuse to load the Soviet-bound grain.

U.S. District Judge Owen Cox in Corpus Christi, Tex., said in his ruling that Longshoremen as a group are not protected by the Constitution in expressing their political views by blocking shipment of American wheat to the USSR.

Cox said that the ILA cannot stage a work stoppage because it has a contract with the shippers.

"The court is not concerned with the pros and cons of shipping grain to the Soviet Union," Cox added.

Although he said his injunction would remain in effect pending a hearing for a permanent injunction, Cox certified the case for expedited appeal to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

ILA attorneys said they would seek a stay of the temporary injunction pending the appeal.

Participating in the White House discussions in addition to Meany were AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, ILA President Thomas W. Gleason, Seafarers President Paul Hall, Marine Engineers President Jesse Calhoun and Sec.-Treas. Mel Barisic of the National Maritime Union.

Solzhenitsyn Texts Offered In Pamphlet

Two historic addresses by Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn to the American people under the auspices of the AFL-CIO are now available from the federation in booklet form.

"Solzhenitsyn: The Voice of Freedom" is a 48-page illustrated booklet containing the texts of the addresses by the Russian novelist and freedom fighter in Washington and New York. The publication includes the introductions to the two addresses by AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Copies of the booklet, AFL-CIO Publication No. 152, are available from the AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Single copies are free. The price schedule for up to 50 copies is 35 cents per copy; 51 to 100 copies, 25 cents each; 101 or more copies, 20 cents each.

Implementation Problem:

First Farm Labor Elections Loom Under California Law

Sacramento, Calif.—Early in September, the first farm labor union recognition elections in the nation may be conducted by the new California Agricultural Labor Relations Board on several as yet unspecified farm units.

As of Aug. 28, the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act enacted last spring, authorizes workers on farms where at least 50 percent of the seasonal workforce is currently employed to petition the CALRB for elections. The board then must conduct elections within seven days.

CALRB officials anticipate several hundred elections will be conducted during the month of September as the United Farm Workers, the growers and the Teamsters compete for the support of the work force.

One observer of the recent California farm struggles, Ronald B. Taylor, author of the new book, "Chavez and the Farm Workers," predicts that the implementation of the law will be difficult both because there was too little time to create adequate election machinery before the fall harvests started and because of the complexities of the farm labor force itself.

It is normal, Taylor observes, for a farm—large or small—to have a 400 percent turnover in employes in a year. An 11,000 acre fruit and row crop farm that has 200 permanent employes will have a peak of 2,000 harvesters, but in the course of a year the company turns over 8,000 W-2 forms to meet its labor needs.

He also cites estimates of the Immigration & Naturalization Service that one-third to one-half of the seasonal farm labor force in California is made up of illegal aliens. "This," Taylor says, "makes the job of a union organizer a nightmare. The workers—legal or illegal—are here today, gone next week, replaced by somebody else who stays a week or a month and is gone."

The UFW — led by Cesar Chavez — through strikes and boycotts brought the grape growers to the bargaining table in 1970 and signed contracts establishing a union hiring hall.

Taylor points out that when the Teamsters and the table grape growers signed contracts in 1973, the UFW's hiring halls were wiped out and the Teamsters allowed agribusiness to return to the nefarious labor contractor-crew boss system, putting the farmer back in control.

"There is ample evidence — including a California state supreme court decision — to indicate the growers invited the Teamsters into the fields to replace Chavez," Taylor points out. "And now it is the Teamsters who are sitting on the inside, holding the most contracts, and the UFW organizers are on the outside where they have difficulty getting to the workers."

Chavez has warned that if UFW organizers do not have equal and adequate access to the farm workers in the fields, he will lead new protests at the state capitol. In addition, the UFW has called on the CALRB to use "symbols" on the ballots as well as the spelled-out names of the unions, so that illiterate workers will not be confused.

Support for Chavez's position on both equal access and the use of ballot symbols has come from the Catholic Bishops' ad hoc Committee on the Spanish-speaking.

The committee also called on the CALRB to investigate charges that the Teamsters are receiving favored treatment in contacting farm workers.

"On the basis of a number of affidavits and other information we have in our possession," the committee said," we are convinced that members of the Teamsters union in California are readily given access to speak with the farm workers in order to induce them to sign a contract with them, whereas the members of the United Farm Workers union are not given this same opportunity."

AMF-Head Hit With Order to Restore Jobs

Boulder, Colo. — The strike-bound AMF-Head Division here has been hit by an order from an administrative law judge of the National Labor Relations Board to rehire two workers and to stop its illegal actions against employes supporting the Clothing Workers.

Administrative Law Judge James T. Barker issued the ruling after a full hearing based on charges brought by the Midwest Joint Board of ACWA. He ordered AMF-Head to cease and desist from:

- Discouraging membership in the union by discharging employes or discriminating against them because of their support for ACWA.
- Interrogating employes about their union sympathies or threatening them.
- Discontinuing certain previous benefits following an NLRB election in which the workers voted for ACWA representation;
- Interfering with, restraining or coercing employes in the exercise of their rights under the National Labor Relations Act.

More than 130 members of ACWA Local 1156 have been on strike at the Boulder plant since May, following four months of fruitless bargaining. A nationwide consumer boycott of skis and tennis rackets manufactured by Head has been endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

September Schedule Set By Labor Studies Center

A five-day institute on the preparation and presentation of grievance cases before an arbitrator highlights the September program at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, Silver Spring, Md.

The tuition-free institute is open to full-time officers, representatives, and staff members of any AFL-CIO national or international union.

In addition to instruction on the preparation and presentation of cases, the institute will cover the issue of what is and what is not arbitrable and the problems of selecting arbitrators.

Participants will prepare and present cases before a professional arbitrator. Each case will be videotaped for replay and analysis.

The institute begins at 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 21, and runs to Friday, Sept. 26.

Other activities at the 47-acre campus during September include:

Organizing—The AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services is sponsoring a conference of 28 directly affiliated local unions in the brewery industry, Sept. 4 to 6.

Carpenters—A seminar for new business agents of the Carpenters will cover the pension reform law, leadership skills, collective bargaining developments, the law of picketing, the Davis-Bacon Act and equal opportunity laws. Participants will spend one day at the Carpenters' headquarters building in Washington. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 4, to Friday, Sept. 12.

Electrical Workers—An institute on job evaluation, time study and wage incentives for local union officers of the IBEW Western Electric Council. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 14, to Friday, Sept. 19.

Flight Attendants—An institute on preparation and presentation of grievance arbitration cases for local officers of the Association of Flight Attendants. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 21, to Friday, Sept. 26.

Professional & Technical Engineers—A program for federal employe locals of the Professional & Technical Engineers. Subjects will include collective bargaining in the federal sector, organizing and legislative issues. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 28, to Friday, Oct. 3.

Meat Cutters—An institute on the preparation and presentation of grievance arbitration cases for officers of District 2 Council, Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 28, to Friday, Oct. 3.

More information on these and other programs may be obtained from Executive Director Fred Hoehler, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Phone 301/431-6400.

On Organizing, Defense Funds:

Graphic Arts Union Slates Referendum

Toronto—Delegates to the Graphic Arts International Union's convention here voted to send to a membership referendum two constitutional amendments that would beef up the union's organizing efforts and strengthen its defense fund.

One amendment calls for a 25-cent-per-month increase in per capita payments that would be allocated solely for organizing purposes. The convention called this "essential to the preservation of job security and the protection of working standards of the union members, while eliminating the unfair competition of non-union employes working under inferior conditions."

The second proposition would bolster substantially the union's ability to combat what GAIU President Kenneth J. Brown described as the "recent growth of employer militancy that has been reflected in many more strikes."

It would combine the defense fund of the bookbinder members of the union with that of the lithographers-photoengravers, setting a ceiling of $6 million and a floor of $3 million. When the combined fund falls below the floor, there would be an assessment until the $6 million ceiling is restored. Strike benefits would be equalized at $60 per week the first four weeks and $70 thereafter.

The delegates also authorized a study on financing a fund that would extend training and retraining to bookbinder members of the union, similar to the program the lithographers-photoengravers have had since 1966.

Retirements of several full-time leaders long identified with the union were announced, including Sec.-Treas. Wesley A. Taylor and Vice Pres. Jack H. Wallace (director of organizing), as well as Executive Vice Presidents William J. Hall and John Connolly.

In the GAIU's first elections since its merger, there are 69 nominees for 48 positions that will be decided by membership referendum later this year. However, of the 12 full-time international officers, 10 were nominated by acclamation, with only two of the eight vice presidencies contested. New three-year terms begin next Apr. 1.

A record 20 resolutions on legislative and political issues were acted upon, headed by a call for passage of the Kennedy-Corman National Health Security bill.

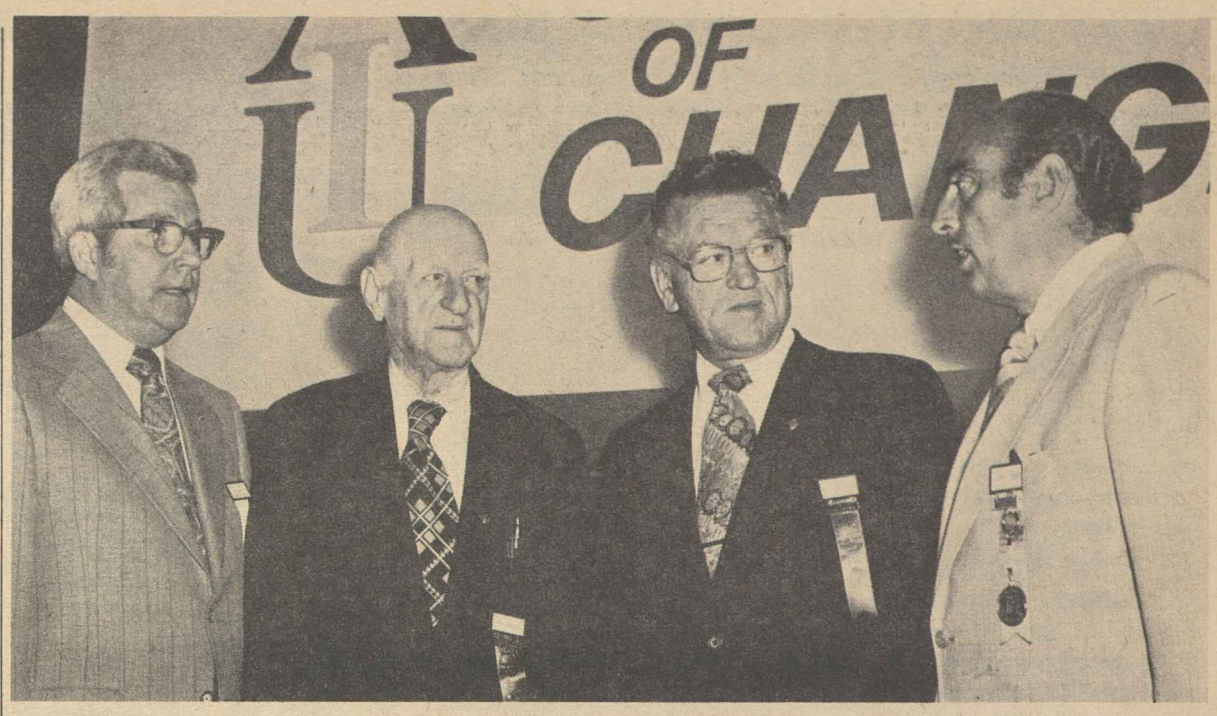
Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, in an address to the delegates, warned "the entire industrial world can be brought to catastrophe unless we act now on the energy crisis about which nothing has been done since it began two years ago." Charging that the oil companies' "only motive is profit," he called for a national energy board with broad powers "such as similar boards had in World War II, so the oil companies can't be allowed to cripple our economy and society."

A convention resolution placed the "direct cause" of today's high prices and serious economic troubles on "the concentration of economic power by a few giant corporations that control and dominate an overwhelming percentage of the market in their particular industries." It urged the AFL-CIO and the Canadian Labor Congress to encourage legislative investigations and support legislation that would restore "full, free and fair competition, including nationalization where necessary and practical" in those industries that vitally affect the cost of living.

Sen. George S. McGovern (D-S.D.) echoed this to the 353 delegates at the convention, with this charge: "The way to prevent inflation is to break monopoly power. We need to warn the economic royalists in 1976 just as we warned the British in 1776 that they are not to tread on us."

Stephen Lewis, leader of the New Democratic Party and candidate for premier of Ontario, gave an analysis of the problems of occupational health and safety and the measures needed.

He called for vigorous countermeasures in both countries to combat government "indifference and negligence—the brutal, moral paralysis where the fate of workers is involved."



WIDER COOPERATION among unions in the printing and publishing industry was endorsed by officials of the Newspaper Guild and the Graphic Arts International Union at the GAIU convention in Toronto. From left are Guild President Charles A. Perlik, GAIU Executive Vice Presidents John Connolly and William J. Hall and President Kenneth J. Brown.

Aid Sought for 20,000 as Imports Slash Jobs of Clothing Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

ment insurance program.

Finley described the impact of imports from low-wage countries on the American clothing industry as devastating. He said that according to official estimates, imports increased last year to 7 million units of men's and boys' tailored suits, sportcoats and trousers. During the first six months of 1975, Finley said, imports have been coming in at an annual rate of 8 million units.

Between April 1974 and the present time, he said, jobs in the Clothing Workers' jurisdiction dropped from 93,000 to about 76,000. He also cited a 27 percent drop in actual working time, noting that the average workweek throughout the industry is now 31 hours.

Imports were the cause of 113 plant shutdowns in 1973 alone, he said. Another 93 clothing firms went out of business last year and during the first six months of 1975.

ACWA Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman said the petitions to the Labor Dept. for aid will cover workers affected by imports since last Oct. 3 who were either laid off or whose earnings were reduced 15 percent or more.

On hand for the press briefing were three ACWA members who lost their jobs in plant shutdowns.

Manuel Vega, 35, of San Diego, said he had been working for the same firm 17 years until his layoff. But because of the high unemployment rate in his home area, he said it's been difficult to find a job in any other field.

Vincent Scannapieco of Philadelphia said that at age 48, he was told he was "too old" to be hired as a toll collector with the city transit authority. He is still job-hunting.

Raymond Smith of Richmond, Va., who lost his job after 30 years as a clothing worker, said he considered himself more fortunate than 800 fellow workers who were laid off in a plant closing. He found a job with the city government, but noted that his earnings are down about 50 percent from his previous wages.

The ACWA petitions represent the second largest block of workers to be covered in a special application for adjustment assistance by a union.

Recently, the Auto Workers were granted certification for 18,000 of about 41,000 UAW members formerly employed by Chrysler Corp. whose jobs were wiped out by imports from Canada. The Labor Dept. denied certification of 23,000 Chrysler workers.

Certifications for assistance issued by the Labor Dept. have been running slightly ahead of denials since the new trade act went into effect.

During a nine-day period in mid-August the Labor Dept. certified 2,365 workers as eligible for benefits, but another 2,125 were denied certification on the ground that imports "did not contribute importantly" to their layoffs.

The certifications included 1,300 members of the Molders who had been producing weaving machinery for Rockwell International Corp. at Hopedale, Mass. Rockwell closed the plant last month.

In addition, 1,065 shoe workers, represented by both the Boot & Shoe Workers and the United Shoe Workers, were certified. The group includes 500 workers formerly employed by Brown Shoe Co. at Brookfield and Charleston, Mo.; 400 at Florsheim Shoe Co. at Chicago; 115 at Weyenberg Shoe Manufacturing Co. in Waupun, Wis., and 50 employes of the International Shoe Co. at Perryville, Mo.

However, the Labor Dept. denied certification for 965 shoeworkers: 600 at Brown Shoe plants at Fulton and Versailles, Mo.; 250 at International Shoes' plant in Evansville, Ill., and 115 at Fisher Footwear, Inc. in Eldon, Mo.

The largest group of workers turned down for assistance during mid-August were 1,160 members of the Auto Workers laid off by Allis Chalmers Corp. at plants in Pittsburgh and in Gadsden, Ala.

Benefits under the trade act, when coupled with regular state unemployment compensation, amount to 70 percent of a worker's weekly wage with a ceiling of $176 a week. Most workers may collect benefits for up to 52 weeks, in addition to counseling, training, job placement and other assistance.

Any group of workers denied adjustment assistance may file for a review by the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Stalemate on Controls Clouds Oil Price Scene

(Continued from Page 1)

Chicago said that a combination of old oil price deregulation, the impact of a second dollar-per-barrel tariff on imported oil imposed by President Ford in June, and an expected new boost in crude oil prices by the "Arab-dominated oil cartel" threatens the United States with "more inflation and more recession."

"The spreading effects of such energy cost-increases on prices of fertilizer, food and most other goods can boost the total cost even higher," the council added. "The major beneficiaries would be the oil-exporting countries and the giant international oil companies.

"If such a huge reduction of American purchasing power occurs, it will surely have a disastrous impact on production and jobs."

The President's decontrol plan would add $30 billion a year to the prices Americans pay for goods and services by 1978, the AFL-CIO has charged. A family of four would end up paying an additional $600 a year in living costs, the federation estimated.

In warning of potential price hikes on oil by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries this fall, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared that any such increases should be viewed as "an act of economic hostility" and met with economic retaliation by the United States.

The congressional measure to extend the oil price controls was to have gone to the White House on Aug. 27 or 28, but Mansfield ordered it held in Congress until after his meeting with Ford.

Meanwhile, the President held another energy meeting with 16 of the nation's governors to seek ways of easing a potential natural gas shortage later this year. The threatened veto of the oil control bill would not affect the regulation of natural gas, however, since the latter is controlled by the Federal Power Commission.

Nebraska Labor Backs Raises for Legislators

Scottsbluff, Neb.—Delegates to the Nebraska AFL-CIO's 20th annual convention endorsed a new effort to provide members of the state legislature with a "living wage."

The combination of low salaries and long sessions discourages qualified candidates from seeking public office, state federation President William E. Brennan pointed out.

State senators serving the unicameral legislature receive only $4,800 a year, one paid round-trip to the state capitol and no per diem. Many are in financial hardship because sessions run as long as six months.

Sec.-Treas. Nels Petersen noted that a number of labor-backed incumbents had been forced to abandon plans for re-election because of financial hardship—leaving the seats open for wealthy bankers and farmers who fail to represent the interests of workers.

Nebraska voters had rejected earlier attempts to increase the salaries of the legislators.

Delegates were also urged to spur local union cooperation with the state AFL-CIO's voter identification program in preparation for the registration and voter-turnout drives in the 1976 elections.

Voters will be electing one-half of the state legislature, the state's three congressional representatives and one U.S. senator in 1976. The state's entire congressional delegation is Republican.

State COPE Director Victor G. Meyers noted that current voter registration figures show that Democrats have greatly narrowed the GOP advantage and that Democratic and independent registrants together outnumber Republicans.

In key resolutions adopted at the three-day convention, the 198 delegates called for:

- Extension of state unemployment benefits to county and city employes. State employes now qualify for such benefits.
- Passage of a state anti-strikebreaker law.
- Establishment of senior citizens clubs for retired union members.
- Lowering the age for full social security benefits.
- Passage of National Health Security.

The Bicentennial Challenge

AMERICAN WORKERS see the bicentennial as more than the biggest and best birthday party yet. They see it as a challenge—a challenge to make the next 200 years of government of, by and for the people even better than the first 200.

America is a representative democracy. For any democracy to survive and flourish, it must attain the highest possible citizen participation.

In the 1974 election, less than 40 percent of this country's eligible voters cast ballots. Whatever the reason—Watergate, the economy, disenchantment, archaic voting laws—that is a deplorable record. And one of the goals of the bicentennial year must be to improve that record.

Obviously if the citizens are to respect their government, government must first respect the citizens. That means respect for their wants, needs and aspirations, as well as their individual liberties. And it means telling the people the truth.

If honesty is restored to government—honesty in personal behavior but honesty, too, in keeping the people informed about the grave problems of the day—then the people will trust their government, participate in elections, and we'll be once again the nation that was founded 200 years ago.

'All Hail to Labor Day!'

LABOR DAY BEGAN in 1882 and was officially declared a holiday in 1894. It became a day of picnics, parades, gaudy floats, pompous political speeches, and the old-fashioned "good clean fun." But it was also a day of recognition, assessment, and encouragement to the thousands of people who labored and cared about their union, their country and their future.

Something of the spirit and meaning of Labor Day is reflected in an editorial from the Iron Molders Journal of September 1896:

"Of all the holidays of the year, Labor Day, to the trade unionist, should stand out as of preeminent importance, and judging from the increasing enthusiasm displayed in its celebration year after year, it would appear that the working classes generally accept this view of it.

"It should be recognized, not as a reminder of our servitude or dependence, but as the day on which labor arises to do honor to itself, the day on which pledges are renewed, whereby we promise to toil on for the betterment of the condition of those who, through the bone and sinew of our land and the foundation of its industrial supremacy, are compelled to fare the humblest and seek for very shame to hide their poverty and rags.

" 'The poor ye shall have always with you.' To the Divine dictum we bow in humble reverence, but it is ours to see that none are poor through lack of opportunity to be otherwise. By the law of both God and man, he who is willing and able to work that he may provide for the wants of himself and those depending on him has a right to the opportunity, and if that right be denied him by society, then society is his enemy.

"It is not the brass band and gaily decked banner, the grand parade and magnificent oration of Labor Day we would laud. No. We uphold it, we praise it as the day of earnest thoughtful men, filled with the love of their kind and laboring for their emancipation and elevation. All hail to Labor Day and its celebrants!"

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'We're Keeping It Going!'

Religious Leaders Stress:

Fundamental Rights of Workers Remain Unmet Goals for Many

THE BASIC RIGHTS to organize for collective bargaining and to overcome the hazards of unsafe workplaces are still unmet goals of many American workers who contribute so much to the wealth of society, representatives of the three major faiths declared in Labor Day statements.

Their messages stressed that the efforts to build a more just society deserve the consideration of all Americans.

"Our strength as a nation has been derived from the contributions of individual men and women — America's laborers — giving their unique talents and skills, weaving the fabric of our society and making our world a richer, better place to live," said Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, president of the Synagogue Council of America.

"Labor Day 1975," Rabbi Lookstein observed, "serves to remind us that the role of man, created in the image of God, is not simply to be a cog in the machinery of production and not simply to produce more and more material goods, but to be a partner with God in the continual process of creation."

The Rev. Howard E. Spragg, executive vice president of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, said that Labor Day is a time "to consider what is the true worth of a human being, the value of his honest work, and to remember the sacrifices people continue to make in order to improve their life's conditions."

Dr. Spragg noted that the church's concern for the right of workers to organize is under a severe test in California's agricultural industries.

He reaffirmed the suport of the United Church Board for the Farm Workers and "that union's valiant efforts to improve the life of migrant farm labor" by securing the fundamental rights of collective bargaining.

Dr. Spragg also expressed the hope that California's new farm labor law would be as beneficial to the field workers as the Wagner Act has been to industrial workers.

That point was reinforced by Msgr. George G. Higgins, secretary for research of the U.S. Catholic Conference, who said that even with its amendments, the California law is an excellent working model for other states and the Congress to build on.

"The California statute, which was generations overdue, will not automatically resolve every issue in the farm labor dispute," Msgr. Higgins said. "It will, however, provide the parties with a set of enforceable procedures through which they can begin to settle their differences."

HE FURTHER WARNED that a revival of the Bracero program, used in the past years to provide growers with cheap labor from Mexico, would bring added hardships for the American farm workers.

When the Bracero program was terminated in 1964, growers and agribusiness employers complained that they would be unable to recruit enough American workers to harvest their crops, Msgr. Higgins said.

"What they really meant was that it was easier and cheaper for them to have the government recruit their workers than to do their own recruiting," he observed. "Most of all, they dreaded the prospect of having to offer higher wages and better conditions as the only possible way of recruiting an adequate number of American workers."

He noted that it's easier to understand the Mexican government's support for revival of the program because of its serious employment situation than it is to sympathize with the position of the growers.

If the government has an obligation to aid Mexico with its economic problems, Msgr. Higgins said, a solution must be found without undermining the UFW and the wages and conditions of agricultural workers — "the most disadvantaged and most exploited workers in the American economy."

Dr. Spragg also expressed concern for the widening range of hazards workers face on their jobs, stressing that no one's health should be jeopardized in his pursuit of a livelihood—a national policy established with passage of the federal occupational safety and health act.

"The AFL-CIO and its Industrial Union Dept. are to be greatly commended for their outstanding efforts in fighting to make this goal a reality," Dr. Spragg declared.

"Organized labor and the AFL-CIO need the help and encouragement of community leaders and organizations in order to accomplish these goals. Working together we shall build a better and more just society."

Over Two Centuries:

Opening of Bicentennial Year Recalls Early Labor Struggles

By Harry Conn

LABOR DAY 1975 is not only a labor holiday marking the passage through three-quarters of the 20th Century, but it also launches labor and the U.S. Bicentennial celebration.

In 1976—July 4, 1976, to be specific—this nation observes its 200th birthday. The workers who built this country—its cities, its homes and schools and hospitals and railroads and highways and its vast industrial system — are rightfully proud of their accomplishments over the last two centuries.

Labor Day and the start of the bicentennial year give labor and the nation a brief pause to look back and then ahead in quest of the American dream.

It all started before the Revolution when the Sons of Liberty, composed chiefly of workingmen, led the fight against unpopular measures forced on the colonies by the British.

Using tactics still employed by unions today, they conducted boycott campaigns against goods made in England and organized protest demonstrations in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Charleston.

And, it will be recalled, it was workers who drew the line precipitating the strong stand against British troops that led to the Boston Massacre in 1770 and the Revolutionary War.

Only two years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, early union winds were blowing. In New York City, journeymen printers combined to demand wage increases. They won their fight but, successful, abandoned their organization.

Eight years later, in 1786, the first authenticated strike in the new nation took place when Philadelphia printers gained a minimum wage of $6 a week. Philadelphia carpenters struck in 1791, unsuccessfully, for a 10-hour day and the following year Philadelphia shoemakers organized the first local craft union for collective bargaining.

Thus the nation and its workers were off to an exciting history with both rich successes and disastrous setbacks, but all along building a progressively democratic society with a living standard that has been the envy of the world.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, in declaring Labor Day 1975 to Labor Day 1976 as "Labor's Bicentennial Year," issued a pledge "to make this time a memorable one for American workers and for the American people."

Stressing that labor "is proud of its accomplishments" and is preparing to participate fully in the bicentennial activities, the council declared:

"We in the American labor movement have steadfastly held to the proposition that the system of government created by our founding fathers, although imperfect, remains the best system for a free people yet devised by man. It allows for change and for new directions to meet the challenges now facing America and the world."

It was Labor Day 1882 when labor received its first proper recognition, and the New York City Central Labor Union successfully put on the first formal Labor Day parade. In 1894, Labor Day officially became a national holiday.

Labor Day traditionally has been a time for working men to lay down their tools and relax. Many give serious thought to the future for themselves, their families, the nation and even the world. This year, marking the opening of the bicentennial celebration, accentuates this stock-taking at a historic period in our history.

And while the times are not as perilous as those faced by our forefathers two centuries ago, workers during the labor bicentennial year will be encountering their own pattern of difficulties which for many mean misery and deprivation.

PARAMOUNT AMONG THESE is the continuing high level of unemployment. Even if the Ford Administration's most optimistic forecasts are accepted, it will be a disastrous year for at least seven million workers. Administration spokesmen insist that we are moving out of the deepest recession since the Great Depression, but they give no real hope that unemployment will materially ease in the coming year.

Efforts by the 94th Congress to enact emergency legislation to provide income and jobs for these millions of jobless have come to little as President Ford has exercised his veto. And the Congress, to date, has not been able to muster the needed two-thirds vote to override the veto on key jobs measures.

During the labor bicentennial year organized labor and the nation itself will be girding for the critical elections in November 1976. By next Labor Day most of the primary elections will be behind us and the two major political parties will have selected their candidates for President and Vice President.

Not only will the White House be up for grabs next year but also the entire U.S. House of Representatives, one-third of the Senate, 15 state houses and hundreds of state legislators and county and municipal offices. Votes cast on jobs creation measures and other pieces of legislation directly affecting the lives of workers and their families will serve to direct the suport or opposition of trade unionists. (PAI).

Goldfinger Warns:

White House Inaction on Jobs Stifles Economic Recovery

THERE IS LITTLE HOPE for solid economic recovery very soon, unless the Ford Administration begins to act to put the nation's millions of jobless back to work, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger warned.

The recession can't be ended by "just declaring it over," Goldfinger said on the network radio interview Labor News Conference. He said it's hard to figure out just what the Administration and its economic advisers mean when they say they are "right on target" and that things are going smoothly.

"As we see their 'target' it looks dismal," Goldfinger declared, pointing out that the Administration's official mid-year budget review said the nation can expect "very high levels of unemployment for the rest of this decade." That, he said, means 6 to 8 million on the jobless rolls until at least 1980, and that is a "very bleak picture."

"Five or six years of continuing very high levels of unemployment can tear this country apart," Goldfinger warned. He said it is clear that lack of confidence in the economy has been pervasive throughout the country for quite a while.

Goldfinger scored the "detente policy with the Soviet dictatorship," which, he said, has led to sharp jumps in wholesale farm prices that will soon translate into new price hikes at the supermarket. He said the President's oil decontrol plan, coupled with a new round of higher crude oil prices by the Arab-dominated oil cartel, due in October, will throw another big load on the American people.

The result, he said, is "rising food prices on top of already intolerably high food prices . . . rising fuel prices on top of already very high fuel prices; price increases that have nothing to do with wages, employment, unemployment . . . except that they could trigger a further drop of purchasing power, a drop of employment and a further increase of unemployment."

Agriculture Sec. Earl Butz is way off mark when he says the new Russian grain deal won't affect prices here, Goldfinger stressed. "Butz told us this kind of nonsense" in 1972, "when it was his policies and the policies of the Nixon Administration that touched off the fantastic soaring rise of food prices" through late 1972 and on into 1973 and 1974.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

ANATOLE FRANCE, a champion of freedom and equality in the early part of this century, once said: "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread."

The outcome of two recent court cases—one involving a huge corporation whose product was linked to scores of deaths and poisonings, the other concerned with a wealthy banker and political figure—gives credence to France's bitter observation.

Case one: In April 1971, the government's Center for Disease Control reported that 394 cases of blood poisoning and 50 deaths were linked with 25 hospitals' use of intravenous solutions manufactured by Abbott Laboratories.

The Food & Drug Administration ordered Abbott to cease production of the solutions and to recall existing stocks. The Justice Dept., following an investigation, charged the company with shipping solutions containing live bacteria in interstate commerce and with mislabeling containers as "sterile." A federal grand jury issued a 60-count indictment against the company.

The trial did not begin until two years after the indictment was issued. The company contended it couldn't get a fair trial because of publicity given to the case. Time passed. A federal district court granted Abbott's motion to dismiss, a U.S. Appeals Court reinstated the indictment, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to overturn the appeals court decision.

Just a few weeks ago, while the case was in its fourth week of resumed trial in U.S. District Court in New Bern, N.C., the government—the prosecution—suddenly agreed to dismiss all of the original charges except for one count of the indictment, and Abbott was allowed to plead no contest on that single count.

The plea, on a single misdemeanor, allowed the company to get off with a $1,000 fine.

Case two: At the high point of his power, C. Arnholt Smith of San Diego controlled a bank with nearly $1 billion in deposits, a $200-million conglomerate, Westgate-California, and an array of other companies almost beyond count.

Millions in Smith's U.S. National Bank of San Diego were siphoned back and forth among companies over a long period of years. Federal examiners looked over the bank's records for almost as many years. In 1962, one of them recommended Smith's dealings be reported to the Justice Dept. for possible criminal prosecution. But the Comptroller of the Currency overruled the examiner.

Meanwhile, Smith became dominant in Republican politics. One of his best known friends was Richard Milhous Nixon. Reportedly, he raised $1 million for the 1968 campaign. His personal contribution was set at $250,000.

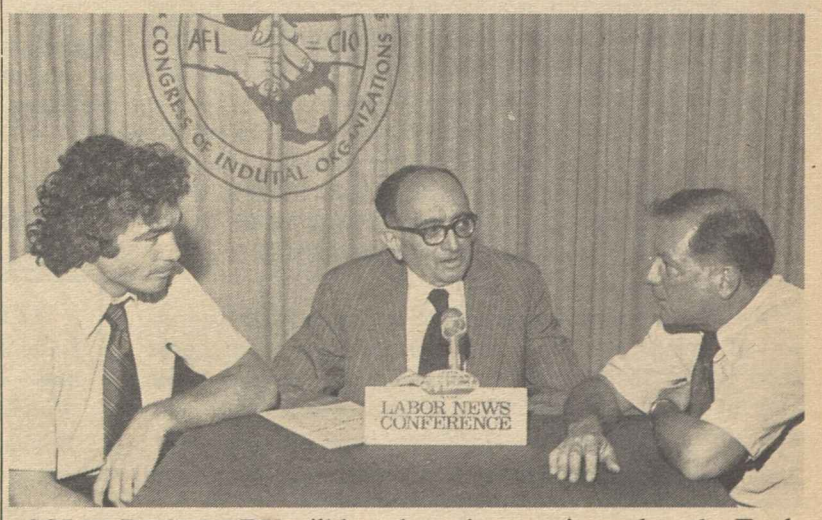
In 1972, a new examiner again found evidence to sustain possible criminal prosecution. In October 1973, one year later, USNB failed. Smith's financial empire began to come apart.

Forbes, the business magazine, said the bank's failure likely cost the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. "more than the failure of all other U.S. banks combined since 1933."

The magazine noted that bankruptcy trustees described Smith's operations as "one of the largest systematic lootings of a public company ever recorded in the history of the country."

In June, Smith pleaded nolo contendere to charges of conspiracy, misapplication of bank funds, filing false statements and making false entries in USNB's books. His "penalty": five years probation and a token fine of $30,000 to be paid at the rate of $100 a month over 25 years. Forbes concluded "it was the merest slap on the wrist for one of the great swindlers of our time."

The outcome of the Abbott and Smith cases proves that America still has a long way to go in the achievement of justice. Without progress, as the Forbes article concludes, no one should wonder at the charge that our system has "two kinds of justice: one for ordinary men and another, more lenient kind for the rich and powerful."



SOLID RECOVERY will be a long time coming unless the Ford Administration is willing to act and show leadership in the fight to put the nation's millions of jobless back to work, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger, center, warned. Questioning him on Labor News Conference were David Nyhan, left, of the Boston Globe and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine.

Meany on Labor Day:

Labor's Jobs Program Vital to Recovery

By George Meany

ONE YEAR AGO, on Labor Day 1974, the American labor movement expressed its deep concern for the future because of the serious and continuing erosion in the living standards of most Americans, caused by recession and inflation.

That erosion continues today and has picked up steam, threatening to wipe out a generation of gains made in the standard of living of average Americans.

Administration policies that perpetuate recession while fueling inflation are the cause; reduced buying power, increased unemployment and a bleak future are the effects.

Most seriously affected, of course, are the unemployed. At best, for those covered by unemployment insurance, their standard of living is cut in half. Because that is all that unemployment insurance covers.

For the unemployed workers who are daily exhausting even this meager protection, mere survival has now become a problem.

Every unemployed worker is faced with making painful decisions for his or her family: Which is more important, food on the table or a roof over their heads? Which bill must be ignored in order to buy medicine or school clothes?

And while their physical standard of living is halved, their mental standard of living also suffers—fear of harassment, unpaid bills, idle hours, loss of self-esteem, stresses and strains on family relationships, sometimes leading to divorce, alcoholism, drug abuse and crime.

Continued high unemployment is a time bomb ticking in the foundation of this society. In 6 percent of America's working families, the head of the household is unemployed. The average unemployment now lasts 15 weeks—50 percent higher than a year ago and it is getting longer. And high unemployment is forecast to continue for the rest of this decade, aggravating old social problems and creating new ones.

The damage to the standard of living of an unemployed family may never be repaired.

There is no way to count the number of young people whose college dreams were shattered when their parents became unemployed; no way to measure the effects on young children forced to grow up in unhealthy neighborhoods; no way to counter the bitterness a child accumulates while he watches a jobless parent lose hope.

This, too, is part of the lost standard of living, but it doesn't appear on any economist's chart or graph.

Then there is the persistently high unemployment among minorities which makes a mockery of equal opportunity laws. And the fact that high unemployment among teenagers means that the first "work experience" of the young is long-term unemployment.

For those who are lucky enough to be employed, their standard of living is also suffering. They've lost ground compared to where they were a decade ago. Real spendable weekly earnings in June—the take-home pay of the average worker—were less than in 1965, ten years ago.

Gasoline, coffee, meat, bread, groceries are going up. Rent, mortgages, heating fuel, electricity are going up. Tuition, books, school clothes are going up.

The only thing not going up is the people's standard of living. It is going down.

The majority of American families have been priced out of decent housing; they can't afford the high monthly payments that result from 9 to 10 percent interest rates. Their children are being priced out of higher education by tuition increases and President Ford's veto of education funds. It is imperative that this veto be overridden when Congress returns.

The Administration's answer to the American people is that they will just have to accept a lower standard of living. All that they have worked for—the better life they have sought for their children—is being taken away from them by deliberate government policies. This is no accident.

Are the corporations asked to accept a lower standard of living? No. The Administration wants to boost their profits through tax breaks. Those who earn their way by honest labor must take less, while those who can afford to let money work for them will get more.

It seems to me that the Administration has its priorities upside down.

That's why its economic policies haven't worked, aren't working and won't work. The Administration places dollar signs ahead of people, and the American people won't buy that.

It is worth remembering that 6½ years ago—when Richard Nixon became President and an economics professor named Arthur Burns was given the reins of the economy—unemployment was at 3.4 percent and the cost-of-living was rising at an annual rate of 4.2 percent.

Six and a half years ago, Arthur Burns said that the 4.2 percent inflation rate was too high. For 6½ years, under both President Nixon and Ford, he has applied essentially the same economic policies to reduce inflation. He tightened up on money supply; he forced interest rates up.

And 6½ years later, inflation is more than double and the number of unemployed has tripled. That sorry record indicates only one thing — the policies were wrong, and those who had a hand in developing those policies should be removed from government.

They should be replaced before it is too late. For, despite the Administration's optimistic pronouncements that the recession is over, the truth is less comforting. True, the headlong downhill plunge of last winter has abated, but the economy is still in the throes of the recession.

No recession can truly be said to be over until the unemployed are back to work. And only when there is full employment and full production will the economy be safe from another, more dangerous recession.

In recent weeks, Administration policies have recreated precisely the same set of conditions that caused the current recession, and, thus, there is today the very real danger of a deeper, more serious recession starting again before the economy has had sufficient time to recover.

These are the warning signs:

First, the Federal Reserve Board under Dr. Arthur Burns has reimposed a tight money policy and forced interest rates to increase. Similar policies in 1973-74 were a major factor in creating the recession plaguing America today. In fact, continuing high interest rates on long-term loans have discouraged expansion of the economy, particularly home-building. The rise of interest rates now—with more than 8 million unemployed and one-third of industry's productive capacity idle—could turn a possible recovery into a disaster.

Let me emphasize the economic stupidity of this policy. Earlier this year the Congress enacted an emergency tax cut to stimulate the economy. It was felt that by putting money in the hands of average Americans, the money would be spent on consumer goods and, thus, stimulate sales. It worked. In fact, the emergency tax cut was one of the reasons why the rapid downturn of the economy was slowed.

So, what's Arthur Burns trying to do now? By tightening money, he wants to counteract the positive stimulus of the tax cut. He wants to slow down the recovery, even before it builds up enough steam to get the unemployed back to work.

In other words, Burns is taking away from the people the money they received by way of the tax cut. This is sheer nonsense.

Second, the Administration has permitted the Soviet Union to again purchase huge amounts of American grain. This grain giveaway, a repeat of 1972, will boost already intolerably high food prices and shorten domestic supplies.

No American consumer needs to be reminded of the outrageous increases in food prices that resulted from the last grain deal. It makes no sense for an Administration—which claims it is fighting inflation—to force increases in food prices, when consumer buying power is already below the levels of 10 years ago.

Third, another runaway inflation in fuel prices has begun as a result of the Administration's energy policy of making consumers pay more and more for less and less energy. Fuel price inflation could get even worse if the Arab countries carry out their threat to hike the price of crude oil.

Rising energy prices could cost the American economy as much as $40 billion. For industry, this means that money that should go to expansion and new machinery will be siphoned off to pay higher fuel bills. For consumers, this means that their family budget will have to be stretched further and their standard of living lowered even more.

Fourth, because of the President's veto of housing legislation, the housing construction industry remains in a depression. The history of past recessions is that a revival in housing—a bellwether industry—leads to recovery. By its actions in holding down the housing industry, the Administration is clearly prolonging the recession.

The most important factor preventing a revival in housing is high interest rates, which place the monthly payments beyond the reach of most families. Reduce the mortgage interest rate to 6 percent and the housing will be built—it is just as simple as that.

Fifth, the President has vetoed congressional programs that would have stimulated a genuine recovery and put America back to work. As a result, the meager recovery to date has not been strong enough to even restore the economy to health.

Adoption of the emergency tax cut and some other parts of the AFL-CIO Action Program to Put America Back to Work, as well as the operation of the decline of the economy.

Finally, consumer purchasing power remains weak and consumer confidence low. With the threat of still more unemployment hanging over the heads of many workers, they are understandably hesitant to make major purchases. Coupled with the certain price increases for food and energy, consumers are worried about the future.

This sorry state of affairs didn't just happen. It is the result of deliberate policies adopted by the Nixon-Ford Administrations. With the economy so weak and so vulnerable, these six points I have just mentioned could well set off another recession on top of the current one, which is already the worst since the 1930s.

America is at the edge of another economic calamity, but it is not too late for the President and the Congress to prevent it from happening. We in the AFL-CIO believe the following steps should be taken immediately:

1—The individual income tax cuts, scheduled to end on Dec. 31, should be extended for another year.

2—Existing programs to boost the home-building industry should be fully implemented by the Administration.

3—An accelerated works program to create jobs should be passed by the Congress and signed by the President.

4—The public service employment program should be greatly expanded, creating jobs for the unemployed in state and local governments.

5—The Federal Reserve Board should be ordered to cut interest rates and to allocate credit to such important areas as housing.

6—State and local communities hard-hit by high unemployment should receive immediate federal aid.

7—The nation's railroad tracks and roadbeds should be restored.

8—The outmoded unemployment insurance system should be overhauled immediately.

9—Major loopholes in the tax structure, which yearly rob the federal Treasury of $20 billion, should be closed.

10—A comprehensive energy policy should be adopted that does not permit uncontrolled price increases for fuel.

11—The government should regulate the export of American goods and products in short supply to prevent inflation.

12—The President should more rapidly release previously impounded funds to create jobs.

In short, there is nothing wrong with the American economy that more jobs wouldn't cure. Putting people to work means more tax revenue and a lower budget deficit. Jobs mean workers can sustain their standard of living and enjoy a more prosperous life.

Indeed, jobs are what Labor Day is all about. On this day, when America honors workers and their labors, there should be a new resolve on the part of the government to put America back to work.

Only with full employment and full production will America have a stable, healthy economy and a secure future.

Network Schedules Set for Labor Day

AFL-CIO President George Meany, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice President I. W. Abel will make nationwide radio addresses on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1.

The networks and times set for the broadcasts are:

Abel, CBS, 7:35 p.m. (EDT).
Kirkland, Mutual, 7:45 p.m. (EDT).
Meany, NBC, 9:45 p.m. (EDT).

Local radio stations may air these broadcasts at different hours and should be checked for exact broadcast times.

Kirkland on Labor Day:

Improvements in Jobless Benefits Overdue

By Lane Kirkland

LABOR DAY THIS YEAR is no holiday for this nation's unemployed workers. Today is just like every other day, filled with enforced idleness that dulls the spirit, fraught with fear of the future, consumed with worry about somehow keeping the family together.

So the sense of celebration that the American labor movement usually feels on Labor Day is absent this year. Instead, our thoughts turn to the millions of unemployed workers and their plight.

There is only one sure cure for the ill of unemployment, and that is jobs. But with the Administration's forecasts of continued high unemployment for the rest of this decade and the President's reckless use of the veto power to obstruct the job-creating programs that are needed, today's unemployed worker has scant chance of getting a job.

So, for that worker, the immediate concern is the unemployment insurance check. That unemployment insurance check is all that stands between a jobless worker and total financial ruin.

An estimated 20 million workers will be unemployed at some time during the next year. Each of them will be looking to their unemployment insurance to help tide them over until they get back to work.

Unemployment insurance is also vital to the economy, because it is a brake on recession. Cushioning the loss in purchasing power that happens when a worker becomes unemployed helps to prevent unemployment from feeding on unemployment. Because of their unemployment benefits, jobless workers are able to purchase some of the basic necessities of life. This keeps stores open and sales from dropping to zero, and jobless workers and their families from starving to death. But that's all.

Unemployment insurance was enacted as part of the Social Security Act in 1935. It was one of the social insurance mechanisms developed to help prevent future depressions like the one in the 1930s.

To that extent it has worked—but it must be better.

At the present time, unemployment benefit payments are running about $1.2 billion per month—money that is being plowed back into the economy immediately, sustaining retail sales, and keeping the recession from getting worse.

But the unemployment insurance system badly needs modernization.

More than 6.6 million jobless workers are receiving unemployment compensation benefits. But, for many of the long-time jobless, those benefits will soon vanish, for they will have exhausted their benefit entitlement.

The average weekly benefit received by jobless workers—$68—replaces only 42 percent of the average wage in nonagricultural employment. For many workers, this wage replacement benefit represents no more than 20 or 30 percent of lost wages. This is a complete distortion of the original intent of unemployment insurance to restore to jobless workers at least one-half of their former weekly wage during periods of unemployment. And even 50 percent—and we are a long way from it—is much too low.

Further, the imposition of arbitrary and harsh disqualifications are depriving millions of jobless workers of the protection of the program. During 1974, more than 3 million workers were disqualified from receiving benefits. These disqualifications are imposed in the majority of cases without any type of impartial hearing to determine the merits of the reason for denying the worker's benefit claim.

More than 12 million working men and women are still excluded from the regular unemployment insurance program. These workers — farm workers, domestic workers and public employes—need and deserve the same unemployment compensation protection other workers have.

The financial structure of the program is no longer sound due to the erosion of the taxable wage base and the overpowering influence of experience-rating on state tax rates. Currently, eight states have depleted their reserve funds and an additional 30 states are expected to exhaust their reserve funds before the end of this year.

That is why we in the AFL-CIO are supporting unemployment compensation reform legislation introduced by Rep. James C. Corman, chairman of the subcommittee on Unemployment Compensation of the House Committee on Ways & Means, and Sen. Walter F. Mondale of the Senate Committee on Finance.

These bills—HR 8366 and S 2079—represent the first serious effort in many years to provide the nation with an unemployment compensation program to meet the needs of modern industrial society. It would make improvements in the program that have been discussed for 40 years and are still needed.

The Corman-Mondale bill would extend coverage to 12 million workers denied the protection of the program at this time. It would improve the benefit structure so that payments to jobless workers would enable them to maintain a decent standard of living. It would establish reasonable qualifying and duration standards that state programs would have to meet. It would improve the solvency of state funds and restore financial responsibility within the system.

In short, the Corman-Mondale bill would restore to the nation an unemployment insurance program consistent with the objectives of the original Social Security Act to provide economic security for all who are unemployed. It is a measure long overdue and we urge the Congress to enact it without delay.

Ending Slump Is Top Priority

Labor Day statement by I. W. Abel, president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

THE MILLIONS of Americans without jobs or the prospect of jobs are a tragic reproach to the national leaders whose inept and mistaken policies cast such a grim shadow over Labor Day 1975.

For months now, the working people of the United States have been telling our national government that jobs are needed now. Yet we mark labor's holiday with unemployment rates hovering well over 8 percent, and with the frightening prospect of continued high unemployment for years to come.

The overriding obligation of our federal government is to get people back to work. Policies and programs are needed to repair the mistakes of government that have sickened our national economy to the point where factories, mills, and commercial establishments limp painfully from day to day at slow and faltering levels of activity.

The Ford Administration has focused its attention on inflation, while ignoring the need to provide jobs for the working Americans who are the basis of our nation's economic progress. We, too, are concerned about inflation—and we feel the Administration has not been successful in that area—but we know our nation must never forget that jobs represent the true basis of progress and national well-being.

We cannot afford to wait for some mysterious "natural force" to repair our economic ills. They were caused by human actions—or inactions—and human actions can repair them. America certainly has the moral, intellectual and physical means to pull itself out of recession in a manner that provides fairly for the worker who is in himself a basic resource of national strength.

Surely it is fitting on Labor Day 1975 that we demand from the Administration and the Congress programs that will provide jobs now and head our country back to economic health.

Programs to Spur Construction Could Revitalize Sick Economy

From a Labor Day statement by Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

EACH YEAR FOR the last 93 years, a special day has been set aside in the United States to encourage all citizens to recognize the contributions of the laboring man and woman to the nation, its economy, society, education, laws and culture.

It is to be hoped that on this Labor Day 1975 the citizens will recognize another circumstance, notably the plight in which the labor segment generally, and the construction worker in particular, now find themselves.

Not since the depression days of four decades ago has such a large percentage of workers been out of jobs, either totally or much of the time. In the construction industry, the figures disclose employment situations actually worse than in the 1930s. And perhaps never before has inflation had such a damaging effect on the ability of Americans to live decently, much less comfortably.

Yet, strangely enough, in spite of the dismal situation existing today, there are grounds for optimism. There are means—and not very difficult means, at that—by which we could turn the current depression into one of the most productive and beneficial periods in the entire history of our nation.

It is general knowledge, for example, that Americans in all walks of life need new homes, some of them desperately. But, almost literally, hardly any new homes are being built; the cost to finance them exceeds the potential of the buyer who requires them.

Is this really such a difficult problem to solve? On the contrary, it seems clear that merely a reduction in the almost usurious mortgage rates could thaw the freeze. That could be accomplished by the Congress, the federal administration or both without fanning inflation, simply by providing lower-interest mortgages, which the private financial sector now adamantly refuses to do.

Also, it does not necessitate the services of a private detective to ascertain that our cities need rebuilding in an amount and to a degree that they never have needed before.

There are millions of jobs here, work benefitting countless additional millions.

Energy and power shortages are familiar to all of us. Perhaps not so familiar is the fact that, since last November, scarcely any new starts have been made in building new utility facilities. Does this require the plan of a genius to get things moving?

And as long as everybody on this day is recognizing labor, it would be well if they could finally bring themselves to recognizing that labor never has been accorded the status it deserves.

Happy Labor Day.

DOMINANT THEME of 1975 Labor Day messages issued by leaders of the trade-union movement is expressed in this banner displayed at a rally of J. P. Stevens workers in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. The rally marked the first anniversary of a representation election victory by the Textile Workers Union of America at the company's seven plants in the Roanoke Rapids area.

New Policies Demanded:

Jobs Crisis Forms Labor Day Theme

(Continued from Page 1)

hold jobs in the recession still plaguing the economy, purchasing power has dropped and eroded their living standards, he noted. Real spendable weekly earnings are less than they were in 1965.

A year ago, Meany pointed out, organized labor expressed its deep concern for the future because of the ongoing erosion in living standards, brought on by recession and inflation.

"That erosion continues today and has picked up steam," he observed. While buying power is dropping, prices are going up.

In July, retail prices rose at an annual rate of 14.4 percent.

Noting the Administration's proposals for new tax breaks for corporations at a time when "those who earn their way by honest labor must take less," Meany accused President Ford of having his economic priorities upside down.

"That's why its economic policies haven't worked, aren't working and won't work," Meany declared. "The Administration places dollar signs ahead of people, and the American people won't buy that."

He called for adoption of the AFL-CIO's program to restore the economy to health, including a year's extension of the current income-tax cuts, an accelerated public works program to create jobs, tax reform, regulation of exports, modernization of the nation's unemployment insurance program, restoration of railroad track and roadbeds, credit allocation and lower interest rates in areas such as housing, a national energy policy, immediate federal aid to states and local communities hard hit by joblessness, and release of presidentially impounded funds to create employment.

"Only with full employment and full production will America have a stable, healthy economy and a secure future," Meany observed.

Kirkland noted in his message that "the sense of celebration that the American labor movement usually feels on Labor Day is absent this year."

"Instead, our thoughts turn to the millions of unemployed workers and their plight," Kirkland said. Because of Administration forecasts of continued high joblessness for the rest of the '70s and the President's "reckless use" of his veto power to obstruct job-creating programs, today's unemployed worker has scant chance of getting a job, he observed.

While jobs are the only cure for unemployment, the immediate concern of the jobless worker is his unemployment insurance check, Kirkland said. Often it is not enough—for many workers the average weekly benefit is no more than 20-30 percent of lost wages, he noted.

The unemployment insurance system badly needs modernization, Kirkland declared.

The AFL-CIO, he said, is supporting unemployment compensation reform legislation sponsored by Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.) and Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.).

Corman and Mondale have introduced bills to extend coverage to 12 million more workers, improve the benefit structure, and establish reasonable qualifying and duration standards that state programs would have to meet.

In other Labor Day statements, President I. W. Abel of the Industrial Union Dept. observed that the millions of jobless Americans cast "a grim shadow" over this year's Labor Day. He blamed the Ford Administration for focusing all its attention on the problem of inflation while ignoring the need to provide jobs.

"We, too, are concerned about inflation—and we feel the Administration has not been successful in that area—but we know our nation must never forget that jobs represent the true basis of progress and national well-being," Abel declared.

"We cannot afford to wait for some mysterious 'natural force' to repair our economic ills," Abel said. He urged Americans to demand from the Administration and Congress "programs that will provide jobs now and head our country back to economic health."

Robert A. Georgine, president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., noted that the high unemployment in the construction industry could be reduced if the nation turned to providing the homes that are desperately needed, rebuilding its cities and starting up new utility facilities.

"There are means—and not very difficult means at that—by which we could turn the current depression into one of the most productive and beneficial periods in the entire history of our nation," Georgine said.

Unemployment in the construction industry, well over 20 percent, is far above the national average. In many parts of the country, it is actually worse than in the Great Depression four decades ago.

'I Gotta Get Back in Shape!'

J. P. STEVENS EMPLOYES in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., still without a contract a year after the Textile Workers Union of America won the right to represent them, marked the first anniversary of the TWUA election victory with a rally and parade. State, regional and national labor representatives pledged all-out support of the workers in their efforts to end Stevens's delaying tactics. The company employs about 3,500 workers in seven local plants.

Textile Workers' Rally Protests Year of Stalling by J. P. Stevens

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO and its 14 million members.

"Trade unionists everywhere stand with the valiant workers of J. P. Stevens as they fight for economic justice and human dignity. Your cause is our cause," Meany said. "Your fight is our fight."

Noting the company has frustrated every attempt by TWUA to negotiate a contract, Meany declared:

"It is time that Stevens stopped living in the 19th Century. It is time this law-breaking company began to obey the law of the land."

The rally drew more than 1,200 workers plus regional, state and national leaders both in and out of the labor movement who pledged a determined effort to overcome the stalling by Stevens.

"We want a union contract that makes it possible for workers to support their families in decency and live in dignity, with self-respect," Stetin declared. "Yet, for an entire year, this company has kept saying 'no' to each of our proposals.

"Its attitude clearly adds up to still another violation of the National Labor Relations Act," he charged.

Stetin served notice on the company: "We will never give up this cause. Absolutely no way.

"We are well aware that the masterminds of J. P. Stevens—and the high-priced lawyers it spends its money on—are convinced that if they hold out long enough the union will eventually dry up and blow away," he said. "But let me remind these gentlemen we know the meaning of struggle"

TWUA Sec.-Treas. William M. DuChessi reported on the union's frustrations in getting the company to the negotiating stage and said the stalling was typical of Stevens's repeated bad-faith dealings.

Nicholas A. Zonarich, organizing director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., which is coordinating TWUA's campaign in the textile industry, assured the workers, however:

"You're not going to be second-class citizens much longer. It's time to turn Roanoke Rapids into a first-class community."

Wilbur Hobby, president of the North Carolina State AFL-CIO who presided, noted that the entire state labor movement is providing assistance in the Stevens campaign. He cited especially the efforts of the Communications Workers, Boilermakers, Paperworkers, Steelworkers and the garment unions.

Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.) told the rally that the Stevens workers' struggle for their rights was not theirs alone but the entire nation's.

"All of us are in this fight against industrial greed," Rangel said. "Not too long from now, J. P. Stevens will run out of holes to hide in."

Rangel joined Stetin and other speakers in scoring government policies that reward law-breaking firms such as Stevens by giving them federal contracts running into millions of dollars. He called for a formal congressional investigation of the practice.

LaDonna Harris, wife of former Oklahoma Sen. Fred Harris, compared the Stevens employes with farm workers and coal miners in their struggle for economic and social justice.

A group of workers at Stevens's seven plants in the Roanoke Rapids area described the low wages, poor working conditions and other inequities they endure daily. Others who spoke included TWUA Regional Director Scott Hoyman and Harold McIver, IUD coordinator for the Carolinas.

The rally was held in the local high-school auditorium. With the temperature outside 97 degrees, the workers sweltered without air conditioning; yet at times the rally reached the pitch of a revival meeting.

The speechmaking gave way to a mile-long march through this town of 13,000, past three of the firm's plants and back again to the high school for a barbecue.

In his rally speech, Stetin noted that within a stone's throw of the meeting place "is a company which is furnishing the most brazen example of how the National Labor Relations Act is being flouted in defiance of the Congress and the courts of the nation."

In the past dozen years, Stevens has fired hundreds of workers simply because they sought to exercise their legal right to join a union, he observed. The firm even resorted to—and was found guilty of—bugging the motel room of union organizers, Stetin recalled.

He reported that the TWUA has filed new charges with the NLRB accusing Stevens of bargaining in bad faith in Roanoke Rapids. He noted the union also has charged that the company closed down its Statesboro, Ga., plant to discourage workers from joining TWUA.

"We have always pursued the goal of peace and cooperation between labor and management," Stetin said. "So far, Stevens has spurned this approach. It prefers conflict and law-breaking."

Postal Service Unions Ratify 3-Year Pacts

(Continued from Page 1)

The contracts with the U.S. Postal Service were reached last month with the aid of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service and averted a strike that had been set for July 20.

Besides the pay boosts, the contracts include a cost-of-living escalator provision providing for an increase of 1 cent an hour for every rise of four-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index.

The contracts also retain a no-layoff clause which both sides regarded as a major issue in the negotiations. The clause was first won by the unions two years ago.

Under the agreement, a $400 wage increase takes effect immediately. The next raise of $250 goes into effect on Mar. 21, 1976. The schedule calls for another $250 increase on Nov. 21, 1976, and a $600 raise on July 21, 1977.

The settlement boosts the Postal Service's contribution to health insurance premiums from 65 to 75 percent of the cost. USPS will continue to pay the full cost of basic life insurance coverage.

USPS also agreed to reduce the number of "casual" hires from 7 to 5 percent of total manpower and to give the unions the right to take new work or time standards to arbitration.

8-30-75

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Meany Assails Grain Deal As Benefiting Speculators

Ford Action On Federal Pay Scored

President Ford's move to override his own advisers and limit "comparability" pay increases for 3.4 million federal white-collar employes and military personnel to 5 percent was described by AFL-CIO President George Meany as a "cruel Labor Day present for federal workers."

He said the AFL-CIO "would oppose any such presidential action to deny federal workers the pay increase they need and which is rightfully theirs under the law" and called on Congress to reject the President's action.

The federal pay comparability law is designed to assure that salaries in federal jobs match those of comparable positions in private industry, based on surveys by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under the latest BLS survey, completed last March, federal employes would need an increase of 8.66 percent to keep pace with their counterparts in the private sector.

This 8.66 percent boost was recommended in August by the U.S. Civil Service Commission and the federal Office of Management & Budget, the President's "pay agents," one of three groups involved in making recommendations to the President on the annual federal cost-of-living raise.

The 8.66 percent figure also was endorsed by the Advisory Committee on Federal Pay, which consists of three private personnel experts, and was accepted by the unions that make up the Federal Employee Pay Council.

Ford's action in cutting back the increase to 5 percent can be overturned by a majority vote of either the House or the Senate within 30 days. Federal employes would then be eligible for the full 8.66 percent raise in October.

In sending his alternative plan to Congress, Ford said that the "pay act gives me authority to propose whatever alternative pay adjustment I consider appropriate in the light of economic conditions affecting the general welfare. The pay increase I have chosen will allow the federal government to lead the fight against inflation by example, and not just words alone."

Meany charged that "it is grossly unfair for the President to say federal employes must sacrifice while his Administration's food and energy policies are forcing up the prices of everything they must buy."

Ford's move also drew strong fire from other representatives of federal workers.

President Clyde M. Webber of

(Continued on Page 2)

MUSICAL SALUTE to Labor Day features a Washington area folk group belting out union songs at Wolf Trap Farm Park in Vienna, Va., to open labor's Bicentennial Year. A number of top performers and music to fit every mood and taste highlighted the six-hour program.

Labor Day Talks Focus On Job Needs

America must reassess its domestic and foreign policies to better serve the interests of its working men and women, top labor officials stressed in Labor Day radio addresses.

In a series of speeches carried on three national networks, they explored the state of the faltering economy and the economic impact of detente on consumers. They also called on the Ford Administration to reconsider its opposition to essential social and jobs programs and problems compounded by presidential vetoes.

Speaking on the NBC radio network, AFL-CIO President George Meany said that the economic

(Continued on Page 8)

Nationwide Celebration:

U.S. Workers Open Bicentennial Year

By John R. Oravec

Labor's Bicentennial Year—saluting the contribution of American workers to the building of the nation from the time of the Revolution to the present—was opened Labor Day with a series of events across the country.

Picnics, parades, barbecues, musical salutes, state fair exhibitions, television programs and Labor Day masses marked the workers' holiday. And millions of other union members celebrated it as a day off with their families.

The various celebrations, sponsored by labor organizations and civic groups throughout the country, focused on efforts to bring a greater public awareness of the role of unions and craftsmen in the nation's first 200 years.

The national theme for labor's bicentennial observance was set with a musical salute at Wolf Trap Farm Park in Vienna, Va., near Washington, with the cooperation of the National Park Service and the AFL-CIO.

Addressing the observance at Wolf Trap, Federation President George Meany observed that Labor Day is more than a holiday to workers; it is also, traditionally, a day when we take a look at our country and measure what progress we have made and what remains to be done."

With the start of labor's bicentennial celebration, Meany said that the reflection will be on America's achievements in its first 200 years and the "challenges that face us as a people struggling to maintain our freedoms and to reach farther toward our long-range goals of economic and social justice for all Americans."

In an appearance earlier in the day on the NBC television network, Meany noted that the traditional Labor Day parade is giving way to a day of workers relaxing with their families—picnicking and playing golf.

(Continued on Page 8)

Farmers, Consumers Victimized

Organized labor's boycott of the Soviet grain deal is not aimed at America's family farmers, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared, but is directed at government policy that "benefits only commodity speculators and the big dealers and that rips off the American consumer in the interest of so-called detente."

Attempts to portray federation support of the Longshoremen's grain embargo as anti-farmer could not be further from the truth, Meany said in a letter to officials of AFL-CIO state federations.

"Those making these false charges are trying to drive a wedge between the labor movement and its traditional allies, America's family farmers," he charged.

Meany assured the state labor leaders that the federation intends to fight for government policies that will protect consumers, farmers and workers from a repetition of "the disastrous 1972 Russian grain steal."

He said that the ILA boycott went into effect because the government was doing nothing—either through its actions or its inaction—to provide this protection.

"We believe America must not be forced to sacrifice in order to benefit the Soviet Union and the greedy millionaire grain dealers," he said. "The inflation this deal is already causing is intolerable."

Noting that the state federations have close ties with organizations that may be upset by accusations against labor's boycott, Meany cited the following points:

- "The current grain sale to the

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Backs Bill to Curb 'Redlining'

A Senate bill to help eliminate discrimination in mortgage lending and boost the homebuilding industry at the same time has drawn strong support from the AFL-CIO.

The bill, sponsored by Senators William Proxmire (D-Wis.) and Adlai E. Stevenson III (D-Ill.), would require banks and savings and loan associations in metropolitan areas to make public disclosure of information showing where "redlining" is practiced.

Redlining is a term used to describe the practice of banks in denying mortgage loans for the purchase of good homes in older neighborhoods where minority and

(Continued on Page 6)

Override of Oil Price Control Veto Pressed to Prevent Deeper Slump

The AFL-CIO called upon Congress to override President Ford's promised veto of a bill extending price controls on "old" domestically-produced oil, warning that lifting of the controls could send the economy into a new tailspin.

"Removal of controls on oil prices could send the economy into an even deeper recession, because industry would be forced to use money set aside for expansion to pay higher fuel bills or would be forced to cut production, thus increasing already intolerable unemployment," AFL-CIO President George Meany warned in a letter to Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.).

Jackson is chairman of the Senate Interior Committee which is holding hearings on the possible effects of Ford's expected veto.

Just before going on its August recess, Congress passed a measure to extend for six months the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act which authorized controls on prices of oil from "old wells" that were in production before 1972. The bill lay unsigned on the President's desk while the controls act expired at midnight on Aug. 31.

Ford had until Sept. 9 to veto the bill, a step he said he would take; if he failed to veto the bill, it would become law retroactive to Sept. 1. Anticipating a veto, the Senate scheduled an override attempt for Sept. 10.

In his letter to Jackson, Meany urged every member of the Senate and the House to vote to override what he called "this outrageous" veto.

(Continued on Page 8)

Ford Assailed On Bid to Cut Federal Raise

(Continued from Page 1)

the Government Employees observed that "it is exceedingly tragic that federal employes have once again been singled out to be the Administration's sacrifice toward the solution of the nation's economic difficulties."

President William H. McClennan of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. called the proposed 5 percent limit "another example of the callous economic strategy of the Ford Administration which supports business tax credits with one hand while taking money from workers with the other."

Despite the intention of Congress in adopting the federal pay comparability act in 1970, both the Nixon and Ford Administrations have opposed and delayed federal government wage increases.

During the first phase of his economic stabilization program in 1971, President Nixon ordered a 90-day-freeze on federal pay raises. But the U.S. comptroller general later ruled that the freeze could not be applied to 260,000 of the federal employes and ordered retroactive payments for them.

In 1972, Nixon delayed the cost-of-living raise due in October for three months, but this action was overturned by a court suit and retroactive payments were again necessary.

In 1973, Nixon again tried to delay the October raise for three months, but the Senate rejected the proposal on a 72-16 vote.

Last year, Ford placed a 5.5 percent ceiling on the October raise and then tried to delay payment for 60 days. The Senate upheld the ceiling, but rejected the delay by a 64-35 vote.

Sleeping Car Porters Adopt Dues Increase

Chicago—A dues increase from $12 to $15 a month and a boost in the initiation fee were approved by the 50th anniversary convention of the Sleeping Car Porters here.

The 26 delegates representing 1,500 members referred a number of resolutions reflecting contract proposals to the union's negotiating committee. They rejected a move to shift the union's international headquarters from Denver to Chicago.

The convention called for passage of National Health Security legislation, urged full citizenship rights for the late Eugene V. Debs and called for full participation in programs of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education.

Two retired members who have been working for the union were named to the executive board—J. W. Cohen, Sr. of Jacksonville, Fla., and Leon B. Thompson of Los Angeles.

The convention also re-elected President C. L. Dellums and Sec.-Treas. W. W. Seymour, Sr., along with other officers.

Delegates voted to continue support of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

Dellums gave an extensive report on the state of the union and negotiations with the carriers.

Representative Ralph H. Metcalfe (D-Ill.) recalled that he talked about a Nixon recession at the union's convention in 1971. "Now I'm talking about a Nixon-Ford economic crisis," he said, adding that the key to the problem is jobs.

Stanley L. Johnson, president of the Illinois State AFL-CIO, thanked the Sleeping Car Porters for their support of equal rights and labor legislation in the Illinois General Assembly.

William A. Lee, president of the Chicago AFL-CIO, recalled the early days of the union and the contributions Milton Webster and A. Philip Randolph made to the labor movement in Chicago and the nation.

Montana Labor Affirms Stand on Environment

Great Falls, Mont.—The Montana State AFL-CIO, in a major resolution proposed by the State Carpenters Council, reaffirmed its stand that new power generating plants and other facilities should be approved only if they conform to Montana environmental laws.

The 19th annual convention of the state federation also adopted a resolution introduced by the State Building & Construction Trades Council that set off a labor boycott of an appearance by President Ford to dedicate the Libby Dam in northwest Montana.

The resolution said that it seemed senseless to "dedicate" a partially complete dam and that "footdragging in Washington" was responsible for the construction delay. It said completion of the dam "will need extensive red tape cutting" by Ford in Washington and not "switch throwing" in Libby. The resolution nevertheless gave thanks for the timing of the incomplete dam "because it provided much needed employment for Montana workers . . . before Mr. Ford could veto it or impound the construction funds."

Charles Bradford, executive director of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, in an address to the delegates, urged them to make maximum use of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act in Montana.

Bradford urged the state labor movement to help improve the CETA programs by working with local Human Resources Development representatives as manpower experts who know the community.

Other speakers included Gov. Thomas L. Judge, Lt. Gov. William Christiansen, Montana House Speaker Pat McKittrick, U.S. Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.) the state's two Democratic congressmen, John Melcher and Max Baucus, and Vice President Matthew Schoenwald of the Ladies' Garment Workers, who is chairman of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut.

In other convention action, delegates unanimously approved an additional one-cent increase in per capita payments, boosting it to 33 cents per month as of January 1976 instead of the 32-cent rate originally scheduled. An escalator clause providing for one-cent increases each year will remain in effect until the per capita reaches 36 cents on January 1, 1979.

Top officers of the State AFL-CIO were re-elected without opposition. They are Vincent Bosh, president; Robert G. Kokoruda, vice president; and James W. Murry, executive secretary.

12-Cent COL Boost Set At Aluminum Plants

Pittsburgh—A cost-of-living adjustment of 12 cents an hour went into effect Sept. 1 for about 30,000 Steelworkers employed by three major aluminum companies.

Under previous COL adjustments, hourly wages were increased a total of 62 cents for production workers at Aluminum Co. of America, Reynolds Metals Co. and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical.

Meany Tells State Bodies:

Farmers Not Target Of Grain Embargo

(Continued from Page 1)

Soviet Union, undertaken in the name of this thing called detente, is another billion-dollar ripoff of the American consumer that will bring little benefit to the average family farmer.

- "The only beneficiaries will be the gigantic grain dealers and the Soviet Union.
- "As by-product of this deal, the American merchant marine industry is also endangered."

For those reasons, Meany noted, the federation's Executive Council unanimously endorsed and supported the ILA boycott.

He pointed out that under the 1972 Russian grain agreement—negotiated with the cooperation of Agriculture Sec. Earl L. Butz—the USSR obtained American grain at bargain prices which U.S. taxpayers subsidized.

The resultant runaway increases in food and feed prices not only adversely affected housewives and workers, but also dairy and hog farmers and cattle raisers.

Many farmers were subsequently forced out of business or had to increase their prices to further compound the inflation problem, Meany observed.

"Today," he said, "history is repeating itself."

Meany noted that before the current Russian grain deal was announced, Butz had made statements that the huge U.S. harvest would cause prices to fall for farmers. Under those conditions, the USSR was able to order secretly more than 400 million bushels of grain at relatively low prices.

But after the Russian grain sales were confirmed, prices increased rapidly, Meany pointed out. He cited statistics showing price rises over a 45-day period of 28 percent for flour, 43 percent for both wheat and soybeans and 14 percent for corn.

"These price increases, now on their way to grocery shelves across America, occurred at the very time Mr. Butz was saying the sales to Russia would not have much effect on U.S. prices," Meany observed. "Obviously, Mr. Butz was not telling the truth."

Meany also noted that farmers who sold their crops before the Russian grain deal was disclosed were deprived of a better price for their products, "but the grain dealers handling the sales lined their pockets with profits."

Mail received by the AFL-CIO has been overwhelmingly in favor of the federation's stand in support of the ILA grain embargo.

Meany said that one Minnesota farm wife, who expressed her support of the action, asked: "Is it any wonder that the grain dealers drive Cadillacs while small farmers have to 'make do'?"

He pointed out that the AFL-CIO has supported programs to provide farmers with a reasonable price for their products, including recent legislation that President Ford vetoed on the claim that it was inflationary.

"Today, his Secretary of Agriculture says that the Russian grain deal is not inflationary, despite the fact that it has already raised consumer prices far more than the farm bill would have," Meany said.

The AFL-CIO supports the establishment of a national food policy that will serve the interests of consumers and farmers, as well as the world's need for food, he noted.

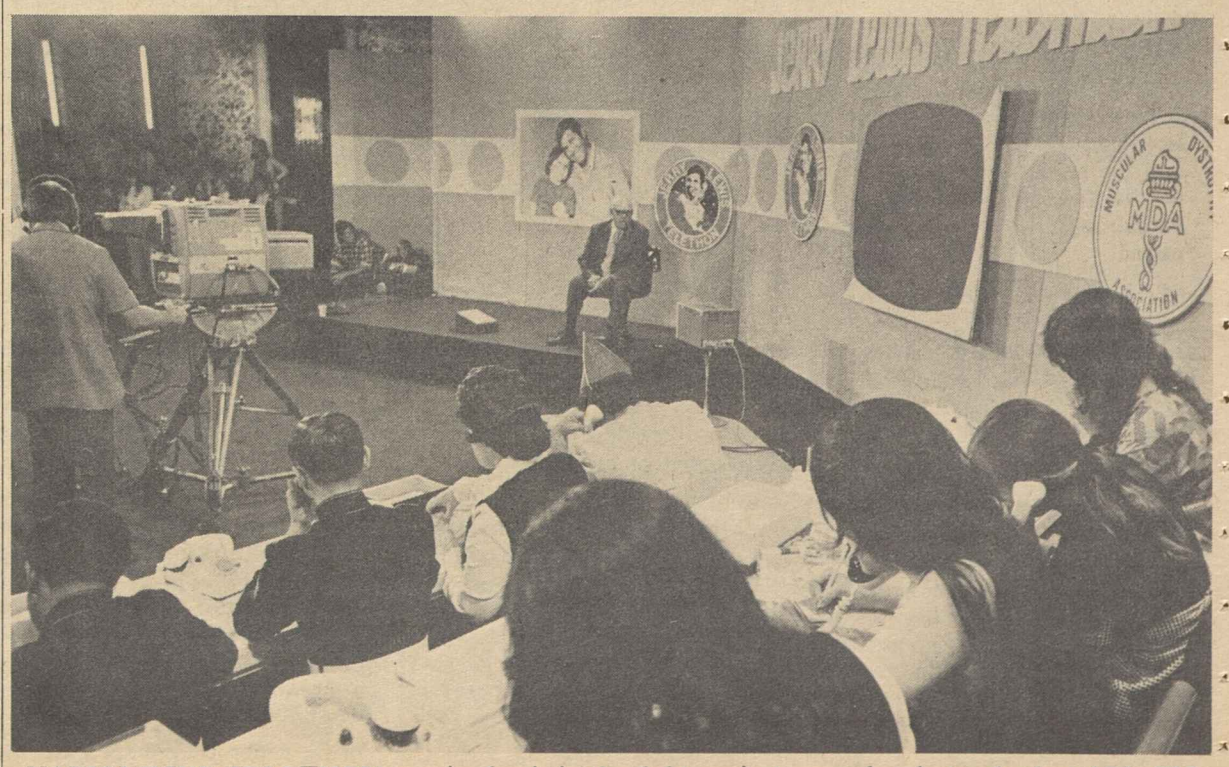
"We believe the family farmer needs protection against the onslaught of the giant conglomerates which seek to drive farmers from their lands and the marketplace. And we will continue to fight for more adequate legislation to bring the commodity speculators under truly effective government regulation."

Meany called for creation of a government agency to handle dealings with the Soviets on a government-to-government basis.

"Only government-to-government negotiations would insure that America's great agricultural resources would not be used for the private profit of grain dealers and speculators," he said.

Such a program would also assure that farmers are paid adequately for their work and consumers are not penalized, he said.

"In addition, the government would have a bargaining weapon that would force the Soviet Union to keep its promises—something it has never done."



NATIONWIDE TELETHON to raise funds in the fight against muscular dystrophy has AFL-CIO President George Meany conversing with host Jerry Lewis in split-screen hook-up. Several other labor leaders, whose unions played a major role in the fund drive, appeared on the telethon. The Fire Fighters raised more than $1 million in pledges and donations.

'Pawns' in Detente:

Seafarers Hit U.S. Policies As Aiding Soviet Ratecutting

By James M. Shevis

The Seafarers accused the Ford Administration of using the United States merchant marine and the men who crew its ships as pawns in its game of so-called detente with the Soviet Union.

By closing their eyes to widespread ratecutting by state-owned Soviet-controlled fleets in U.S. foreign commerce, White House and State Dept. officials are permitting the further deterioration of the already depressed U.S. maritime industry, SIU President Paul Hall charged at the union's 17th biennial convention in Washington.

"We have been watching with great concern the entry of state-owned fleets in the U.S. liner trades," Hall said in a report to delegates.

"These fleets, operated by the Soviet Union, Poland and other totalitarian states, are seriously undercutting U.S. liner companies through their advantage of total subsidy and state aid," Hall observed. He charged the Soviet Union and its satellites are using low-cost labor on their ships as "an extension of a global policy of dominating the seas."

Communist activity in American commerce has already put the Pacific trades in a turmoil, Hall noted, and the Soviet power bloc fleets are now moving into the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf foreign trade routes.

Calling for an American foreign policy that would force the state-owned carriers to maintain equitable freight rates or be expelled from U.S. trade, Hall declared:

"The interests of detente with the Soviet power bloc cannot be another rationale of our State Dept. to use the U.S. merchant marine as a pawn in our foreign policy."

AFL-CIO President George Meany, in an address to the delegates, joined Hall in urging a reassessment of American foreign policy—especially "this farcical policy known as 'detente' under which we give and our enemies take."

Meany said "the time has come, I believe, for a real assessment—a reassessment of what our foreign policy means, and what effect it has on the day-to-day aspects of American life."

To those critics of organized labor, such as Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), who say the trade union movement should not "interfere" with the nation's foreign policy, Meany said he can't and won't buy that.

"The people of this country have a right to have their say about foreign affairs," Meany declared. "They have a right to say to the other countries of the world, and through their representatives, just why we want to protect the American people."

Speaking for the AFL-CIO, he stressed, "come what may we're going to continue to have our say, loudly and clearly, on American foreign policy."

Hall told convention delegates that the U.S. merchant fleet—and the American maritime workers—demand no special advantage, "but we do demand that we not be handicapped in world competition for cargo."

"If the U.S. fleet is to compete equally against state-subsidized and runaway-flag operations, then U.S. vessels must be assured that state-owned fleets do not undercut rates to the point where they drive our ships from the sea," he declared.

Hall said the union is mounting an all-out campaign in support of a bill introduced by Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Ha.) to protect American shipping interests against predatory rate practices by non-national carriers.

He said the steady encroachment of state-owned fleets in U.S. waters, along with the perennial problem of runaway-flag ships, represent the greatest threat to the job security of thousands of workers in maritime and related industries.

Later in the convention, the 300 delegates from the union's 29 affiliated organizations in the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean approved a resolution urging the development of a new national maritime policy.

"In the face of a growing proliferation of cargo-preference laws throughout the world," Hall said, "the U.S. must develop a national cargo policy that will assure the U.S. fleet a substantial share of the carriage of our foreign commerce."

Hall said the policy could be achieved through cargo-preference requirements, bilateral shipping arrangements and other cargo-sharing procedures.

The union also took a strong position against State Dept. "apathy" over continued harassment of American fishing fleets by South American governments, and it urged Congress to break the hold of "Big Oil's" power over the economy.

The Seafarers urged the State Dept. and the White House to take the strongest possible action to release the crews of American vessels that are seized by other nations.

Hall said the union is determined that "the United States must establish a policy of swift retaliation to these seizures, much as it did in retaliating for the Mayaguez incident."

In his address to the convention, Meany ripped into the State Dept. and its secretary, Henry Kissinger, for making concessions to the USSR in the latest grain sales transaction.

"This latest Soviet wheat deal is part and parcel of this policy known as 'detente' which adds up, very simply, to conceding anything and everything to help the Soviet Union —no matter what it does to the American worker," Meany said.

"Under 'detente,' any concession that we can make to the Soviet Union, we should make. This is what the policy of detente is all about in its simplest form. In other words, it's a policy of appeasement."

Also addressing the four-day convention were Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, Pottery Workers President Lester H. Null, Sr., Longshoremen's President Thomas W. Gleason, President Jesse L. Calhoon of the Marine Engineers, Federal Maritime Commissioner Helen Delich Bentley, President Hazel Brown of the union's Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship in Piney Point, Md., and Robert Blackwell, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for maritime affairs.

Null told delegates the 17,000 members of the Pottery Workers look forward to fulfilling their announced intention to affiliate with the Seafarers later this year. The Potters at their convention in July approved constitutional changes paving the way for affiliation.

Null said a membership vote showed 99 percent favored the move. He said he expected the proposed merger would occur soon after the AFL-CIO's convention next month.

A NATIONAL MARITIME POLICY to assure cargo for American ships continues to be "a key goal of the U.S. merchant marine," Seafarers President Paul Hall told delegates to the union's biennial convention. Hall outlined a series of programs to stimulate the American shipping industry and protect the job security of SIU members.

Union Experience Aids Black Female Mediator

Cleveland—Julia L. Greer, former president of a Communications Workers' local and the daughter of a cleaning woman, has been assigned to Cleveland as the nation's first black female federal mediator.

Mrs. Greer, 35, the mother of three, will complete her internship year in January as a commissioner with the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Her mother, Mary Peterson, who died ten years ago, worked for many years cleaning an Auto Workers hall in Detroit.

"My mother always encouraged us to go out and do something rather than sit around and talk about it," Mrs. Greer said.

She is no stranger to the bargaining table or the ways of labor unions. She had been an active trade unionist since graduating from high school in Detroit and joining Michigan Bell Telephone Co. as a clerk. She continued her studies at Wayne State University and became a computer programmer.

For 15 years at Michigan Bell before joining the mediation service in January, she served as a union representative in CWA's 750-member Local 4010 in Detroit. She began as a steward, served five years as vice president and three years as president.

She said she raised her children in a union hall or in a stroller on a picket line. "I used to just hand them to one of the brothers or sisters at the meeting and go up and conduct the proceedings," she said.

Her husband, Donald, is a production worker with the Ford Motor Co. in Detroit, where the family makes its home. She said her husband, a UAW member, encouraged her to continue in her union and career activities.

Despite her role as a unionist, civil rights and women's rights fighter, she said her new job as an impartial mediator also fits into her religious and philosophical background. And, she observed, union and management officials have accepted her as another mediator.

JULIA L. GREER

The mediation service is considered the nation's smallest federal agency. There are only 280 mediators in the country and of those only a dozen are women, most of whom were recruited in the past year and one-half.

Mrs. Greer said FMCS Director W. J. Usery Jr. is responsible for beginning a program to bring women and minorities into the service.

Usery, a former Machinists' official, also named Richard Williams to the regional directorship in Chicago last year. He is the first black regional director in the service.

Mrs. Greer was nationally recognized in 1973 as the only trade unionist on the President's Advisory Committee on the Economic Status of Women.

Utah Convention Drafts Union Rights Legislation

Salt Lake City—A legislative program to strengthen the collective bargaining position of workers in private industry and the public sector will be a key goal of the Utah AFL-CIO in the next session of the state legislature.

The more than 200 delegates to the state federation's 19th annual convention called for the repeal of the Utah "right-to-work" law. In the 20 years that the law has been in force, the state labor organization noted that Utah's per capita income ranking among states has plunged from 26 to 42.

Nearly $1 billion in income is lost annually by Utah workers and the state's economy because of the restrictions on collective bargaining, the federation estimated.

Efforts to win collective bargaining rights for public employes will also be renewed in the state legislature. In the last session, a measure giving union rights to state and local government employes was passed by the House, but lost in the Senate by one vote.

A limited collective bargaining measure approved for fire fighters is now facing a court challenge initiated by local government officials.

Delegates re-elected the state federation's top officers. They are Frank C. Lay, president-secretary-treasurer, and E. W. Inskeep, vice president.

Nine of the 12 executive board members were also re-elected. Three new members elected to the board are L. M. Linde of the Government Employees, Delfina Pacheco of the Communications Workers and Eddie P. Mayne of the Steelworkers.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.) charged in his address to the convention that President Ford's long string of vetoes of anti-recession measures passed by Congress is detrimental to the nation's economy. He charged that Ford is engaging in "do-nothing Hoover tactics" that will not turn the nation's faltering economy around.

Other speakers at the three-day convention included Sen. Frank E. Moss and Rep. Allan T. Howe, both Utah Democrats; President A. F. Grospiron of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, President Wilbur Hobby of the North Carolina AFL-CIO and Regional AFL-CIO Director William Gilbert.

Airline Union Okays Frontier Wage Accord

Chicago—The Air Line Employees ratified a new agreement with Frontier Airlines providing salary boosts of nearly $4,000 a year for some 1,500 passenger service and office workers.

ALEA President Victor J. Herbert said the pact was approved by 95 percent of the members who voted on the agreement. The contract was hammered out on Aug. 1 in Denver with the help of a federal mediator after 10 months of bargaining.

ALEA is an affiliate of the Air Line Pilots. It is currently negotiating with Hughes Airwest and Airlift International. Besides Frontier, ALEA has already settled with Texas International, National, North Central and Northwest.

The Frontier agreement also provides improved sick leave and welfare insurance, a 10th paid holiday and a more liberalized vacation schedule.

Policies for Disaster

WE IN THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT won't accept the idea that our children have to live in a society crippled by massive unemployment, skyrocketing prices, deteriorating public services, municipal bankruptcies, rising crime—in short a collapse in the quality of life of the American people.

We believe that America can weather this storm—with the proper leadership and sound policies that put people above dollars. With such leadership and such policies, America survived the Great Depression of the 1930s.

But this Labor Day 1975, America's domestic economic problems cannot be solved in a vacuum. Those problems are tied in with a world of crisis of terrifying proportions.

There are some Americans—too many I am afraid—who would rather not pay attention to what's happening in the rest of the world. They want to return to the "good old days" of American isolationism. They want to stick their heads in the sand.

But that's just not possible any more. Drive into your local gas station—and you'll run smack into the crisis in the Middle East and Arab oil blackmail.

Walk into your grocery store—and your pocketbook will feel the consequences of the Soviet wheat deal in the name of detente.

So the American labor movement cannot afford to be isolationist. Our members can't afford it. America can't afford it. We all have too big a stake in foreign policy to leave it to the Secretary of State or any one man. We want to have a say, along with all other Americans, in our government's foreign policies.

And right now, we must say that we just don't understand the policies our government is pursuing.

We are told that the Cold War is over. It has been replaced by detente. The meaning of this detente was spelled out in an agreement signed by Nixon and Brezhnev in May of 1972. The essential ingredient was that the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, would cooperate in the interest of world peace. The relations between the two would be based on principles of mutuality and reciprocity.

Detente was supposed to be a two-way street. Neither side would try to take advantage of the other. In the era of detente, as defined and presided over by Henry Kissinger, we have witnessed an unmistakable shift in the world balance of power away from the United States and toward the Soviet Union.

It is time to ask of this policy called detente: what are its fruits? Where are its victories for peace? Where do we see that freedom is being extended in the world? Nowhere! Everywhere we see the dark shadows of communism spreading.

Trade unionism cannot survive in a Communist world. Trade unionism and totalitarianism are like oil and water—they don't mix. In a world ruled by commissars, the workers don't have a chance.

On this Labor Day 1975, the American labor union calls upon the nation's leaders to reassess, not only the disastrous economic policies which have brought misery to millions, but the equally disastrous foreign policies that would stop evil by appeasing it.

These are not two separate problems. They are two sides of the same problem. A strong America can only survive in a free world. And the freedom of the world depends on a strong America—an economically strong America, a spiritually strong America.

—From a radio broadcast by AFL-CIO President George Meany over the NBC network.

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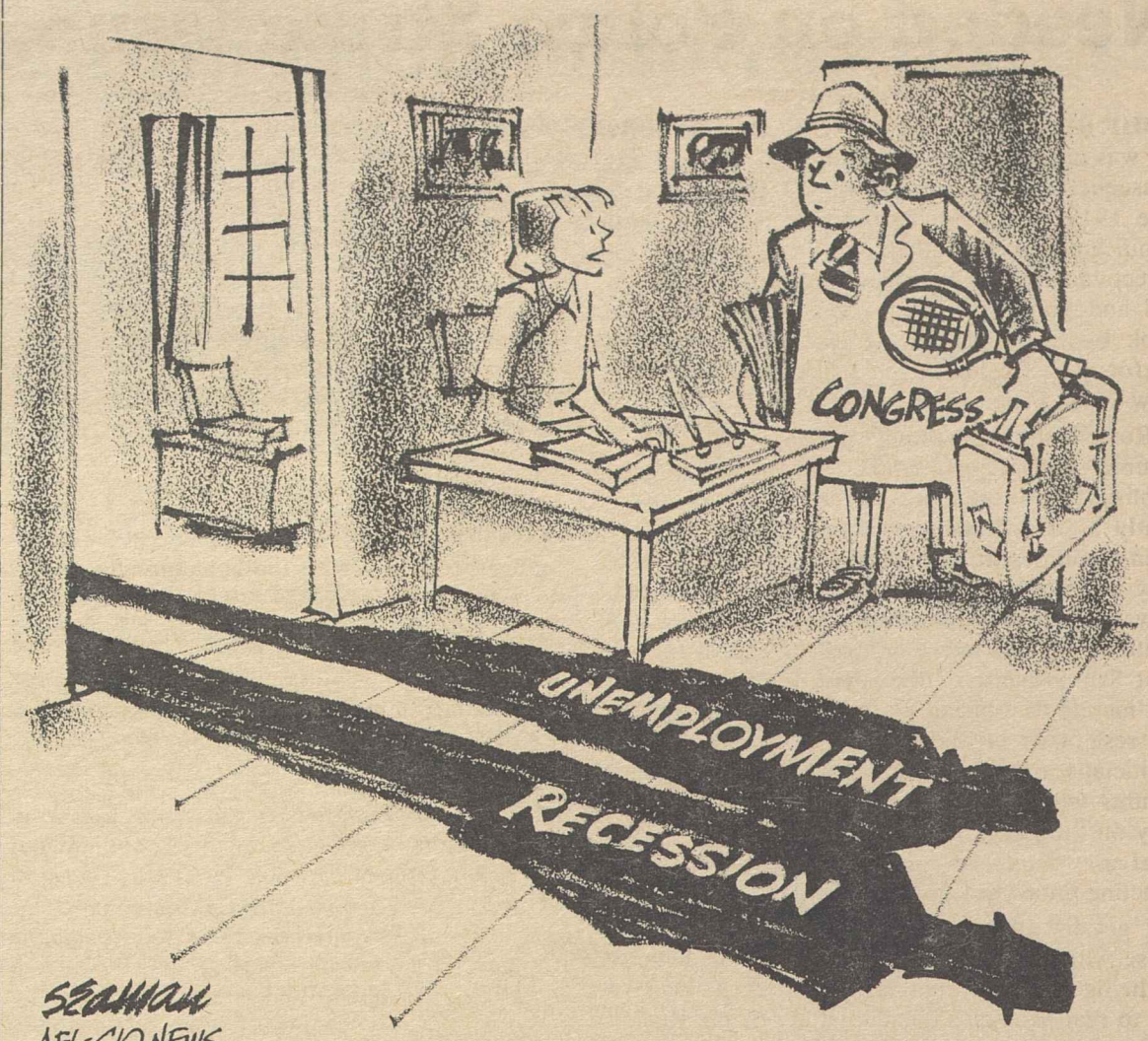


A Word Edgewise:

State Dept. Silences Dignify Communist Rhetoric Swindle

By John P. Roche

ONE OF THE PREREQUISITES for being a good Communist is a massive capacity for "chutzpah" (that wonderful Yiddish word that is defined as a youth who has murdered his parents asking for clemency from court because he is an orphan). A well trained apparatchik can look you blandly in the eye and tell you there is no crime under socialism because, by definition, crime is an outgrowth of a capitalist mentality. In this weird definitional universe, the use of insane asylums for dissenters is actually quite logical: only a nut could reject "the norms of socialist legality."

Thus when Angela Davis was being feted in the Soviet Union as a martyr to capitalist oppression, she was asked to protest the arrest of Czechoslovak dissenters. Utterly unfazed, she replied that they were not victims of capitalist oppression, but obvious anti-social types.

On the broader scene, Moscow has for years been demanding that everybody endorse the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states. This has a certain hilarious quality about it, until you realize it is no joke. The Brezhnev Doctrine, by definition, is not intervention in the internal affairs of other "socialist" states; it is merely fraternal assistance to the righteous elements confronted by hooligans, fascist wreckers and paid agents of imperialism.

It was wholly in character that the Soviet media accused the West of violating the Helsinki agreement by giving aid and comfort to the democratic majority in Portugal. By this definition (and other similar semantic tricks which convert freedom of information into legalized censorship), what is theirs is theirs, and what is not theirs is up for grabs.

Our characteristic response to this sort of rhetoric swindle is to play dead. Instead of turning their own weapons on the "potential adversary" (as a "senior official traveling with Secretary Kissinger" would phrase it), we respond with the solemnity of a Catholic funeral director presiding over the interment of a cardinal-archbishop. And by taking this nonsense seriously, we dignify it.

This is not only true at the governmental level: many years ago the Soviet delegates in every international scholarly organization orchestrated a demand for the various bodies to condemn American treatment of political prisoners. It was an agit-prop caper, pure and simple.

The leaders of the American Political Science Association asked my advice, and I suggested that at the next session of the International Political Science Association we introduce a resolution calling for the scrutiny of prison conditions for politicals in both the United States and the Soviet Union. However, the investigators from the U.S. must be drawn from the many political scientists (like myself) who publicly condemned the Smith Act convictions of the Communists; and, on the Soviet side, from professors who had similarly denounced the Moscow purges—a non-existent category.

This, in my perhaps immodest view, would really pass our Soviet colleagues the hot penny. But the powers that be in the APSA wrote it off as characteristic Roche frivolity and prepared a detailed reply to the preposterous gambit.

WHAT BRINGS THIS TO MIND is that for six months I have been rankling over Hanoi's suggestion that the Vietnamese Communists would be willing to resume normal relations with us if we were prepared to live up to the Paris "peace" agreement, particularly with regard to economic aid for Vietnamese rehabilitation. My six initial responses have no place in a family newspaper, and, unless my memory is distorted the State Dept. took a dive, sounding rather like a flatulent whale.

Now, at last I have found an adequate response, passed by the liberal American Veterans Committee (to which I belong) at its annual convention last June. The AVC agreed that normalization of relations would be desirable; then turned the sword around:

"We suggest," it voted, "that this . . . can be expedited by both sides living up to the Paris Peace Accords. In particular we call upon the Communist authorities . . . to live up to their signature to agreements . . . establishing democratic rights and liberties, holding free elections, and the creation of appropriate bodies to insure the rights of all citizens of Vietnam to participate in the political process. (As well as fulfilling the Paris agreement on) Americans missing in action. Genuine (Communist) efforts to show good faith rather than publicize propaganda will find an appropriate American response." Nicely done, AVC, nicely done. Send a copy to the State Dept.

New Book Can Help:

Fair, Reasonable Discussion Needed on Police Strike Issue

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

THE RECENT SAN FRANCISCO police strike was only the third or fourth such strike of any consequence in the history of the United States. The 1919 Boston strike was the first and most significant, but we had to wait until 1975 for an objective study of its causes and far-reaching social and political consequences — a fascinating book by historian Francis Russell, "A City in Terror: The Boston Police Strike" (Viking Press, New York, $10).

Russell's timing—though purely coincidental, I assume—was almost perfect. If his book had been published in the 1950s or 1960s or even as recently as two or three years ago, it would have been of interest to his fellow-historians but probably not to the general public. Coming as it did, however, in the immediate wake of the 1974 Baltimore police strike and on the eve of the recent San Francisco strike, it is required reading not merely for specialists in labor history but for the rest of us as well and, more specifically, for politicians, editorial writers, columnists, and other pundits who may feel obliged to comment publicly on the issues involved in what promises, for weal or woe, to be a continuing rash of strikes affecting public health and safety.

I get the impression, however, that many of those who are currently speaking to these issues in the light of the recent San Francisco strike have yet to read Russell's detailed study of the Boston strike or, in any event, have yet to grasp the moral of that disastrous episode in American labor history. In other words, many of those who have commented publicly on the San Francisco strike seem to be concerned exclusively with ways and means of crushing police strikes when they unfortunately occur and would appear to have little or no interest in their underlying causes.

They remember that, in the case of the Boston strike, the then Governor of Massachusetts, Calvin Coolidge, catapulted himself into the White House by holding to the absolute position that "there is no right to strike against the public safety by anybody, anywhere, anytime." They applaud the laconic Coolidge for having mercilessly broken the Boston strike by permanently firing all those who took part in it, but, with few exceptions, they completely ignore the strikers' side of the story.

Russell, by contrast, tells that side of the story very objectively and with great sympathy for the men involved in the strike. In the words of one reviewer, Russell "emphasizes the true character of the strike—an attempt by ordinary working men, working on the basis of non-ideological assumptions of human decency, to combat highly ideological conservatives who had no sense of decency but did understand the fears of many Americans."

This is not to suggest that Russell's book is a defense of the Boston strike as such or a theoretical argument in favor of the right of policemen in general to employ the weapon of the strike even as a last resort. To the contrary, insofar as I can tell from reading his objective study, Russell is probably of the opinion that policemen should forego the right to strike. I agree with him—up to a point. But to say that policemen, as a general rule, should voluntarily forego the right to strike and at the same time to ignore their side of the story (as Gov. Coolidge and the Boston Establishment did in 1919) would be to miss the point of Russell's timely book.

The point is that some way must be found to balance the public's right to uninterrupted police protection with the corresponding rights of the police themselves. Concentrating exclusively on the former to the neglect of the latter might have worked for Coolidge and the Boston Establishment in 1919, but it would almost certainly be counterproductive in the '70s.

As indicated above, many of those who have taken a public stand against the recent San Francisco strike have yet to learn this lesson. William Safire, a columnist for the New York Times and a former ghost writer for President Nixon, is a case in point. His column, "When Cops Become Robbers," in a recent issue of the Times awkwardly tries to out-Coolidge Gov. Coolidge himself. "An entire (San Francisco)," he says, "was kidnapped and held for ransom. . . . Whenever policemen put their guns to a city's head, they create a police state. If a policeman has a right to strike, then a fireman has a right to ignore an alarm, a surgeon has a right to walk away from an operating table, and a soldier has a right to desert under fire. These are all acts against the public safety. Dereliction of duty is a crime, and not a prelude to collective bargaining."

THAT'S A PATENTLY FALLACIOUS line of argument. Safire knows perfectly well that, within recent weeks, thousands of medical doctors in San Francisco itself and in many other cities have, in effect, gone on strike because they could not get satisfactory insurance coverage to protect themselves against malpractice suits. Whether they should have gone on strike for this reason is another matter. The fact is, however, that they did so (without a word of criticism from Mr. Safire) because they felt they had no other means of protecting their legitimate economic interests.

Well, policemen also have legitimate economic interests and, one would hope that, as a general rule, they might be able to defend these interests without going on strike. They are certainly entitled to as much public understanding and public sympathy as are doctors, for example, when they decide, in the end, that they have no recourse but to withhold their services temporarily.

Ford Policies Stall Recovery:

Depressed Housing Industry Lags Far Behind U.S. Goals

DESPITE CLAIMS of the Ford Administration that the recession has been curbed, there are few if any signs of significant improvement in the depression-hit housing industry before year's end, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter said on Labor News Conference.

Renewal of an upward trend of mortgage interest rates and price tags on both new and existing homes that are beyond the reach of most American families will combine to keep demand weak for some time, Schechter said. He predicted that housing starts for all of 1975 won't top 1.1 million, less than half the number to keep pace with the nation's housing needs, and far short of the vigorous pace that would lead an economic recovery.

Schechter said that the five-point housing program spelled out last month by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, if adopted, would boost the number of housing starts in the next six months by some 300,000 units.

Schechter said that although there is a "good-sized backlog of completed or nearly completed housing," nearly all of it is at the "high end of the home-price distribution." He said that even the 25 percent of American families with incomes high enough to buy homes in a market where the median price is $40,000 are already well-housed. He also pointed out that those higher income families are also "quite sensitive to the fact that there are cycles in interest rates," and would defer home purchases at a time when mortgage interest rates are 9 percent and higher.

Schechter scored the Administration's refusal to relax its high interest rate, tight money supply policies, which have now been "pursued for a longer period and in a more determined manner than ever before." He charged that it is a "deliberate policy to keep the economy from recovering quickly," and that housing cannot move forward until that policy is relaxed.

Reporters questioning Schechter on Labor News Conference were Ash Gerecht of the Housing Affairs Letter and Paul Steiger of the Los Angeles Times. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE PRIMARY THRUST of the 1974 federal campaign spending law was to meet the public outcry against the corruption of the electoral system through money legally and illegally contributed and spent.

Now there is a many-sided onslaught on the law charging that it violates the Constitution, particularly the First Amendment's guarantees for fundamental freedoms.

This charge, by the strange combination of Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.) and former Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.), was rejected in a 6-2 opinion by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Buckley and McCarthy have filed an appeal to the Supreme Court so the issue remains.

The basic argument of Buckley and McCarthy is that the law's new limits on campaign contributions and expenditures curbed the freedom of contributors and candidates to express themselves in the political marketplace and that public financing discriminated against minor parties and lesser-known candidates.

In its majority decision, the court declared:

"The corrosive influence of money blights our democratic processes. . . . The excesses revealed by this record—the campaign funding, the quid pro quo for contributions—support the legislative judgment that the situation not only must not be allowed to deteriorate further but that the present situation cannot be tolerated by a government that professes to be a democracy.

"The legislative branch, with the concurrence of the executive, has decided in this legislation that the time for corrective, effective action is now. . . . These latest efforts on the part of our government to cleanse its democratic processes should at least be given a chance to prove themselves. Certainly they should not be rejected because they might have some incidental, not clearly defined, effect on the First Amendment freedoms."

The campaign law has three basic approaches:

- It requires the strict disclosure of sources and uses of campaign money to be policed by an independent six-member Federal Election Commission, which has the power to issue regulations and render advisory opinions on the meaning of the law.
- It sets strict limits on individual and organizational contributions to campaigns and on spending for House, Senate and presidential races.
- It establishes the first public financing of presidential election campaigns. The money will come from the presidential campaign fund created in 1971 to finance presidential elections through a voluntary income tax checkoff.

EVEN ITS MOST ARDENT supporters would not contend that the law is the ultimate answer. Free elections and untrammeled suffrage in the most immaculate setting may never be achieved but a healthy move in this direction has been taken.

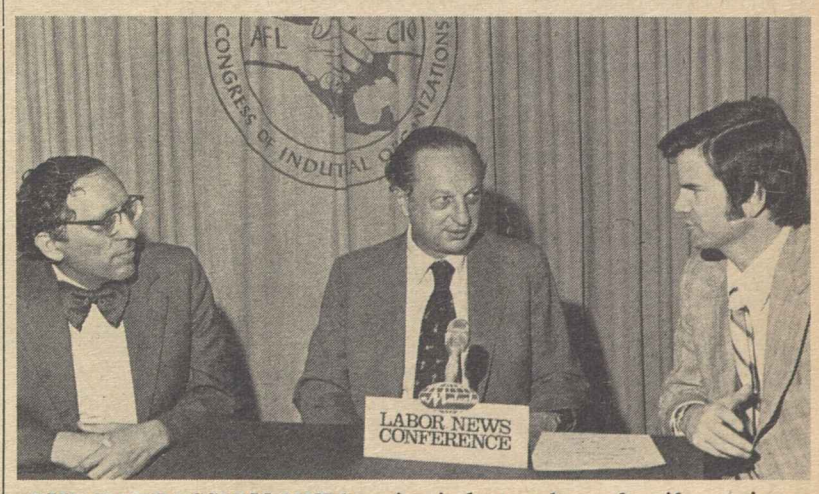
Still, there is great unhappiness in some quarters. For example, many believe that the law gives the incumbent an advantage and that minor parties receive minimal assistance. Others want to extend the public financing features of the law to other federal offices and there has been a major push in Congress for this.

Possibly the most controversial development is the effort of the corporate community, led by the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, in the area of corporate political funding.

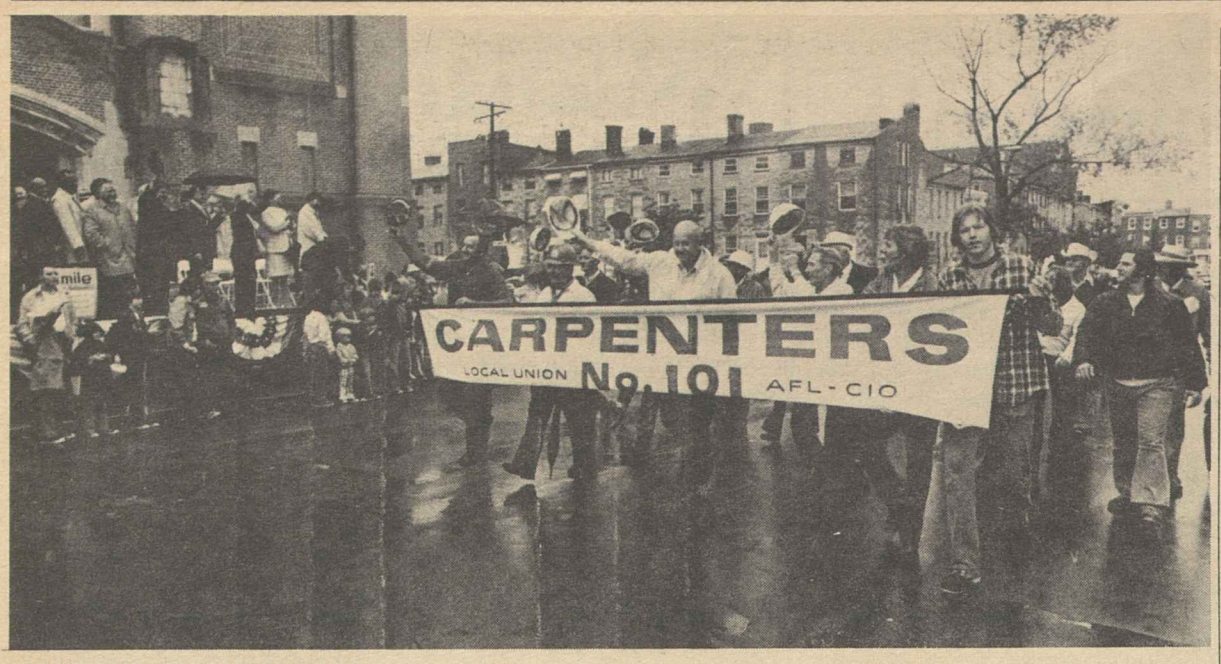
The Federal Election Commission is now reviewing a "good government" gimmick of the Sun Oil Corp., U.S. Steel and other firms. This would provide that employes could give to a corporate political fund and the money would be given to candidates selected by the companies.

How easy it would be for a corporation to increase the pay of its executives by $25,000 who would then turn the increase over to the fund.

This plan "is probably the breakthrough that most companies have been waiting for," Buck Byers, fund raiser of the Republican National Committee, has been quoted as saying. "Quite certainly, a great many corporations will establish this type of fund soon."



THE DEPRESSION-HIT housing industry shows few if any signs of significant improvement, even though the Administration claims the recession has been curbed, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter, center, charged on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Ash Gerecht of the Housing Affairs Letter, left, and Paul Steiger of the Los Angeles Times.



MARCHING CARPENTERS in Baltimore's Labor Day parade let out a rain-drenched cheer and a salute as they pass the reviewing stand. Hundreds of Maryland trade unionists participated in the parade and a union label show that followed.

Flight Attendants Strike Over Bargaining Stall

Government mediators attempted to iron out differences in a contract dispute between National Airlines and some 1,200 members of the Flight Attendants which erupted in a Labor Day walkout.

The strike, which effectively grounded all the carrier's flight's, followed 10 hours of last-minute negotiations. The AFA, an affiliate of the Air Line Pilots, charged the company with irresponsibility in the negotiations.

While talks have been in progress since November 1973, the union observed, National did not present a single proposal on wages until 10 days ago—21 months after negotiations began and five days prior to the Sept. 1 strike deadline set under the Railway Labor Act, which governs bargaining in the airline industry.

The union said National's response to the union's wage proposals was met with a refusal to bargain further.

"Rather than continue meaningful bargaining efforts, the company has refused to present any counterproposals," the union said. "Such irresponsibility at this late date illustrates the company's lack of desire to reach an agreement."

The strike followed a 30-day cooling-off period called for by the National Mediation Board. The Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service also was involved in the negotiations.

Wages, pension benefits and working conditions kept the two sides apart. The union said it stands ready to engage in "the type of meaningful, intensive negotiations which are now needed to reach agreement" and end the strike.

The walkout is the second major strike against National in less than 10 months. The Machinists struck the firm for three and one-half months over a wage dispute last year.

Army Sets Up Apprentice Training Plan

A new apprenticeship program is in operation at Fort Belvoir, Va., to provide soldiers with credits for civilian skilled trades as Operating Engineers.

The program was set up under an agreement between the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Apprenticeship & Training and the Defense Dept. with the cooperation of the IUOE and contractor organizations.

Soldiers at the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Belvoir working as heavy equipment operators and repairmen are able to volunteer for the creditation program.

To complete their apprenticeship, they will take 6,000 hours or up to four years of on-the-job training and 432 hours of correspondence courses. If they leave the Army before completion of the program, they will get credit for the work and experience completed.

After courses are completed, the Labor Dept. will issue a certificate that will be recognized by the IUOE, the Associated General Contractors of America and the National Constructors Association.

Reese Hammond, IUOE research director, noted that the Operating Engineers have been working with the Defense Dept. on apprenticeship programs since the early 1960s. The department formally adopted the IUOE apprenticeship standards a year ago, he said.

The overall agreement signed by the Labor and Defense departments in July gives Army commanders authority to establish apprenticeship programs in a number of skilled occupations.

Prior to the agreement, it had been difficult for ex-soldiers to show proof of their service training and experience to civilian employers and joint apprenticeship committees.

Labor Backs Bill to Curb 'Redlining'

(Continued from Page 1)

other low-income families can afford to buy them.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, in a letter to all members of the Senate urging support for the 1975 Mortgage Disclosure Act, observed:

"The presumption of lenders that property values in such neighborhoods will decline then becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy, because homes generally cannot be sold without mortgage credit availability.

"Neighborhood deterioration and abandonment of sound homes follow, to the detriment of the area and the country, as well as the individuals who are deprived of the opportunity to obtain housing."

Under the Proxmire-Stevenson bill, lending institutions would have to make available for public inspection compilations of annual mortgage lending volume in census tracts within the metropolitan area and in counties outside the area.

Savings depositors could then influence lending policies to prevent the denial of credit for home purchases in their neighborhoods.

Biemiller noted that because of the housing shortage, "the ability to purchase existing homes is critical." The proposed bill would help to "increase the supply of necessary mortgage credit for older neighborhoods and to eliminate a practical obstacle to equal opportunity in housing," Biemiller said.

CONSUMER BOYCOTT leaflets urging tennis buffs to avoid buying sporting goods manufactured by the AMF-Head Division are distributed at the U.S. Open Tennis Championships at Forest Hills, N.Y., by Clothing Workers. The ACWA has been striking the Head skis and tennis racket plant at Boulder, Colo., since May. The boycott has the support of the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

Momentum Broken:

Federal Cuts Threat To Education Gains

The quality of American education, from a child's development to an adult's continuing education, markedly increased in the 1960s, thanks in large part to valuable affirmative action programs and adequate federal funding of U.S. public schools.

But since the start of the 1970s, reports Sandra Feldman, a vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, the government has changed gears — in education and in economic policies—with the result that much of the progress of the 1960s has been reversed.

Feldman, who is New York State's representative on the Education Commission of the States, notes in the AFL-CIO magazine, the Federationist, that the federal government's commitment to public education has dropped off ominously in the past six years.

"The Nixon-Ford policies are directly responsible for the beginning of a dangerous decline in the education system after the successes of the Great Society," she charges in the magazine's August issue.

The current atmosphere of recession, federal cutbacks and high unemployment "threatens to set the schools back many years, and even decades," the author declares.

Spurred by enactment of the 1965 federal Elementary & Secondary Education Act, state and local governments greatly increased their expenditures for public education in the '60s. The overall effect was a series of dramatic gains for young people in the nation's public schools, Feldman observes.

Perhaps the most startling gains were made by minority group youth. In 1950, the median number of years of school completed by American blacks between the ages of 25 and 29 was just 8.6, or 3.5 years fewer than for white Americans in the same age group.

By 1970, Feldman notes, the median black achievement was 12.2 years of schooling, only four-tenths of 1 percent below the white average. Reading levels generally improved in the 1960s also, and dropout rates fell toward the end of the decade.

A March 1975 study by the Health, Education & Welfare Dept., however, revealed a puzzling downturn in the quality of public school education. Reading scores now are falling. Feldman traces much of the discouraging drop in education gains to "profit-motivated" programs inspired in the Nixon-Ford years.

These programs, including performance contracts, vouchers and cost-effectiveness "accountability," began to replace the solid educational programs that had produced gains in the 1960s.

Exorbitant interest rates fostered by Republican policy-makers and the Federal Reserve Board had a drastic impact on the operating funds of local school districts.

The rates caused a depression in the housing industry and mass unemployment. As a result, there was a sharp reduction in the school districts' tax base which provides money for the classroom.

Inflation drove school costs up, and the taxpayer—looking at a thinner wallet—was reluctant to spend for education. The property tax is now nearly exhausted as a source of revenue for public education. And state governments are loathe to pick up the burden.

But, Feldman notes, "federal performance has been the most miserly." Ford's proposed budget for his first year in office allocated less than 2 percent for support of the nation's public schools.

The result of all this, the author observes, is that the 45 million U.S. public school children—in urban systems as well as suburban and rural—will be jammed into overcrowded classes this fall and into still more crowded classrooms in 1977.

Another result, however, is the growing realization that the quality of public schools depends on the health of the national economy and that education cannot be considered separately from workers' overall needs.

"Teachers show a growing awareness that the livelihood and careers of teachers and the viability of the public school depend on the well-being of other workers," Feldman notes. This is manifested in the quickening pace of unionization among teachers.

A decade ago barely 100,000 teachers belonged to the AFT. They constituted about 5 percent of the nation's teaching force.

"Today the figure is climbing toward 500,000—or one in every four U.S. public school teachers," Feldman points out. "And even the independent National Education Association, long opposed to collective bargaining, is being forced to act like a union."

At the same time, the movement toward teacher unity is gaining momentum and with as many as 200,000 teachers facing layoffs over the coming year, the two big teacher organizations are realizing that "it is a waste of time for the AFT and the NEA to fight each other in jurisdictional contests."

As teachers move closer and closer to a clear and full recognition of the identity of their interests with those of other workers, Feldman concludes, "they see expanding opportunities for public education to make an even greater contribution to American society than it has in the past."

Meany Cites Need for New Priorities

Following are excerpts from an interview with AFL-CIO President George Meany conducted on Aug. 28. Reporters questioning Meany were Bob Dobkin, Associated Press; Sara Fritz, United Press International; Jim Hyatt, Wall Street Journal; Dale McFeatters, Scripps-Howard; Damon Stetson, New York Times; Fred Fraley, U.S. News & World Report; Jim Strong, Chicago Tribune, and Bob Kaiser, Washington Post. Also present was AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland; Thomas Donahue, executive assistant to Meany; and Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller.

Q: Here we are with another Labor Day coming up. How does the labor movement look to you now?

MEANY: It looks very much alive. We have a lot of problems—the problems of unemployment and inflation, the same as everybody else. But I think the labor movement is in good shape. I think that we're going to be just as active as we've always been. And I'm quite sure we're going to be politically active in the coming months to see if we can't change the general picture through a change in the political picture next November. So, all in all, I think the American labor movement is in good shape.

Q: What kind of change in the political picture do you contemplate next November?

MEANY: I'd like to see a liberal Democrat in the White House.

Q: Any particular liberal Democrat?

MEANY: No, no, no. I don't have any particular candidate. I'd like to see a change in the Executive Branch.

Q: What is your assessment of the state of the Democratic Party at this point? You used the word disarray a year ago.

MEANY: I think that it's still pretty much in disarray, but I do think there is a chance that this would straighten out because, after all, they're looking for a winner, and the lessons of 1972 can't possibly be lost on them. There is one thing politicians want and political parties want—they want to win. And if they want to win, I'm sure that they must realize that they can't go out of a convention in 1976 as a divided party.

Q: What role do you see for labor for 1976?

MEANY: Role for the AFL-CIO? None whatsoever. I mean, when you say "labor," you mean the AFL-CIO. There's no role at all. There is a role for a good many labor people who happen to be Democrats. And the role that they will play will be as Democrats first and members of trade unions second. And, naturally, if there is a large contingent of trade union members—members of the AFL-CIO—at the Democratic National Convention we will certainly try to have some influence on it.

Q: You don't have a problem with an individual—a labor union person—who is a Democrat on his own running as a delegate out there?

MEANY: None whatsoever. None whatsoever. In fact, the way I feel about it, the more trade unionists who make the race for delegates to the convention—the more they do that—the better I like that, as far as I'm concerned. But that doesn't mean that we're going to try and run the Democratic Party or let them run us.

Q: How would you label this current Congress?

MEANY: Well, I'd like to see more positive leadership there. I think they are playing games with the President, or playing games in opposition to the President. And I don't think they are doing very well, I'd like to see them fight the President on this question of putting a ceiling on the budget. Instead of fighting, they seem to be going along with him, and I just don't agree with that policy.

I think what we need in this country is jobs. And I think what we need is government expenditure to create jobs. I can't see any way we are going to get out of this present dilemma without that.

Now, the President puts a ceiling on his budget and Congress doesn't accept the same ceiling, but they go along with the idea of a ceiling of a few billion dollars over that, and that is very disappointing.

Q: Tell us your reading of this President. What kind of a guy is he?

MEANY: He's a nice guy. He's a likeable guy. A very, very straight, truthful guy. There's nothing tricky about him. And, on a personal basis, it's pretty hard to come to dislike him.

Q: How do you think he sees this country and where it's going?

MEANY: I don't think he sees it too well. I think that he's had 25 years as a conservative congressman from a conservative district. I don't think he paid too much attention to what was happening to the country during those years. I think he followed a conservative line. He followed his own party line and so forth. And I think he came to the presidency without the proper experience. I don't think his legislative experience meant a great deal over those years.

Q: What about his priorities on this economic crisis of the last year and a half?

MEANY: His priorities all point to big business. They all point to helping big business. He espouses the old "trickle-down" theory. He does it all the time. He did it the other day when he said that the thing to help employment is to cut taxes for big business, give them incentives. Now, that theory has been outmoded, as far as I'm concerned, for 40 years.

Q: What was he like in this meeting on the grain boycott?

MEANY: No problem talking to him. Very affable. We didn't meet on the grain boycott, you know. We met on the whole question of selling wheat to the Soviet Union and what it might do to the American consumers.

Q: Do you see any way of resolving this impasse, any compromise?

MEANY: The question of what to do about the wheat sales and what they are doing to the American consumers is a problem for the President of the United States. I have no proposals to make, except to him. To say: "Mr. President, you should do something about this. We got ripped of in 1972, we are about to get ripped off again, and you should see that we don't get ripped off."

Oh, I've got some ideas. Maybe we ought to do what the Canadians do. I can tell you basically what we should do. We should tell the Soviet Union, you cannot deal with private American citizens until we in the United States of America, as a government, are allowed to deal with private Soviet citizens. Even up. You know, give and take. That's what we should say to them. What right have they got to come in and deal with Cargill and these greedy, profit-hungry grain operators, to deal with them and play with our market, and get our food resources at a cheap price and then cause the American housewife to pay?

Q: Are you going to take the issue to Congress? Do you think the ultimate solution to this grain impasse is there?

MEANY: I think the issue is going to get to Congress. I don't know if we are going to take it in the form of legislation, but I'm sure that Congress is getting the same kind of mail we are getting. And I'm sure that a protest will come in there and the question is: Are we going to allow the Soviet Union to manipulate our grain market to the detriment of the American consumer? Why should we? They use their Arab friends and they use oil as a weapon against us. Well, we've got the food. All of these countries—every country in the world that has a wheat shortage—have got to come to us. We are the only supplier. We supply all the surplus needs of every country in the world, and why should we let the Soviet Union manipulate our grain market to our detriment?

Q: The recent events in New York and San Francisco suggest that the American labor movement may be moving into a new role in American life. The public employes are going to become the most visible members and your most controversial members. How do you feel about that and what do you see in the future in this field?

MEANY: Well, I don't know what you mean by the most visible and controversial members. The public employes sector is responding to organization, something they did not do many years ago. Now they are responding—cops, firefighters, everybody wants to join a union. Even the old NEA—the old, anti-union, teachers group, the National Education Association, they are starting to act and sound like a union. And, as far as I'm concerned, the more that we get in the unions, fine. I think public employes should be organized into unions. I have always felt that way.

Q: Do you think they have special responsibilities in terms of being public employes and refraining from strike action or . . . ?

MEANY: I don't think they have special responsibilities in the sense that they should not have the right to strike. If the experience over the years had indicated that they were special, then they had to be treated special. In other words, if you are going to say to a public employe, "You can't strike. Your neighbor, he's a bricklayer; he can strike. He works for a contractor. But you can't strike because you are working for the general public." Then you've got to give him something in return. You've got to give him, to show him, he can get a decent wage without striking. You've got to guarantee a decent grievance procedure, because he isn't going to have a union to take care of him. Now, if you can take care of all of these things without a union, then there's no reason to join a union.

But that was not the experience. The experience was that these people got kicked around. They were told, "Well, you can't strike because you are working for the general public and, because you can't strike, you can't get a wage increase. You can't have anything to say about your working conditions on the job. They started to give them an arbitration procedure years ago—this was the first gimmick. What the hell! The arbitration procedure was handled by the employer. In other words, guys who were the arbitrators were their bosses and, of course, that didn't work. So the net result was that they have turned to unions.

And as far as striking is concerned—that's really an academic question. If you hurt them enough, if you kick them around enough, I don't care who they are, they will strike.

Q: You touched briefly earlier on the economy. You said Mr. Ford is pro-business, but just what kind of state or direction is the economy headed right now? We just had a large increase in the CPI indicating possible return to high inflation rates.

MEANY: And the Wholesale Price Index went up and that has not been felt in the CPI yet. It will not be felt for maybe another six weeks or another 2 months. I think we're still going to have high levels of inflation, and we're certainly going to have high levels of unemployment. I don't think there can be any definition of the word "recovery" that doesn't include the question of unemployment and also inflation. Of course, maybe business profits are up, but that doesn't seem to be helping unemployment and certainly the inflation rate.

Q: I've got another philosophical question. Is labor becoming a force for protectionism in the American economy?

MEANY: The labor movement in this country, in all my time up till five or six years ago, was completely free trade. We were for free trade from the time of the Hull reciprocal trade pact. We felt we could compete and we did compete with foreign competitors, with foreign industries and foreign labor. But the world of trade today is not the world of trade of 1936. The world of trade is completely changed. We are not facing competition from French manufacturers, or German manufacturers, or Italian or Japanese manufacturers. We are facing competition from American manufacturers who are operating in those countries.

And they are operating with all sorts of tax advantages and tax gimmicks. So, as a result, we have certainly made a definite turn from our free trade position. To say we are outright protectionists—I wouldn't say that. But when you take the clothing industry and the appliance industry and the way they are losing jobs at the rate that they are losing them, it's only natural that we are going to look to our government for protection. You can't buy a radio in this country that's made in this country. You can't buy a black and white TV that's made in this country.

Q: How do you feel about the trade act payments for the unions whose members are suffering?

MEANY: I don't think that's the answer really. I think that's a panacea.

Nationwide Celebration:

U.S. Workers Open Bicentennial Year

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany, however, continued the tradition of reviewing the immediate problems affecting the nation's workers as he explored the impact of the recession, unemployment, inflation and the Russian grain deal.

He had discussed these major areas of concern in detail in an interview conducted by several newspaper, magazine and wire service reporters before the Labor Day weekend. **(Excerpts, Page 7).**

Also exploring the nation's economic problems on NBC's Meet the Press program were five union leaders who strongly criticized the Ford Administration's policies as failing to effectively curb the recession.

To help revive the faltering economy, they called for a number of remedies proposed by the AFL-CIO in its jobs program, including the creation of public works projects, for the jobless, a permanent income tax reduction and subsidies for home mortgages.

Appearing on the program were Presidents I. W. Abel of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees and Leonard Woodcock of the Auto Workers, plus John Ryor, president-designate of the National Education Association.

Typical of the numerous Labor Day observances across the country was a union label show at the Baltimore Civic Center which was followed by a variety program featuring several headline performers. A rain-drenched parade of union members preceded the afternoon and evening events in Baltimore.

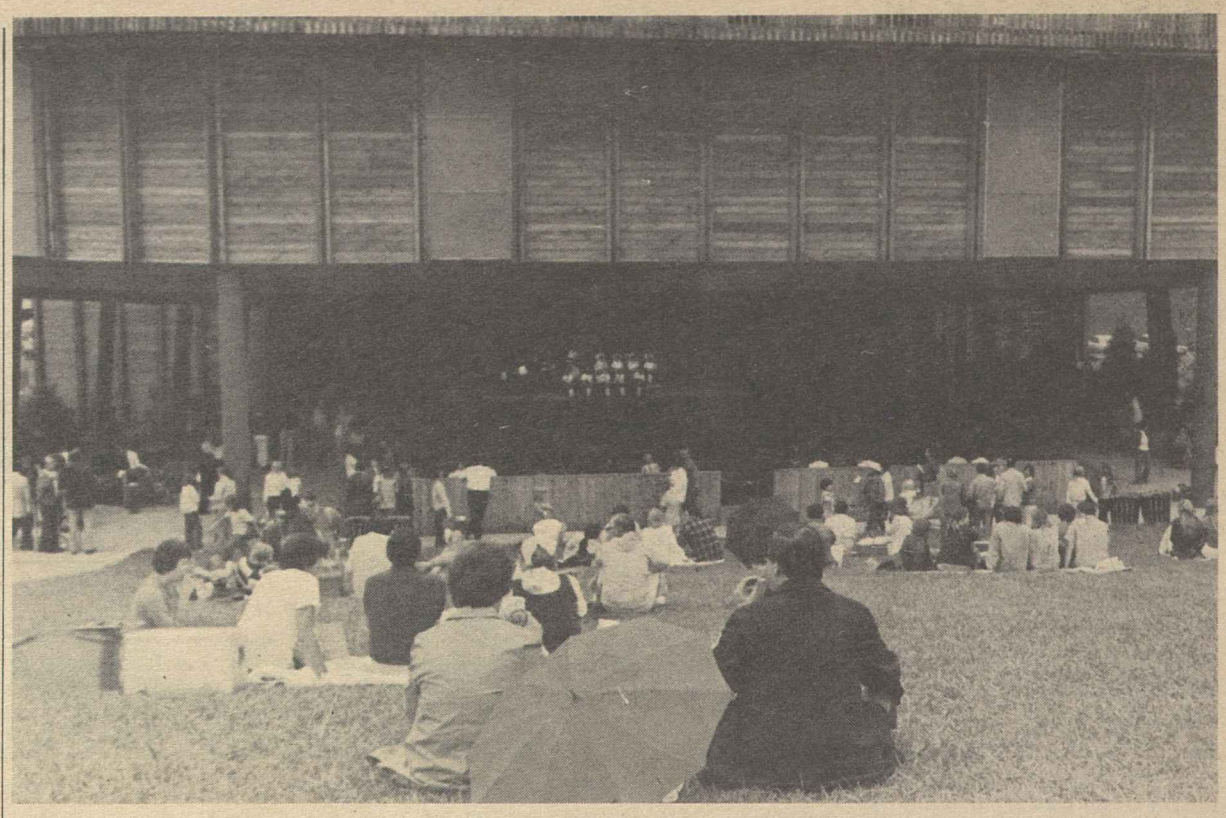
In many states labor organizations participated in state fair exhibitions highlighting the Working Americans Bicentennial Project.

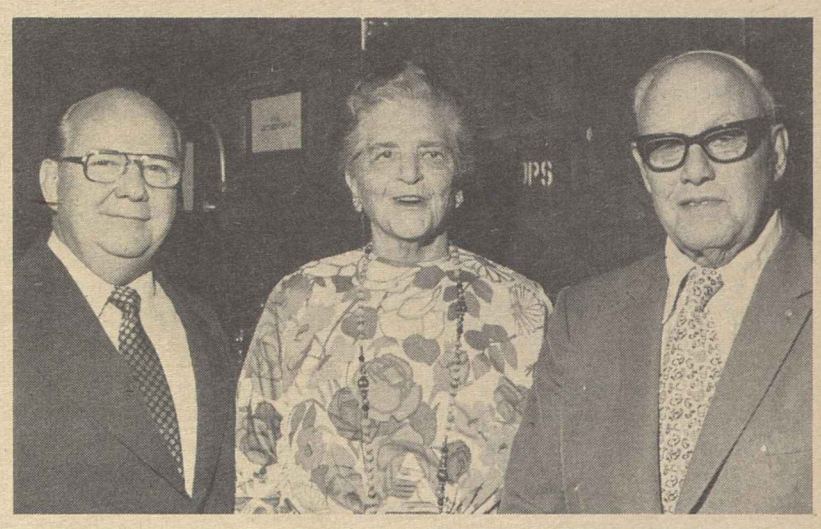
Kentucky union members, working with community groups, staged a three-day festival at Louisville's Riverfront Plaza. Demonstrations of union craft skills and musical concerts highlighted the event.

The Maine AFL-CIO sponsored what was billed as the largest public barbecue in the state's history and field day events to raise funds for a children's hospital.

Numerous musical concerts in the Labor Day observances were sponsored by the Musicians' Music Performance Trust Funds and local AFM groups.

The six-hour program launching the national labor bicentennial at Wolf Trap featured several well-known performers, including Theodore Bikel, president of Actors' Equity, folksinger Odetta, John Raitt and Oscar Brand, in addition to amateur groups such as the Folklore Society of Greater Washington.





ON-AND-OFF SHOWERS cause a bit of a problem for picnickers at the Labor Day observance at Wolf Trap Farm Park in Vienna, Va. The musical salute was sponsored by the Musicians' Music Performance Trust Funds with the cooperation of the AFL-CIO and the National Park Service. Joining in the observance, at right, are Sec.-Treas. J. Martin Emerson of the Musicians, Mrs. Jouett Shouse, donor and chairman of the Wolf Trap executive committee, and Federation President George Meany.

Rail Shopcraft Strike Blocked For 60 Days

A scheduled Sept. 4 strike by the four shopcraft unions that make up the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. was blocked by the appointment by President Ford of a special factfinding panel to study the dispute.

The move puts off any strike for at least 60 days. Ford, who took the step under the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, named Prof. Charles M. Rehmus of the University of Michigan's Institute of Labor & Industrial Relations as chairman of the three-member panel.

Under the Railway Labor Act, the emergency board must make its recommendations within 30 days. The disputants then have another 30-day, no-strike period to consider the proposals.

The four unions, which have been without a contract since their old one expired last Dec. 31, are the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers, Carmen and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Veto Override Pushed On Oil Price Controls

(Continued from Page 1)

"It is absolutely essential that the Congress protect the American people from a further escalation of inflation," Meany declared.

"The President and his spokesmen talk a good line against inflation, but the plain facts are that his energy policy and the Russian grain deal are the two principal reasons for a renewal of double-digit inflation," Meany charged.

"An increase in oil prices would increase the cost of everything. The only beneficiaries of an end to oil price controls would be the giant multinational oil companies whose profits are already a national scandal and who seek a total monopoly of the energy industry."

Old oil accounts for about 60 percent of domestic production and about 40 percent of all oil consumed in the United States. Under controls its average price has been $5.25 a barrel. The six-month extension would hold prices at that ceiling until Mar. 1, 1976.

Oil from wells put into production since 1972 is not controlled and currently sells at $13 a barrel.

Ford wants to lift controls on oil in stages over 39 months, arguing that decontrol is necessary to cut consumption and to encourage oil firms to seek new energy sources.

Jackson has described this gradual elimination of oil price controls as "inflation on the installment plan."

Meany noted in his letter to Jackson that an increase in oil prices would work a special hardship on workers who must use their automobiles to commute to work. Farmers also would be hard hit because prices of fuel for farm machines and for fertilizer would increase, Meany pointed out.

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Labor Day Talks Demand Action To Meet Critical Need for Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

policies that brought the current high levels of unemployment and inflation along with recession need a complete overhaul.

"We in the American labor movement don't think it has to be that way," Meany stressed.

"We won't accept the idea that our children have to live in a society crippled by massive unemployment, skyrocketing prices, deteriorating public services, municipal bankruptcies, rising crime —in short, a collapse in the quality of life of the American people."

Meany said that the nation could overcome that deterioration with "proper leadership and sound policies that put people above dollars"—the same combination, he said, that pulled the country out of the depression of the 1930s.

He pointed out, however, that current international conditions complicate the search for solutions.

For those Americans who would tend to ignore the international crisis, Meany warned that it is no longer possible to return to the "good old days" of American isolationism.

"Drive into your local gas station," Meany suggested, "and you'll run smack into the crisis in the Middle East and Arab oil blackmail.

"Walk into your grocery store, and your pocketbook will feel the consequences of the Soviet wheat deal in the name of detente."

He said neither the American labor movement nor the nation itself can afford to be isolationist and stressed that all citizens must have a voice in the country's foreign policies.

"On this Labor Day 1975, the American labor movement calls upon the nation's leaders to reassess not only the disastrous economic policies which have brought misery to millions, but the equally disastrous foreign policies that would seek to stop evil by appeasing it.

"These are not two separate problems. They are two sides of the same problem. A strong America can only survive in a free world," Meany stressed.

And freedom around the world, he added, depends on an America that is both economically and spiritually strong.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, speaking on the Mutual Broadcasting System, said the trade union movement is dedicated to improving the unemployment insurance program to help ease the plight of millions of jobless workers currently out of work.

Kirkland noted that although the Social Security Act has been amended numerous times since its passage 40 years ago, its unemployment insurance provisions have remained virtually unchanged.

"Unemployment insurance is and has been the nation's first line of defense against poverty and recession for 40 years," Kirkland said. "But the line has become very thin."

The current benefit average of $68 a week, Kirkland pointed out, replaces only about 20 to 30 percent of lost wages for many jobless workers.

"This is a complete distortion of the original intent of unemployment insurance to restore to jobless workers at least one-half of their former weekly wage," Kirkland observed. "And even 50 percent—a target we are a long way from reaching—is much too low.

He said immediate steps are needed to improve the benefits, extend coverage and strengthen the financing structure of the jobless benefits program.

He said the AFL-CIO is supporting measures introduced by Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.) and Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) that would go a long way toward meeting these goals.

President I. W. Abel of the Industrial Union Dept. said in an address on CBS radio that because of government inaction, economic conditions have failed to improve for America's workers since Labor Day 1974.

Abel said that despite optimistic White House pronouncements that things have improved, the nation is still "mired in a recession that is worse than anything we have suffered since the black days of the 1930s."

"Nearly one-third of our industrial capacity remains idle; 3 million more workers are jobless than when President Ford took office; and idle machines and idle workers are depriving America of more than $200 billion in production," he stressed.

Abel said that while the nation's economic future is shrouded with uncertainty, the Administration fails to provide the needed leadership, other than to predict that unemployment will remain higher in 1980 than when the recession began two years ago.

"These kinds of unemployment forecasts make a sham of any White House pronouncement that this recession is over, or soon will be," Abel said.

He noted that American labor has long held that with forceful government leadership the objectives of the 1946 employment act can be achieved.

"We must not and cannot go back to the 'do-nothingism' which characterized the Hoover presidency and its reactionary predecessors," Abel declared. "Today, the veto is no substitute for presidential leadership."

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133 Major Areas Stricken As Jobless Impact Widens

Education Aid Wins Over Veto

By David L. Perlman

Congress easily overrode President Ford's veto of an educational appropriations bill, but failed to overturn his veto of legislation continuing price controls on a portion of oil produced in the United States.

Its override of the education funding bill averted a sharp cutback in federal aid that would have piled new financial burdens on cities and states.

Its inability to override the oil price control veto left the door open for profiteering price hikes that will further fuel the nation's inflation.

Any hope the Administration may have had of making the education veto stick was washed away by a wave of protests that members of Congress encountered from their home districts and states. The vote to override was 379-41 in the House and 88-12 in the Senate.

The President had made much of the fact that the $7.9 billion appropriation—part of which was spread over a 27-month period—exceeded his budget request by more than $1.4 billion. He was especially critical of impact funds voted for school districts in communities with heavy government and military employment. But he complained also of increased funds for such programs as elementary and secondary education, emergency school aid, higher education, vocational education and library resources.

In a letter sent to every representative and senator, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller stressed that the Administration's budget would have slashed education aid by $855 million below last year's level and would have eliminated important programs.

Earlier, the AFL-CIO Executive Council had warned that unless the veto were overriden local taxes would have to be raised sharply to maintain school programs "and parents will have to dig deeper into their savings to subsidize the increased costs of higher education."

The American Federation of Teachers and other educational groups brought delegations into Washington before the vote. And congressmen and senators who normally vote to sustain presidential vetoes were dissuaded by the strong reaction from their home communities.

But while conceding defeat on the education fund vote, the White House put heavy pressure to make the oil price bill veto stick.

(Continued on Page 8)

ARMED VIGILANTE GROUP bars entry of a Farm Workers official, at right, from a tomato ranch two miles south of Stockton, Calif. The anti-union vigilantes carried pistols, shotguns and pick handles. The issue of access to the fields by union organizers under California's new farm labor relations law has posed a major hurdle for the UFW in its efforts to gain bargaining rights among the state's 250,000 field hands. **(Story, Page 3)**

8.4 Percent Rate Holds Nationwide

By James M. Shevis

Heavy unemployment spread its impact even wider in August as the number of major labor markets with jobless rates of 6 percent or more rose to an all-time high.

Of the 150 major labor areas surveyed each month by the Labor Dept., 133 were labeled centers of "substantial" unemployment by the government. The August figure broke the July record of 131 and marked the fifth month in a row in which the total surpassed the previous month.

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the nation's overall jobless rate in August hung high at 8.4 percent, unchanged from the previous month. Separately, BLS announced that wholesale prices rose over the month at a near double-digit rate, pointing to a new surge in the cost of living.

Besides the 133 major job markets, 813 other industrial communities of smaller population were classified as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment last month.

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger, commenting on the area unemployment report, observed that "the entire country now is economically distressed." The only major areas with jobless rates below 6 percent are oil or grain centers or have concentrations of government installations, he noted.

The August total of major job markets wtih substantial unemployment was the highest since the Labor Dept.'s present classification system was set up 20 years ago. Substantial unemployment is de-

(Continued on Page 3)

After White House Meeting:

Grain Policy Shifts, Dock Boycott Lifted

The AFL-CIO-supported boycott by the Longshoremen against shipping American grain to the Soviet Union has been "temporarily halted" under an agreement union leaders reached with President Ford at a White House meeting.

Key to the voluntary 30-day resumption of grain loading by members of the Longshoremen was the assurance by the President that any future grain deals with the USSR will be on a government-to-government basis with full consideration of the impact on U.S. consumers, farmers and the shipping industry.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, who headed the union delegation that met with Ford, said it now appears "there may be a change in the way we do business with the Soviet Union."

Discussing the agreement in a speech to the Industrial Union Dept. convention in Pittsburgh, Meany said "the important thing" is that Ford is sending representatives to Moscow to negotiate as government-to-government, instead of leaving the dealing to profit-motivated private firms.

The President's instructions are to negotiate a deal "that will protect the American consumer as well as the American farmer," Meany reported. He noted also that meanwhile the President's moratorium on new grain sales has been extended "until at least mid-October."

In addition to Meany, union participants in the White House meeting were AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland; Longshoremen's President Thomas W. Gleason; Seafarers and Maritime Trades Dept. President Paul Hall; President Jesse Calhoon of the Marine Engineers and President Shannon J. Wall of the National Maritime Union.

Secretary of Labor John T. Dun-

(Continued on Page 7)

Clothing Pact Scores Gains For 95,000

New York—More than 95,000 members of the Clothing Workers will receive major pay and pension gains under a new one-year contract negotiated by the ACWA in nationwide bargaining with cotton garment and outerwear manufacturers.

ACWA President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman said the "best ever" agreements were reached after the manufacturers finally abandoned their earlier insistence on a wage freeze.

ACWA affiliates across the country overwhelmingly ratified the contract settlements, the union reported.

(Continued on Page 8)

Crowded Classrooms Spur Teacher Strikes

New York—Members of the United Federation of Teachers struck the nation's largest public school system after weeks of intensive contract negotiations failed to produce a new agreement.

"Salary is not the issue," UFT President Albert Shanker emphasized in a speech to an overflow membership meeting at Madison Square Garden prior to a strike vote. He said the real issues are the intolerable teaching and learning conditions in New York City's schools.

The walkout of the union's 80,000 members was the largest of a wave of teacher strikes across the nation, many of them sparked by protests similar to those in New York.

Crowded classrooms, along with wages, also were the key issues in a strike by Chicago Local 1 of the American Federation of Teachers, now in its second week.

AFL-CIO President George Meany pledged the federation's full support to AFT members throughout the country "who have been forced to strike to guarantee the quality of education and to protect the livelihoods of teachers."

In telegrams to Shanker and Chicago Local President Robert M. Healey, Meany said it was clear

(Continued on Page 3)

Abel Calls for Liberal To Replace Ford in '76

By Saul Miller

Pittsburgh—America must elect "an even better Congress" and a "much better" liberal Democratic president in 1976 to break the governmental logjam and help cure a "very sick" economy, President I. W. Abel of the Industrial Union Dept. told the 20th anniversary convention of the IUD here.

In his keynote speech to the 350 delegates, Abel said "I am convinced that we can elect a liberal, forward-looking Democrat as president" next year and there is no need for a "super-candidate" but a candidate "who places the needs of the people first." That kind of candidate, he added, "will defeat President Ford."

Abel, president of the Steelworkers, reviewed the 20-year history of the IUD as well as the state of the nation under the Nixon and Ford Administrations and concluded that "after seven years of Republican rule under Nixon and Ford, the rich are getting richer — and the

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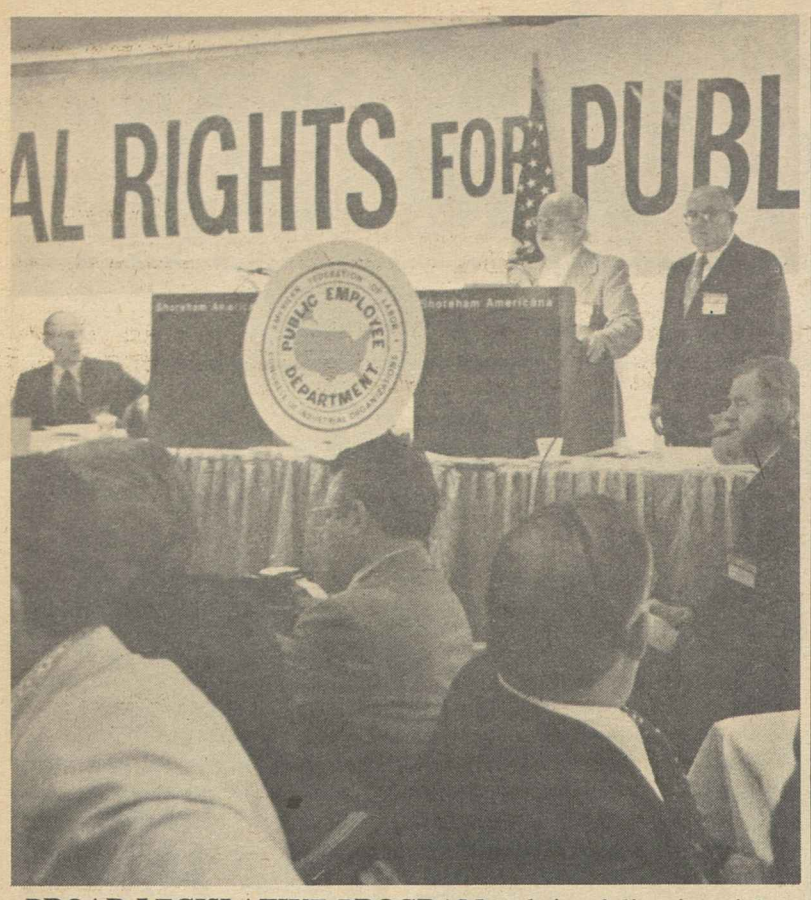


BROAD LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM to bring full union rights to federal, state and local government workers was adopted at the second convention of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. At the lecturn are President William H. McClennan and Treas. Clyde M. Webber, who were re-elected to new two-year terms. Executive Sec. John A. McCart is at left.

Sigmund Arywitz Dies, Led Los Angeles Labor

Los Angeles—Sigmund Arywitz, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO, died after a heart attack at his home Sept. 9. He was 61.

Arywitz, long active in numerous civic, political, civil rights and labor causes throughout California, was also a vice president of the State AFL-CIO.

He was a leader in labor's campaign to defeat a state "right-to-work" referendum in 1958 while working for the election of former Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Sr. Arywitz was appointed state labor commissioner in 1959, a post he held until 1967 when he was named to the top post of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. He was subsequently re-elected to four two-year terms.

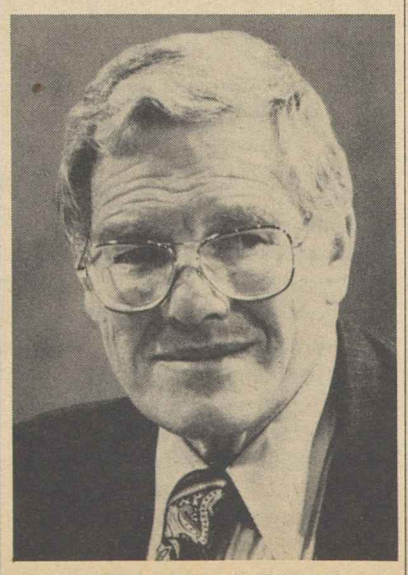
In a message to his wife, Barbara, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said that Arywitz was a devoted trade unionist and a "staunch fighter for freedom and democracy. The labor movement has lost an outstanding leader, and we have lost a companion whose company we cherished and whose counsel was always wise."

A native of Buffalo, Arywitz had worked as a sportswriter for the Buffalo Evening News while attending area colleges. He became a member of the Ladies' Garment Workers in 1946 following four years of service with the Army Medical Corps. He was appointed an ILGWU organizer in 1947 and was subsequently named education director of the union's western states region.

Arywitz worked closely with the founders of the United Farm Workers from the time of the union's organizing committee days. He continued to promote organizing efforts of the UFW in California's vineyards and lettuce fields.

During the past nine years as head of the Los Angeles central body, Arywitz was instrumental in expanding the scope of the county federation's services, including programs for senior citizens, women's rights, occupational safety, ecology and energy problems and cultural activities.

Services were scheduled Sept. 12 at Mt. Sinai Memorial Park in Los Angeles. Besides his wife, survivors include two brothers. The family requested that contributions be made to the American Heart Association and AID-UGF in lieu of flowers.



SIGMUND ARYWITZ

House Rejects Move to Trim UNDP Funds

The House approved and sent to the Senate a foreign aid appropriations bill that includes indirect funding of two international organizations that have increasingly become political tools of the Communist-Arab bloc.

In a letter to House members, AFL-CIO President George Meany had urged Congress to insist that no U.S. funds voted for the United Nations Development Fund be channeled to programs operated by UNESCO or the International Labor Organization.

An amendment to that effect was proposed by Rep. Clement J. Zablocki (D-Wis.). Meany termed the UN Development Fund "probably the most corrupt, mismanaged, wasteful agency in the United Nations" and said both the ILO and UNESCO have seen their humanitarian ideals subordinated to political aims.

The Zablocki amendment was rejected by a voice vote.

At Department Convention:

Public Employes Map Drive To Erase Worker Inequities

By John R. Oravec

The continuing struggle for equity for employes of federal, state and local governments was reinforced in an action program drafted by the second convention of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept.

The 107 delegates reaffirmed the united efforts of the PED's affiliated unions to put public employes on par with workers of the private sector in terms of wages, collective bargaining, benefits, unemployment compensation, safety standards and other key objectives.

PED President William H. McClennan stressed in his keynote address that the best approach to achieving the department's goals for public workers is through the harmony and determination of the trade union affiliates.

"God knows the time is right for such united action," McClennan declared. "In just about every section of the country, the public employe . . . is becoming a favorite whipping boy for those who are frustrated by the problems of government — federal, state and local."

He assailed the attacks on public employes and their unions as malicious propaganda and said that "we must expose it for what it is."

While recognizing the fiscal plight of state and local governments, McClennan said that public workers must not be forced to sacrifice their moderate incomes and their standard of living in the face of double-digit inflation.

Delegates re-elected McClennan and Treasurer Clyde M. Webber to new two-year terms by acclamation. McClennan is president of the Fire Fighters and Webber heads the Government Employees, two of the 29 affiliates which represent the 2.5 million department membership.

In a major convention resolution, delegates scored the failure of the Ford Administration to assist New York City in its struggle for fiscal solvency and called on Congress to guarantee the city's municipal bonds.

Delegates warned that without adequate federal assurances, many other major cities where PED members are employed are threatened by the same fiscal problems as New York.

The convention also urged Congress to override President Ford's 5 percent limit on a comparability pay increase for federal white-collar employes and military personnel. Ford's advisers had recommended an increase of 8.66 percent to keep pace with workers in the private sector.

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, told delegates that economic problems confronting all workers, their unions and the entire nation stem from the policies "deliberately adopted and pursued" by the Nixon and Ford Administrations.

Donahue charged that in pursuing its prime objective of reducing the federal budget deficit, the Administration has provided little relief for the plight of the cities, states and the unemployed.

Donahue also stressed that the surest way to stabilize employment in the public sector is through free collective bargaining.

"This country will be better off when collective bargaining is the normal, accepted proredure in every federal department and agency, and in every state and county and city and school district," he said.

As a key part of the PED legislative program, the convention urged Congress to extend full coverage of the National Labor Relations Act to all public employes.

The convention resolution called for congressional action on a measure introduced by Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.) with PED-initiated amendments "to provide public employes with federal protection and end the continuance of an unwarranted anachronism in our nation's labor laws."

Thompson told the delegates that federal legislation for public employe bargaining "is coming," but he warned that passage depends largely on their support and cooperation.

Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) observed in his address to the convention that because of the inconsistency among states on public employe collective bargaining, a uniform national law is vitally needed.

Sen. Gale McGee (D-Wyo.) expressed support for PED efforts to override Ford's 5 percent ceiling on federal comparability pay, reform of the Hatch Act to assure public employes the right to participate in political activities and federal legislation for postcard registration of voters.

Rep. Carl D. Perkins (D-Ky.) assailed presidential vetoes of employment programs based on Administration claims that they would ruin the federal budget. "Public works and emergency public employment would do more than anything else to get the economy going in the right direction," he stressed.

In other key resolutions, delegates called for:

- Federal legislation allowing all public employes the right to strike.
- Extending full coverage of the Occupational Safety & Health Act to federal, state and local government workers.
- Permanent unemployment insurance protection for public employes.

The convention also praised San Francisco Mayor Joseph A. Alioto for his actions in settling the recent city contract dispute with police and fire fighters.

Senate Rollcall on Veto Of Oil Price Ceilings

The Senate on Sept. 10 failed to obtain the two-thirds majority needed to override President Ford's veto of a labor-supported bill continuing for six months price ceilings on domestic oil.

The vote was 61-39. The 54 Democrats and seven Republicans who voted to override the veto supported the AFL-CIO position.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 54

Abourezk (S.D.)	Hart (Mich.)	Morgan (N.C.)
Allen (Ala.)	Hartke (Ind.)	Moss (Utah)
Bayh (Ind.)	Haskell (Colo.)	Muskie (Me.)
Biden (Del.)	Hathaway (Me.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Pastore (R.I.)
Byrd (Va.)	Humphrey (Minn.)	Pell (R.I.)
Byrd (W. Va.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Randolph (W. Va.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Church (Ida.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Sparkman (Ala.)
Clark (Iowa)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Culver (Iowa)	McClellan (Ark.)	Stone (Fla.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Symington (Mo.)
Ford (Ky.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Glenn (Ohio)	Metcalf (Mont.)	Tunney (Calif.)
Hart (Colo.)	Mondale (Minn.)	Williams (N.J.)

Republicans 7

Brooke (Mass.)	Cotton (N.H.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Case (N.J.)	Javits (N.Y.)	Stafford (Vt.)
	Mathias (Md.)	

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 7

Bentsen (Tex.)	Gravel (Alaska)	McGee (Wyo.)
Eastland (Miss.)	Johnston (La.)	Montoya (N.M.)
	Long (La.)	

Republicans 32

Baker (Tenn.)	Garn (Utah)	Percy (Ill.)
Bartlett (Okla.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Roth (Del.)
Beall (Md.)	Griffin (Mich.)	Scott (Pa.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Hansen (Wyo.)	Scott (Va.)
Brock (Tenn.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Buckley (N.Y.)	Helms (N.C.)	Taft (Ohio)
Curtis (Neb.)	Hruska (Neb.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Dole (Kan.)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Tower (Tex.)
Domenici (N.M.)	McClure (Ida.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Fannin (Ariz.)	Packwood (Ore.)	Young (N.D.)
Fong (Hawaii)	Pearson (Kan.)	

California Elections:

Farm Workers Gain Early Lead in Votes

Fresno, Calif.—The United Farm Workers have taken the lead in early representation elections under California's new law establishing union bargaining rights and procedures in the agricultural industry.

In the two weeks since the law took effect, the UFW has won 13 of 18 elections in which ballots have been counted. In the process, the AFL-CIO affiliate has won bargaining rights for five units where the rival Teamsters previously held contracts.

Thirty-four elections in all of the major farm areas of the state had been held as of Sept. 10, but because of protests by one side or the other ballots in a number of elections were impounded by the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board which is supervising the voting.

In nine head-to-head elections between the UFW and the Teamsters, the AFL-CIO union received a total of 1,883 votes to 414 for the Teamsters.

The most significant Farm Workers' victory occurred in the Salinas Valley at Interharvest, Inc., the nation's largest lettuce grower.

The ballot count showed 1,167 votes for the UFW and 28 for the Teamsters. There were also 18 votes for no union. Another 121 ballots were challenged, but would not affect the outcome.

Nearby at the second largest lettuce ranch in the country, Bud Antle, Inc., where the Teamsters have had a contract since the early 1960s, the vote count was delayed pending a state hearing on a dispute over who was eligible to vote.

The campaigning that preceded the elections in some instances was marred by differences in interpreting the CALRB rule giving union organizers access to workers in the fields.

Growers, arguing that the right of private property has precedence over the rights of union organizers, won a temporary restraining order from a U.S. district judge prohibiting the CALRB from enforcing the rule. A full hearing on the access rule was scheduled Sept. 12 before a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The CALRB regulation allowed organizers access to the fields on a limited basis—before and after work and during lunch breaks. UFW leaders maintain that if they are denied access to the workers the state's new agricultural labor relations law will become nothing but a hoax.

UFW President Cesar Chavez declared access to the work force was essential, especially among those laboring under existing Teamster contracts that were stolen from the UFW in 1973.

Attorneys for the Farm Workers said that several of the early elections have been sufficiently clouded by the access controversy to give them cause to seek court action.

The access issue almost resulted in physical violence near Stockton in the San Joaquin Valley when a posse of vigilantes—formed to protect grower interests—attempted to block entry into the fields of the Western Tomato Ranch.

Armed with shotguns, pistols, pick handles and chains, the posse threatened both UFW organizers and law-enforcement officials.

When San Joaquin County sheriff's deputies confronted the posse, a vigilante's shotgun discharged near a deputy's head. The officer was not directly hit, but suffered a mild concussion from the blast. Several posse members were arrested on charges of assaulting peace officers.

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO, called a meeting of all central bodies in the state to discuss the vigilante problem. The meeting was scheduled Sept. 10 in Stockton.

Henning also wired California Atty. Gen. Evelle J. Younger to assist the San Joaquin County sheriff's office in disarming the vigilantes and protecting the civil rights of UFW organizers.

Gov. Edmund Brown, in a statement attacking the growers' vigilantes, observed that "no one has the right to take the law into his own hands or brandish weapons at those lawfully and peacefully exercising their rights."

The elections have been further clouded by additional court injunctions granted to Western Growers Association to block the counting of ballots of 130 vegetable farms in the Salinas area that belong to the WGA. The association wants a single bargaining unit covering all its members while the UFW wants elections with each grower.

Also, the Farm Workers have accused the Teamsters and some growers of using U.S. Border Patrols to hamper UFW organizing.

In an unfair labor practice charge filed against the managers of West Foods, Inc., a mushroom-growing firm at Ventura, the UFW charged the Teamsters "fingered" 20 suspected illegal aliens for arrest by the Border Patrol.

The Most Rev. Roger Mahony, the Catholic bishop who is chairman of the CALRB, sent a strongly worded telegram to U.S. Atty. Gen. Edward H. Levi urging an investigation into the patrol's actions.

NEW YORK TEACHERS fill the streets around the city board of education in a mass rally to protest insufferable classroom conditions in the nation's largest school system. Nearly 40,000 members of the United Federation of Teachers took part in the rally, held four days before the union struck over contract terms. UFT President Albert Shanker stressed that the chief issue in the walkout is not money but chaotic conditions in the schools.

Intolerable Classroom Conditions Spur Wave of Teacher Walkouts

(Continued from Page 1)

that "court injunctions and jail sentences will not educate children, make the schools better or provide the decent working conditions that teachers must have to be able to properly educate students."

Meany blamed the Ford Administration's economic policies for the recession and high unemployment that have crippled the finances of many large cities, making public employes "both the victims and the whipping boys." He said the AFL-CIO would continue to press for immediate federal aid to relieve hard-pressed communities and states.

"The future of the cities and the future of the children in schools hang in the balance," Meany said. He called upon school boards to bargain in good faith with the Teachers for, he said, "only through collective bargaining can these issues be resolved."

Despite a temporary restraining order barring the UFT from continuing its walkout, the New York teachers strike was "more than 99 percent effective" on its second day, the union said.

The walkout was called for by Shanker and approved by the union's 75-member executive committee. It followed weeks of talks between UFT negotiators and the city's board of education which were mediated by the State Public Employment Relations Board. The union's old contract expired on midnight Sept. 8, after classes reopened for the new school year.

UFT members at the Madison Square Garden meeting told of class sizes running into the 40s, 50s and even 60s, oversized classes of handicapped children, lack of security in school buildings, and no guidance counselors, paraprofessionals or school secretaries.

"These conditions we will never tolerate in the schools," said Shanker, who is also president of the UFT's parent organization, the American Federation of Teachers.

Meanwhile, the UFT and the board of education were continuing to negotiate over proposals for a compromise settlement of the dispute.

In Chicago, some 28,000 classroom teachers began their walkout Sept. 3, after voting 9 to 1 to strike. CTU's contract with the city expired the day before.

The key issue in the strike is the union's request for a cost-of-living wage increase. The teachers also want to reduce the size of their classes, aggravated by the school board's refusal to fill some 1,000 vacant teaching positions.

Local President Healey warned that failure to fill the vacancies will lead to "horribly" overworked teachers and further deterioration in the quality of instruction.

Besides New York and Chicago, AFT locals and units of the unaffiliated National Education Association led walkouts of teachers and other school employes in nearly a dozen states.

Altogether more than 100,000 AFT members were participating in the teacher strikes. Shanker, summing up the root cause of the strikes, said that teachers have become the latest victim of recession.

"That's what these strikes are all about," he said. "The cities would like the teachers to bear the burden of the economic crunch, but we can't tolerate cuts that jeopardize minimum education standards and hard-won contract benefits."

Other AFT strikes continued in Wilmington, Del.; Lynn, Mass.; Berkeley, Calif.; Joliet, Ill.; Taylor and Lake Shore, Mich.; Pawtucket, Johnston, North Providence and Woonsocket, R.I., and Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Teachers in Wilmington defied a back-to-work order and threats of heavy fines for the union and its leaders if the strike kept up. The AFT local struck Sept. 4 after failing to reach agreement on a new contract.

In Pennsylvania, strikes or lockouts affected teachers in more than 20 of the state's school districts. An estimated 150 districts in the state have yet to reach agreement with teachers.

Record 133 of 150 Major Centers Stricken as Jobless Impact Widens

(Continued from Page 1)

fined as a rate of 6 percent or more (discounting seasonal factors) which is expected to continue for at least two more months.

An area with persistent joblessness is defined as one which has experienced substantial unemployment for two or more years.

A year ago, only 50 of the 150 major labor areas were classified as areas of substantial joblessness. The addition of Oklahoma City and Newport News-Hampton, Va., raised the list to the record high.

Under federal law, firms in areas of substantial unemployment may be eligible for first preference in bidding on certain federal procurement contracts, provided they agree to hire 25 percent of the new employes each month from among the disadvantaged area residents.

In its report on national employment and unemployment, BLS said the number of Americans with jobs in August rose by 275,000 to 85,352,000. But there still were 7,794,000 workers unemployed out of a total workforce of 93,146,000.

Also, BLS noted, hard-core joblessness worsened over the month as the average duration of unemployment increased from 15.4 to 15.7 weeks. The August level exceeded the year-earlier average by nearly six additional weeks.

The August statistics showed a slight improvement in the job situation for adult men and for household heads. The jobless rate for adult men fell from 7 to 6.6 percent over the month while the rate for heads of households dropped from 6 to 5.5 percent.

Unemployment rates among other labor-force categories, however, remained unchanged or increased from July to August. The rate for teenagers, for instance, jumped from 19.1 to 21.1 percent, with the rate for teen-age blacks rising from 33.5 to 37.4 percent.

Also hidden by the unchanged 8.4 percent national unemployment rate were continued high levels of joblessness among construction workers, 19.9 percent; blacks, 14 percent; blue-collar workers, 11.5 percent; manufacturing workers, 10.5 percent, and Vietnam-era veterans between the ages of 20 and 24, 17.5 percent.

BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin, appearing before a congressional Joint Economic subcommittee, released a list of jobless rates in individual manufacturing industries:

Lumber, an increase from 12.4 percent in July to 13.7 percent in August; transportation, up from 10.4 to 11.4 percent; rubber and plastic products, from 11.6 to 14.2 percent; furniture and fixtures, from 11.5 to 13.3 percent; machinery, from 9.5 to 10.3 percent.

The August jobless rate for the nation was down from its peak of 9.2 percent in May, but still three full percentage points above the year-earlier level of 5.4 percent.

The government's report on wholesale prices indicated that higher retail prices await the unemployed worker in the near future. BLS said its wholesale price index rose at a seasonally adjusted rate of eight-tenths of 1 percent over the month, or at an annualized rate of 9.6 percent.

The rise occurred even though farm prices declined 1.5 percent. Prices of industrial commodities again emerged as the culprit, rising six-tenths of 1 percent from July to August. It was the highest rise of the year and the third consecutive month in which such prices have risen substantially.

Commodities account for 70 percent of the relative weight of the wholesale price index. Price movement in this category is considered more significant than in the more volatile food component.

Increases in wholesale prices generally signal higher consumer prices in the future. The August rise followed a jolting 1.2 percent increase in wholesale prices in July.

Labor and Farmers

THE AFL-CIO HAS NOT changed its position that the American farmer deserves and should get a reasonable price for his products. As our last convention stated: "For working farmers there must be solid guarantees that increased production will bring adequate income. Income guarantees must be made effective for them along with curbs on the speculative greed of agri-business corporations."

That is why the AFL-CIO this year supported the farm bill with its higher "target prices." While not ideal, that bill would have guaranteed farmers that a bumper crop would not depress farm prices below a reasonable level.

You will undoubtedly recall that President Ford vetoed that farm bill. He said it was "inflationary." Today his Secretary of Agriculture says the Russian grain deal is not inflationary, despite the fact that it has already raised consumer prices far more than the farm bill would have.

The AFL-CIO also supports the establishment of a national food policy that will take into account both the vital needs of consumers and farmers, as well as the world's need for food.

We believe the family farmer needs protection against the onslaught of the giant conglomerates, who seek to drive farmers from their lands and the marketplace. And we will continue to fight for more adequate legislation to bring the commodity speculators under truly effective government regulation.

WE HAVE SUGGESTED establishment of a government agency with sole marketing authority for dealing with Communist and other dictator countries. Such an agency could purchase grain from American farmers at a fair price and then bargain, on a government-to-government basis, with the Soviets. This contrasts with the present situation where the Soviets play private corporations against each other, while the private corporations are concerned only with their own profits and not with the welfare of the American people.

Only government-to-government negotiations would insure that America's great agricultural resources would not be used just for the private profit of grain dealers and speculators; that farmers would be adequately paid for their work, and that consumers would not be penalized. In addition, the government would have a bargaining weapon that would force the Soviet Union to keep its promises—something it has never done.

Other nations, including Canada, have somewhat similar arrangements and their consumers and farmers benefit jointly.

This is the second time in four years that the Russians have entered the U.S. grain markets before the harvest was complete and created chaos through large purchases. As a result, farmers are unable to adequately plan their crops to meet demand. An export authority could make longer-term contracts that would bring more stability to the grain markets, more stable prices for the consumers.

We want—and we intend to fight for—government policies that will protect American consumers, farmers and workers from a repetition of the disastrous 1972 Russian grain steal. America deserves nothing less.

—From a letter from AFL-CIO President George Meany to State AFL-CIO officers, Sept. 3, 1975.

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'They Could Sure Fool Me!'

A Word Edgewise:

Right-Wing Oracles Fantasize Over Conservative 'Majority'

By John P. Roche

MOST OF YOU HAVE probably been too busy trying to conserve your standard of living to notice what your self-anointed leaders have been up to. Despite the fact that President Ford's reaction to the recession has made the late Herbert Hoover look like a manic radical, despite the fact that the latest authoritative explanation for renewed inflation is that it is "psychological"—that is, all in your heads—it has been determined by right-wing oracles that you are "conservatives." If you can no longer afford the movies and the TV is busted, you might find the present rain dance, as performed by William F. Buckley, William Rusher and various other tom-tom players such as Gov. Meldrim Thomson of New Hampshire, almost as entertaining as an antique western on the late late show.

First, you would probably like to know why you are conservatives. On its face this would seem a bit difficult to prove, but the gist of the argument is that in 1972 you gave the conservative ticket of Nixon and Agnew an almost unprecedented majority over the Democratic candidates McGovern and Shriver. Through a series of misfortunes, which can be glossed over quickly, Nixon and Agnew retired from conservative leadership and were replaced by Gerald Ford and Nelson Rockefeller. And here was the rub: Ford and Rockefeller were not really conservatives. They were clandestine liberals who rapidly lost the support of authentic rightwingers like yourselves.

With this major premise firmly locked in place, the rest is easy. The reason polls indicate that around 55-60 percent of the populace think Ford is doing a mediocre-to-bad job as President is that he has sold the pass to the liberal establishment and capitulated to the liberal media which, as is well known, takes its orders from that left-wing politburo, the Council on Foreign Relations. Gov. Thomson, however, is fair enough to point out in the September issue of "Conservative Digest" that for conservatives this is a self-inflicted wound: though it may come as an eye-opener to liberals in the House of Representatives, Thomson notes that Congressman Ford was always a liberal.

So far, all this strenuous rain-making has produced is a drizzle of Ronald Reagan literature. The former California governor is seen as the man who can end your alienation, who can consolidate the massive silent majority of Goldwater and Wallace supporters into a meaningful political experience. As psychodrama this is not without moving qualities—I found myself humming "Rock of Ages"—but aside from whatever contribution may be made to the gross national product, it is an exercise in transcendental political meditation. Reagan may be a potent "mantra," that is, if you say it to yourself a thousand times a day, you may achieve inner peace. But in terms of American politics the road these mystics have charted leads to Death Valley. If you don't believe me, ask Barry Goldwater—he took the trip.

AS USUAL, the problem is the premise, the notion that Nixon got elected on a tidal wave of conservative sentiment. To believe this is comparable to accepting Johnson's 1964 landslide as a triumph of liberalism. (Even he didn't believe that: in the fall of 1967 Marvin Watson, his appointments secretary and old political associate, and I were urging the President to reinvigorate the Democratic National Committee. He balked and finally, with some exasperation, I suggested that the '64 election had been a freak, that Marvin could have beaten Goldwater. LBJ gave me a flinty look, then chuckled and said, "But he'd only have gotten 51 percent.") In hard political terms, the results in 1972, like those in 1964, were not an ideological mandate but a rejection of a candidate perceived as "extremist."

Now it is hardly my business to coach the Republican Party — it has Kevin Phillips in vigorous form. (As Ben Wattenberg put it, Kevin has unerringly spotted 11 of the last three major trends in American politics.) Moreover, if the Democrats run a committee for President in '76—as now seems possible—the GOP could walk off with the prize.

But this has virtually nothing to do with "conservatism" or "liberalism" as abstractions. The American people, confronting a set of baffling foreign and domestic issues, want results not rhetoric. And anyone who thinks that a Presidential election is an examination in political theory should take refuge in a think-tank and let serious people handle the business at hand.

Conservatives Promote Division:

Black, White Workers Alike Suffer in Depressed Economy

By Bayard Rustin

THE ESCALATING DISPUTE over job seniority rights is a tragic but altogether predictable consequence of the hard times confronting American workers. Periods of intense racial competition have always emerged simultaneous with depressions, panics, and general economic instability. And while Americans are today far less likely to be motivated by blind race hatred, they nonetheless continue to perceive social phenomenon in racial terms.

Black workers, the disproportionate victims of massive layoffs, are embittered at their white colleagues, whom they see as the beneficiaries of past patterns of discrimination. White workers, rejecting in totality the presumption that they constitute a privileged elite, bristle at demands that they—the have-littles of society—should sacrifice for the discriminatory practices of their employers and the policy failures of the federal government.

There is, then, equity to both arguments. Or to put it another way, black and white workers alike stand to lose from the perpetuation of an intolerable high level of unemployment. The only winners will be the most affluent and powerful forces of society—those who, whether consciously or otherwise, have a vested stake in pitting working people at each other's throats.

The days when industrialists would import black strikebreakers by the trainload to supplant unionized whites may be well in the distant past. Likely as not, blacks are now an integral part of those unions which management once tried so determinedly to destroy. But conservatives, whether in business or in government, have devised more sophisticated means of driving workers apart. Race is still an essential part of this strategy. And we must keep this point in mind when examining the seniority debate.

Thus my principal objection to proposals that seniority clauses be abrogated in the name of affirmative action is that such a move would severely damage the entire labor movement by weakening one of its most cherished achievements. Seniority is not a mark of privilege, it is a necessary right, won at no little cost, which protects workers from the whims and prejudices of an employer.

Primary among those who benefit from seniority are middle-aged and older workers, who themselves comprise a group that suffers a high degree of discrimination. Even now substantial numbers of older workers are being furloughed in non-unionized plants by employers anxious to replace higher-paid veterans with low-salary young workers. What future does a 50 or 60 year old worker have in today's economy? A question well worth pondering.

In some instances, of course, unions have decided, through the democratic approval of members, to initiate work sharing schemes and other formulas to minimize the impact of layoffs. Some industries, garment manufacturing is one example, have employed work sharing formulas for years. Another important reform is the practice of granting to black workers who were once refused employment because of discrimination back seniority rights dating to the time of their initial rejection. Implicit in cases where black workers are protected by back seniority is the principle that white workers who had nothing to do with their employer's descrimination will not be penalized.

AT THE SAME TIME, I cannot support proposals for across-the-board wage cuts, reduction of benefits, or shortened work weeks as a basic means of dealing with the unemployment problem. Intentionally in some cases, unintentionally in others, the proponents of a general lowering of living standards have fallen victim to one of the most destructive myths about American society: the notion of an affluent secure working class. The most convincing evidence to the contrary lies in the most recent jobless statistics: 14 percent for blue collar workers; over 21 percent for construction workers. These are hardly reflections of wealth or security.

Furthermore, I am convinced that the acceptance of anti-worker and anti-union formulas signifies a weakening of resolve to achieve real economic transformation. There are already a few in the civil rights movement who are resigning themselves to another 10 years of economic deterioration.

Some misguided individuals even believe that a prolonged depression offers opportunities to advance the cause of racial equality through the institutionalization of the principle of an equitable sharing of poverty.

Such defeatism makes even more difficult the already formidable struggle for economic change. Blacks and whites can debate forever the question of who should sacrifice in an economy of scarcity. While we debate, those who have always profited from worker division will be on the sidelines, cheering us on. Their stake is not in who wins or loses, but only that the struggle pitting worker against worker continue.

'Positive Attitude' Cited:

Labor Helps Ease Problems On Vietnamese Resettlement

THE JOINT EFFORT of the federal government, the labor movement and the other private organizations to help smooth the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees in the United States may be wound up as early as Christmas, AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis reported.

The key job, Perlis said, has been to "create a climate of receptivity" in the local community. He credited the success of the resettlement program so far to the positive attitude of the American people and workers, just as it was when large numbers of Hungarians and Cubans sought new lives in freedom in this country. He said that about two-thirds of the 135,000 refugees have already made the transition into the "fabric of our national life."

Questioned by reporters on the AFL-CIO produced network radio interview Labor News Conference, Perlis said that the severe unemployment crisis makes it very hard, but not impossible, to place the refugees in jobs.

He pointed out that only about 35,000 are active job-seekers, since about three-fourths of the total refugee group are children, non-working spouses, and older persons beyond the working age. He said that a great many of the refugees who do need jobs do have marketable skills, and that the refugees will find jobs eventually, just as the Hungarians and Cubans did.

Perlis said the AFL-CIO is closely monitoring the job-placement phase of the resettlement program to make sure that the refugees do not replace American workers in badly needed jobs. He said the labor movement is also doing all it can to assure that those refugees who do find work don't fall victim to unscrupulous employers who would exploit the refugees' desperate situation and lack of understanding of the U.S. economy and labor-management relations in this country.

He noted that there have been several cases where employers have used the refugees as "pawns in industrial disputes—strikebreakers," and that the labor movement has been the prime force in curbing those abuses and finding decent jobs for the refugees.

Perlis was questioned by Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine and Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. The public affairs interview is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

IN PASSING THE historic Occupational Safety & Health Act in 1970, Congress declared that America must have safer and healthier workplaces. Now, the lawmakers must take follow-up action to ensure that workers are "adequately and fairly" compensated for any injuries or illnesses that befall them on the job.

Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) of the Senate Labor & Public Welfare Committee emphasizes this point in pushing for passage of a bill he has introduced with Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) to establish federal standards for workers' compensation.

A Senate Labor subcommittee is about to open hearings on the proposed legislation, with Williams, Javits and other supporters hopeful of moving it through the Senate later in the year. The House also is expected to act on standards for workers' compensation although its timetable is less definite.

A section of the 1970 safety-health law provided for the establishment of a National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Laws to look into "serious questions" about their adequacy in the light of economic needs, a changing labor force, new hazards and risks to safety and health and "increases in the general level of wages and living costs."

The commission conducted an extensive study and reached the "inescapable conclusion that state workmen's compensation laws in general are inadequate and inequitable." It made 19 recommendations for improving state programs and urged their implementation by 1975. These included broader coverage of employes and occupational diseases; substantial replacement of income lost by workers due to injuries or diseases; a speedup in delivery of benefits, and provision for adequate medical care and rehabilitation.

The commission's recommendations were "essentially" the goals that labor has sought for many years. So what has happened since the commission delivered its final report in July 1972? State programs are, for the most part, still in the same condition in which the commission found them.

Labor contends there must be federal standards for workers' compensation just as there must be federal standards for state unemployment benefits. Many members of Congress have agreed. Williams and Javits introduced a federal standards bill for workers' compensation in 1973. Hearings were held in that year and again in 1974. Yet there was no real movement on the issue in Congress.

Federal action apparently was headed off in May 1974 by President Nixon. With considerable ballyhoo, he appointed an interdepartmental "task force" which, among other things, was going to assist state legislatures in fulfilling the commission's recommendations.

CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY, in an article summing up the workers' compensation issue, cited the task force's own figures to show that as recently as April 1975 only four states met the commission's recommendations on death benefits for spouses, only 22 states had a maximum death benefit equal to 100 percent of the state's average weekly wage as the commission proposed, and there are still 22 states that don't even have a compulsory-coverage compensation law.

In the words of one labor spokesman, "Nixon's task force, like the commission, has accomplished virtually nothing."

The Ford Administration has not disclosed what its position on standards will be. However, it is expected to seek a delay until at least next year on grounds the "task force" still has not completed its work, according to Congressional Quarterly. "Delay," of course, was the position of former President Nixon.

Urging Congress to wait fits like a glove with the eternal view of many employers and insurance companies that workers' compensation should be left entirely to the states. What they never mention but know is that they are consistently successful in lobbying state legislatures against improvements in compensation laws.

JOINT EFFORTS of government, unions and voluntary agencies to smooth resettlement of Vietnamese refugees should wind up by Christmas, Director Leo Perlis, center, of the AFL-CIO Community Services Dept. reported on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The AFL-CIO public affairs interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

SEAFARERS' CONVENTION strongly criticized the Ford Administration for selling out the U.S. merchant marine in a one-sided policy of detente at any price with the Soviet Union. The 300 delegates charged the State Dept. is using the merchant marine as a pawn in American foreign policy.

Seafarers Score Administration On Plan for Inland Waters Tax

The Seafarers Union wound up its 17th biennial convention with an attack on a Ford Administration campaign to impose user charges on inland water carriers.

"The most serious and immediate danger to the development of the nation's waterways is the user charge," SIU President Paul Hall told delegates to the four-day meeting.

He noted there are several Administration-backed bills now before Congress that would impose tolls of one kind or another on ships that ply the 25,000-mile inland waterways system. One proposal calls for a 1 percent tax on all property transported in the United States by rail, motor vehicle and water carrier.

But the proceeds would be used solely to rehabilitate railroad track and roadbeds, and none of the tax money would go to the improvement of the inland waterways, Hall said.

"Such legislation which taxes all transportation for the sole benefit of one mode is completely without precedent, and the Seafarers will use all of its means to insure that such legislation is defeated," the union declared in a resolution approved by the 300 convention delegates.

Other resolutions adopted by the delegates called for protection of the American fishing industry against inroads by uncontrolled foreign fleets, better medical care aboard United States-flag vessels, a national energy policy, tax reform and regulation of U.S.-based multinational corporations.

Delegates re-elected Hall, Sec.-Treas. Joseph DiGiorgio and Executive Vice-Pres. Morris Weisberger and amended the union's constitution to lengthen their terms of office from two years to three. They also voted to hold conventions every three years, instead of two.

Twenty vice presidents also were re-elected, and delegates heard reports from several top government and union leaders, including Marine Engineers President Jesse L. Calhoon, Longshoremen's President Thomas W. Gleason and Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop.

Hall renewed his attack on the State Dept., accusing it of being "the most consistent detractor and opponent of the U.S. merchant marine." Hall charged the State Dept. actively opposed two legislative proposals to help the sagging maritime industry.

One of the measures, the Energy Transportation Act of 1974, would have given U.S. ships preference on carrying oil in domestic commerce. At State Dept. urging, Hall noted, President Ford vetoed the measure "on the false grounds that it might invite reprisals by foreign nations."

The State Dept. apparently ignored the fact that cargo preference is implemented already by many seafaring nations, "and implemented without State's objections," Hall observed.

Another measure opposed by the State Dept. would require that foreign carriers of American goods charge rates commensurate with those paid to U.S.-flag ships.

Hall termed the State Dept.'s role in fighting the bill "despicable" and charged it is "perhaps the most demonstrative example of State's intensifying determination to scuttle U.S.-flag shipping in favor of other flags." The measure, introduced by Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Ha.), is pending in Congress.

"We might well warn State and its secretary that he had better stop trying to package the U.S. merchant marine for delivery as tribute to his partners in detente," Hall declared. "We are not going to lie down and play willing hostage."

In his remarks to the convention, Labor Sec. John Dunlop proposed establishment of a tripartite board to review union-shipper problems in the maritime industry. The panel would be made up of union, management and government members at the policy-making level.

Delegates adopted a resolution paying tribute to the late Peter McGavin. McGavin, who served as executive secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. for nearly 15 years until his death this summer, was cited for his "long and dedicated service" to SIU and its affiliated organizations.

Senate Votes To Curb Bias In Home Loans

The Senate voted 45-37 approval of a labor-supported bill intended to discourage banks from refusing to finance mortgages for home purchases in "redlined" inner-city nieghborhoods.

The bill would require lending institutions in larger cities to disclose the amount of mortgage money they lend in various neighborhoods. This would bring under the scrutiny of depositors and the public the practice of many banks of denying financing for homes purchased in older or low-income neighborhoods.

As AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller noted in a letter to senators endorsing the bill, "the presumption of lenders that property values in such neighborhoods will decline then becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy, because homes generally cannot be sold without mortgage credit availability."

The Senate did modify the bill to require disclosure of mortgage funding by postal zip code districts rather than the more closely pinpointed census tract required by the original bill. But it rejected by a 41-40 vote a Republican-backed amendment that would have substituted a Federal Reserve Board study in 27 cities. The original bill applied to 265 metropolitan areas and Senate Banking Committee Chairman William Proxmire (D-Wis.) charged the amendment would have gutted the bill.

A House subcommittee has completed hearings on a companion bill.

Meany Pledges Support:

Rail Revival Pushed By UTU Delegates

Miami Beach, Fla.—Delegates to the United Transportation Union convention prepared to map a program to preserve and strengthen the nation's rail transportation system and cheered a pledge of full support from AFL-CIO President George Meany.

More than 1,200 delegates to the quadrennial convention of the UTU heard a progress report from President Al H. Chesser that stressed the success of the four-way merger that established the union in 1969. That's when the merger of the former Railroad Trainmen, Conductors & Brakemen, Firemen & Enginemen, and the Switchmen took effect.

Chesser, who was elected president at the 1971 convention after having served as legislative director, cited impressive gains in wages since the merger, successful enactment of the railroad retirement reorganization bill, and the emergence of the union as a fighting force to preserve the industry.

Internally, he said, the UTU has slimmed the number of its locals to about 1,200 following the merger, and put its finances in order.

Meany told the opening session of the convention that the AFL-CIO considers restoration of the nation's railroad system "one of the nation's top priorities, and we're not going to let Congress forget it."

He said the United States "is paying a heavy price for those years and decades of blind mismanagement and neglect" of the railroads.

Meany termed it "not surprising" that President Ford is opposing a Senate-passed bill for a large-scale program to get the nation's railbeds in shape.

Ford "is fighting all job-creating bills unless they provide a bonus for business," Meany said. Because of that philosophy, "America's whole economy is in just about as bad shape as the railroads," he charged.

Meany said President Ford is "still listening" to Nixon's economic advisers. "If there is one thing that ought to be clear by now," he said, "it is that the policies that got us into this mess have been dead wrong from start to finish, and that those policies and the men who promoted them ought to be replaced before it is too late to salvage anything from the wreckage."

The AFL-CIO president vigorously defended labor's right to take and act on foreign affairs positions — including any grain sales to Soviet Russia that "rip off the American consumer." The labor movement, he said, will continue to speak up, "loud and clear, on all of the questions that affect the American people."

The UTU had a busy three-week convention program scheduled, with a number of major speakers mingled in with consideration of resolutions.

Chesser said the union represents some 250,000 workers, including in addition to railroad workers several groups of mass transit employes.

Improved railroad safety will be one focus of the convention's deliberations, Chesser indicated. The union has been critical of the Federal Railroad Administration's enforcement of federal safety laws.

On retirement reform, Chesser noted in his report to the convention that some of the problems of financing pensions stemmed from the fact that the United States was paying only 3 percent interest on money it borrowed from the retirement fund at a time when private industry funds were drawing substantially higher returns.

Abel Stresses 1976 Election Goal As IUD Marks 20th Anniversary

(Continued from Page 1)

rest are left to wrestle with the twin burdens of inflation and unemployment."

The Ford Administration is burying the nation's full employment policy "under a flurry of veto messages," and no matter what the President and his advisers proclaim, the economy is sick, he said.

The standoff in Washington between Congress and the President, Abel said, indicates that "we are altogether too close to a breakdown of our democratic, representative form of government." There is a liberal majority in Congress, he said, but it lacks the strength to override most Ford vetoes and the public suffers as a result of the deadlock.

AFL-CIO President George Meany underscored Abel's analysis of the economic situation, stressing the Administration's conservative policies on jobs, interest rates, education, health insurance and a number of other issues that are critical to the nation's economy.

He struck out sharply at Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) for lecturing unions that their only role is to worry about their members' jobs, declaring that "it would be easy for the American labor movement to adopt the narrow goals of concern only for its members. But we haven't done that because it would be morally wrong, and there is no practical guarantee of success by that sort of method."

Meany cited this overriding concern in terms of labor efforts on jobs, interest rates to spur new housing, unemployment compensation and minimum wages for union and non-union members alike, aid to education, tax reform.

Meany warned also that Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns may undertake a new campaign for wage controls and pledged an all-out fight if the issue develops.

The IUD over the years has played an important role in supplementing the work of the federation, Meany said, and in inspiring new approaches and cooperative programs.

Abel was severe in his criticism of the Ford Administration, noting that it seems to regard some men—"those who control giant banks and mammoth corporations as 'more equal' than the rest of us." The American economic system has become lopsided, he said, and "it tilts to the rich and the fortunate."

It is the job of the labor movement, he stressed, to "get our system back once again on an even keel."

Abel reviewed the passage and the administration of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, assailing the enforcement as a "disgraceful perversion of the law" and a surrender to big business. He renewed the commitment of the IUD to the long struggle of the Textile Workers against J. P. Stevens & Co. after reviewing in detail the failure of the National Labor Relations Act and the courts to bring the company into compliance with the law.

In the department's report to the convention, Abel invoked the spirit of determination that marked the years of President Franklin D. Roosevelt "to rally this nation from the reverses of the recent past toward a future in which all our citizens will find a new dimension in the quality of their lives."

The report also made the following points:

- The U.S. Supreme Court in recent months has significantly weakened the legal protection afforded trade unions in the exercise of their legitimate collective bargaining functions.
- There are 22 affiliated international unions participating with a staff of 42 organizers assigned to campaigns in eight southern states based on a survey of unorganized plants made by the IUD.
- There are currently 59 unions affiliated with the department representing a total vote in the 11th convention of 5.6 million members.
- In the two years since the last convention the net worth of the department has increased from $5.4 million to $6.3 million.

After White House Meeting:

Grain Policy Shift Lifts Dock Boycott

(Continued from Page 1)

lop also was a participant in the meeting.

Meany said that in mid-October the government will reassess U.S. grain production and "we are going to find out what sort of a deal the Soviet Union will make in order to guarantee to the American farmer a certain amount of sales. . . ."

He added that "I am sure that the representatives of our government realize that no longer can we trust this sort of trading to private enterprise in this country whose only desire, of course, is to protect the profit motive."

Wheat and feed grain purchases by the Soviets in past years have been highly erratic, causing a serious disruption in prices paid by American consumers and farmers.

Soviet purchases made thus far during the 1975-76 season amount to 10.2 million metric tons. This compares with 1.8 million in the previous year, 6.1 million in 1973-74 and 13.7 million in the 1972-73 season.

The massive Soviet purchases in 1972 caused prices of wheat, flour, bread and other consumer food products to soar—and in the effort to head-off a repetition of those conditions this year, the AFL-CIO gave its full support of the ILA grain embargo.

In a statement issued following the White House meeting, Ford said he was immediately dispatching representatives to the Soviet Union to negotiate a long-term agreement.

Ford also disclosed he would establish a Food Committee of the Economic Policy Board under the National Security Council to monitor developments.

The President conceded in his statement that "highly volatile and unpredictable purchases" by the Soviets have caused havoc for American farmers and contribute to price instability.

"It would contribute materially to the interests of the American farmer, workers in the transportation industries and American consumers, as well as be in the interests of our customers abroad, if we could develop a longer-term and more certain purchase understanding with the Soviet Union—providing among other features, for certain minimum purchases," the President said.

Ford also noted that the discussions with the Soviets will include the completion of negotiations over shipping rates "to assure that at least one-third of the tonnage is carried in American ships."

The current agreement with the USSR on the quota for U.S.-flag ships, which expires Dec. 31, is also under renegotiation.

Siderography Union Weighs Merger Move

Ottawa—The 34th biennial convention of the Siderographers authorized the union's officers to explore merger or affiliation discussions with other unions in the printing and graphic arts industry.

The Siderographers, with an active membership of 18, are in a declining craft of steel plate transfer engraving used in the printing of currency, postage stamps and stock certificates.

James C. Small was re-elected to a third two-year term as president by the convention, which had an attendance of 23, including delegates, members and retirees.

Harvey Henderson was elected secretary to succeed John P. Ryan, who did not seek re-election, and Anthony St. Dennis was elected first vice president to represent the Canadian membership.

The New York City area was selected as the site for the union's 1977 convention.

Maryland-D.C. Labor Votes Per Capita Rise

Four hundred delegates to the 10th biennial convention of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO adopted a broad-ranging legislative program and a per capita increase to help carry it out.

The convention approved a per capita raise of 7 cents a month, to take effect in three stages and bring the total to 23 cents. It is the first increase since 1969. Five cents of the increase will be earmarked for COPE, raising the political education share of the per capita to 10.5 cents.

The plan approved by the delegates adds 4 cents to the per capita as of Sept. 1, of which 3 cents is for COPE. On Jan. 1, 1976, the payment rises another 2 cents of which 1 cent goes to COPE. And on Jan. 1, 1977, COPE gets an additional 1 cent.

Of the added nickel for COPE, 3 cents will be returned to area councils and 2 cents used for the state computer program.

Convention resolutions reiterated labor's support for full employment programs, national health security and trade legislation. They also expressed opposition to monitoring of phone calls by the telephone company without a warning signal, to the use of coded packages instead of clearly understandable price markings by supermarkets and to attempts to use trespass laws as anti-union devices.

The convention urged voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia, which now has only a non-voting delegate, and called for full collective bargaining rights for public employes.

Delegates adopted a memorial resolution of tribute to Andrew Lewis, who died after having been elected president at the previous convention. President Dominic Fornaro, who replaced him, presented awards to two past presidents of the AFL-CIO central body, Charles A. Della and Woodrow F. Strong. Other awards went to locals with the highest percentage of registered voters and contributors to the voluntary COPE fund, and to volunteer COPE workers.

Major speakers included Sol Chaikin, the new president of the Ladies' Garment Workers; COPE Director Al Barkan, Rep. Paul S. Sarbanes (D-Md.), and AFL-CIO Regional Director Walter Waddy.

A SOLID HIT is made with handicapped Boy Scouts by Burt Zaretsky, scouting committee chairman of Local 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, during a pick-up game. The group is one of several units of handicapped scouts the New York local co-sponsors.

Study Reveals How Tax Shelters Help Investors Profit from 'Losses'

Losers can be big winners in the game of tax shelters.

If you have enough money to get into the game, a congressional study demonstrates, the right kind of an investment can produce a temporary paper loss that is pure gold at tax time.

The study, prepared for the House Ways & Means Committee, is based on actual income tax returns —with names deleted to preserve the confidentiality of the tax system. It shows how persons with hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual income can end up paying a lower federal income tax than a $10,000-a-year worker.

Furthermore, it's all quite legal —at least up to now. The Ways & Means Committee, however, is looking into the entire area of tax shelters as part of its attempt to draw up a tax reform package to be sent to the House floor later this year.

The tax reform bill will seek to close some of the more flagrant tax shelter loopholes, a series of committee votes indicated. A comprehensive reform package, long urged by the AFL-CIO, could bring in billions of dollars in new revenue.

The study examined some of the most common forms of tax shelters —investments in real estate, cattle feeding, motion picture films and oil drilling. In most cases, investments were made by a small group of partners who often were doctors or other high-income professionals. Usually, the tax returns of one member of the partnership would be summarized to demonstrate the effect of the paper losses on the investor's taxes.

Often, the study showed, wealthy individuals used several tax shelters to bring down their taxable income to token amounts.

One executive with earnings for the year of $427,000 plus another $4,000 in dividend and interest income managed to end up paying only $1,200 in federal taxes—about three-tenths of 1 percent of his income.

He claimed a $385,000 loss on three real estate tax shelters and a $25,000 loss on a farm investment.

The partnership tax return on one of his real estate investments showed that he and his colleagues invested $225,000 in a real estate construction project that started up on Dec. 28, just three days before the end of the tax year.

By prepaying interest on a construction loan and other expenses, the operation managed to show a net loss of $215,000. There was of course no income during the construction stage to offset expenses. Thus, each partner was able to deduct almost the full amount of his three-day-old investment from his taxable income for the year—while still retaining valuable rights in an operation that might well turn a profit after completion of the construction.

In another example, a partnership set up to build and operate a store began with a total investment of $53,000 and borrowed nearly all of the money needed. The first year's operations produced a $203,000 net loss, which meant that each investor was able to deduct nearly four times the amount of his original investment from his taxable income. The partner whose returns were examined was able to take a $127,000 deduction from his taxable income for real estate partnership losses.

The tax study looked into the returns of a physician and a businessman who were partners in another real estate venture that owns several buildings, some completed and some still under construction. Depreciation deductions and other offsets to income resulted in technical losses sufficient to enable the doctor to avoid all taxes on an income of $105,000 and the businessman to pay no taxes on an income of $262,000.

A cattle-feeding investment by a lawyer wiped out all taxes on an income of $151,000. Another cattle-feeding tax shelter managed to give each investor $2.38 in a tax-deductible "loss" for each dollar invested.

Motion picture distribution partnerships did even better for investors, according to several examples in the tax study. One partnership—with the help of depreciation deductions on motion pictures acquired for distribution—returned a $2.96 tax loss for each dollar of investment. This helped one investor with an annual income of $181,000 to pay only $1,000 in federal income taxes.

With the help of intangible drilling costs, a partner in an oil drilling enterprise that started up shortly before the end of the tax year managed to pay only $1,000 on total income of $182,000.

In preliminary votes, the Ways & Means Committee moved to curb the use of paper losses on farm operations to offset income from other sources and then took similar action on investments in oil-drilling operations.

The Administration, which in 1973 had urged elimination of the oil tax shelter, defended it in testimony before the committee.

"This is not a time to add to the burden and the battering the oil companies have been taking," Assistant Treasury Sec. Charles M. Walker said.

Woodworkers Vote Convention Delay

Portland, Ore.—The executive board of the Woodworkers voted to postpone the union's biennial convention which was scheduled to open in Montreal Sept. 15.

The action was taken at the request of the IWA's Western Canadian Regional Council where more than 22,000 members are out of work because labor disputes have closed a major part of the British Columbia forest products industry.

IWA President Keith W. Johnson said the full resources of the union are being made available to the western Canadian membership in an effort to reach equitable contract settlements. The board also authorized the IWA officers to make arrangements for rescheduling the convention for early 1976 in Montreal, tentatively in March.

NLRB Denies Minnesota Bid On Hospitals

The National Labor Relations Board has denied a petition by the state of Minnesota that the board cede jurisdiction over labor relations in the state's private nonprofit hospitals to the Minnesota Bureau of Mediation Services.

It was the NLRB's first formal order in such circumstances since the National Labor Relations Act was amended last year to extend coverage to nonprofit hospitals. The 1974 amendments preempted an applicable Minnesota law that had been on the books since 1947.

The NLRB cited three statutory conflicts between the federal and state laws—the right to strike, lockouts and compulsory arbitration. The Minnesota law prohibits strikes and lockouts and makes binding arbitration mandatory when labor disputes between charitable hospitals and their employes reach an impasse.

'Orderly Procedures' Cited:

Construction Unions Back Bargaining Bill

A new bill designed to improve collective bargaining in the construction industry received broad support and bipartisan endorsement at House hearings. It is expected to clear Congress and reach the President's desk in tandem with the jobsite picketing bill that has already passed the House.

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, who shaped the bargaining bill in consultation with construction unions and employers, termed it a means of improving the industry's record of dispute settlement "with a minimum of government interference in the collective bargaining process."

Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., told the House Labor Committee that the legislation would promote an "orderly procedure" for lessening disputes in a unique industry without resorting to wage controls or compulsory arbitration.

Earlier, President Ford had indicated at a news conference in Milwaukee that passage of the bargaining bill will assure his signature on the construction site picketing bill.

Despite criticism of the bargaining bill by some non-union contractor groups that are trying to keep the site picketing bill from becoming law, the House Labor Committee was expected to give the measure quick endorsement with the full House following up with a decisive vote of approval.

The Senate would then take up both the site picketing bill and the bargaining legislation, so that both measures would reach the President's desk at about the same time.

National and international unions would have a greater involvement in the bargaining process under the proposed legislation. The terms of the bill apply solely to the segment of the construction industry where workers are represented by standard building trades unions.

It would establish a Construction Industry Collective Bargaining Committee of 10 union representatives, 10 management representatives and up to three neutrals, including the chairman. Both the Secretary of Labor and the director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service will be ex officio members.

Local unions would be required to give their parent national unions 60 days notice before the expiration or reopening of agreements. Contractors would be required to give similar notice to their national organizations. The national labor and management groups then would forward these notices to the Construction Industry Bargaining Committee.

The committee would have a variety of options:

- It could take jurisdiction of the matter, in which case there could be no strike or lockout for 30 days past the expiration or reopening date of the contract.
- It could refer a dispute to a national craft board or to the national machinery established by a branch of the industry on which national unions and contractor associates are represented.
- It could request the national labor organizations and the national contractor organizations whose members are involved to participate in the negotiations. In that event, any new or revised collective bargaining agreement would have to be approved by the national union in order to take effect.

The proposed legislation would run for five years. The Construction Industry Collective Bargaining Committee would submit to Congress six months before the law expires its recommendations with regard to extension of the measure.

Georgine noted in his testimony that the committee will have no authority to modify any "existing or proposed collective bargaining agreement." Furthermore, "the procedures have been carefully drafted so as to provide the necessary timetable for the mediation processes to take effect."

Noting the current heavy unemployment in the construction industry—more than double the national average—Georgine saw the bill as a practical approach to helping the industry. Any disadvantages, he testified, would be "far outweighed" by the mutual benefits of establishing an orderly procedure to resolve disputes.

Education Veto Beaten, Oil Vote Falls Short

(Continued from Page 1)

With all 100 senators present, it would have required 67 votes to make up the two-thirds majority needed to override the veto. The actual vote was 61-39.

Ford personally lobbied hard to persuade senators that he was still open to a "compromise" on gradual decontrol of oil prices if his veto were sustained.

He said in a televised statement from the White House that the veto was intended "to protect our future economic stability." But a Library of Congress study estimated that lifting of price controls on domestic oil would cost consumers $72 billion over the next five years from the direct and ripple effect of higher pertoleum product prices.

In a letter urging Congress to override "this outrageous veto," AFL-CIO President George Meany warned that soaring oil prices "could send the economy into an even deeper recession" and add to unemployment.

There remained a possibility that a stop-gap extension of controls—perhaps for 60 days—might be enacted while Congress and the Administration made another attempt to agree on an overall energy policy. The House still has before it a comprehensive energy conservation bill that it took up before the August recess and put aside during the battle to extend controls.

9-13-75

STEELWORKERS APPEAL to Congress to help block an attempted takeover of the Copperweld Corp. by a French-based multinational conglomerate. The nearly 500 USWA members employed at Copperweld plants in Ohio, after meeting with their congressional representatives on the Capitol steps, also demonstrated at the Justice Dept., Federal Trade Commission and French Embassy.

Clothing Pact Scores Gains For 95,000

(Continued from Page 1)

Cotton garment workers will receive 20 cents an hour in two steps—10 cents retroactive to Sept. 2, 1975 and 10 cents on Jan. 5, 1975. The 25-cent raise in the outerwear industry comes in a 15-cent increase as of Sept. 2 and an additional 10 cents in January.

Both groups receive the same improvements in retirement benefits. Starting in January, minimum pension benefits for persons already retired will go to $90 a month for a worker retired at 65 or older, or on permanent disability, with reduced minimums for those on early retirement.

Future retirees will benefit from a new computation formula that is expected to raise payments for persons retiring in 1976 an average of 26 percent more than they would receive under the present formula. Workers retiring in 1977 would gain an average of 40 percent more than they would have received under the present plan.

In 1977 and after, the basic retirement formula becomes $5 per month for each year of service.

Another contract change eliminates the present ceiling of $170 on retirement benefits next Jan. 1.

The contract also provides vesting rights after 10 years and improved obstetrical and hospital benefits.

Finley and Sheinkman headed the ACWA negotiating team, which included heads of joint boards in centers with large numbers of workers affected by the contracts.

Conglomerate Takeover Fought by Steelworkers

The Steelworkers are fighting the takeover of Copperweld Corp. by a French-based multinational holding company, Societe Imetal, to protect existing labor-management relations.

About 500 of the Copperweld workers brought their appeal to Washington in seeking the support of Congress and the Administration to block Imetal's bid for the company's stock. The USWA members demonstrated at the Capitol, the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Dept. before marching to the French Embassy.

Meanwhile, Copperweld has won a temporary restraining order to freeze Imetal's tender offer for the common shares of the Copperweld.

Steelworkers President I. W. Abel said in a statement issued in Pittsburgh that the USWA and the entire American labor movement have long opposed any takeovers of firms by multinational conglomerates. He said the threatened takeover could cause severe economic hardship on USWA members, their families and in communities with Copperweld operations.

"In our current labor agreements with Copperweld," Abel noted, "we have excellent pension and job security provisions that are funded and reasonably guaranteed if present management policies continue.

"We are fearful of what may happen to these employe benefits if they are subjected to the type of manipulation normally practiced by conglomerates such as Societe Imetal," he said.

Copperweld has about 4,700 employes at plants in Warren and Shelby, Ohio, Glassport, Pa., Oswego, N.Y., and in Chicago. It also has a facility under construction at Fayettesville, Tenn. The firm makes and fabricates specialty metal products, steel alloys, tubing and bimetalics for industrial users.

In its federal district court suit, Copperweld charged that insider trading had occurred before Imetal revealed its intention to make a takeover bid of $112 million. The Securities & Exchange Commission is looking into the charges.

Abel said that "aside from the violations of law involved and the threat that such a takeover may pose for the free enterprise system, we of labor are vitally disturbed by the impact the takeover would have on our members."

Imetal is controlled by the Rothschild financial empire, headed by Baron Guy de Rothschild. The conglomerate includes operations in banking, financing, metals, transportation, real estate, hotels, food and manufacturing.

"We are mindful of the management attitudes and labor relations policies of the Rothschild empire," Abel said. "We believe their labor-management attitude to be totally unrealistic and unworkable in the United States."

He said there also is concern that Copperweld would be required to alter its source of raw materials after the takeover.

"This could have a decided impact on our members employed in steel, copper and a broad array of other metal-producing operations," Abel noted as he urged both Congress and the Administration to help keep Cooperweld under American ownership.

He also called on stockholders to reject Imetal's tender offer for common and 5 percent convertible debentures, and said that the USWA was prepared to "join in whatever court action is necessary to see that laws are not violated."

In its suit, Copperweld charged Imetal with "material" omissions in its offering which would prevent shareholders from accurately assessing Imetal and its intentions. Copperweld also claimed that should the takeover go through, the FTC would likely begin proceedings to force Imetal to divest its ownership in Copperweld and would result in irreparable harm to the U.S. firm.

Murray-Green Award Pays Tribute to Beirne

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has voted to present the 1975 Murray-Green Award posthumously to Joseph A. Beirne, the late president of the Communications Workers.

The award, named in honor of Philip Murray and William Green, late presidents of the CIO and the AFL respectively, will be presented to Mrs. Beirne at the AFL-CIO convention, which opens Oct. 2 in San Francisco.

In announcing the council's action, Federation President George Meany said the award was in recognition of Beirne's "outstanding contribution to the health and welfare not only of the American people but people around the world—as chairman for many years of the AFL-CIO Community Services Committee, as an officer of AIFLD, as president of CWA and, finally, as chairman of our International Affairs Committee."

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Challenges Cloud Coast Farm Votes

Fresno, Calif. — Controversy surrounding representation elections in California's agricultural industry clouded the outcome of the United Farm Workers' battle to regain bargaining units raided from them by the giant Teamsters union.

While the UFW clearly has won 24 of the elections to the Teamsters' eight, 20 other contests remain undecided because of impounded ballots, lack of a majority or other legal disputes. Figures compiled by the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Organization & Field Services show field workers chose to have "no union" in only three elections.

Besides those elections that are being challenged by one or the other of the two unions or by the growers, there is the added confusion and uncertainty of voter eligibility, bargaining unit size and other factors involved in balloting procedures.

The California Agricultural Labor Relations Board itself, the state agency charged with supervising the elections, has come in for heavy criticism from UFW President Cesar Chavez who has called for the resignation of its general counsel, Walter Kintz.

Chavez accused Kintz of making "back-room deals" with the growers and the Teamsters that have resulted in the impoundment of thousands of ballots.

He charged that Kintz had illegally entered into an agreement with the Western Growers Association to impound ballots cast at ranches of the association's 147 member vegetable growers without consulting the UFW.

Kintz said the ballots were seized pending the outcome of CALRB hearings on whether one multiemployer election can be conducted to cover all 147 members of the WGA. The Teamsters had sought a multiemployer election, and this position was supported by the growers.

The UFW argues that separate elections should be held on each ranch. Chavez noted also that impoundment of the ballots slows the momentum the union would have had if the ballots at the WGA ranches where elections have been held were counted and the results announced. He is confident the UFW won at those places.

There is also a controversy over the symbolically important election at the E. & J. Gallo company and at other grape growers who had contracts with the UFW in 1973, then signed "sweetheart" contracts with the Teamsters.

The Sept. 10 elections at Gallo was won by the Teamsters, 223 to

(Continued on Page 7)

Senate Upholds Ford Cut In Federal Pay Increase

YOUNG VIETNAMESE REFUGEES practice handicrafts during a tour by labor officials at the Indiantown Gap, Pa., resettlement center. The touring group included Pennsylvania AFL-CIO President Harry Boyer, partially hidden at right; John McManus, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, center, and John Eisenhower, left, chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees. **(Story, Page 8)**

4.3 Million Lose 3.66% By Action

The Senate refused to overturn President Ford's cutback of a scheduled pay raise for the federal government's 1.3 million salaried employes and more than 3 million others whose compensation is linked to changes in the federal salary schedule.

They will get only a 5 percent raise next month instead of the labor-supported 8.66 percent that a government salary survey determined was needed to comply with the law linking federal pay to "comparable" private industry jobs. The vote that reduced the pay raise was 53-39.

The President's arbitrary pay ceiling also means less money for persons in the military service, who get an automatic raise whenever the civilian salary scale is changed, and for coal miners disabled by black lung disease. Their compensation, too, is tied to the federal salary schedule.

Ironically, Ford's 5 percent ceiling would most probably have been rejected if Congress hadn't linked its own pay to the federal comparability formula less than two months ago. That meant that senators had to vote on a higher pay raise for themselves.

A simple majority vote of either the House or Senate was all that was needed to reject Ford's 5 percent plan and reinstate the 8.66 percent raise. In a similar situation last year, the Senate refused by a 64-35 vote to agree to Ford's proposal to delay the annual federal salary adjustment by three months —the equivalent of a pay cut. In 1973, a deferment by then-Presi-

(Continued on Page 8)

Protests Halt Retreat on Meat Purity

The Agriculture Dept., apparently bowing to opposition from consumer, congressional and union forces, has shelved for the time being a quietly developed plan to downgrade the federal meat inspection program.

The USDA plan would have relied on the little-known 1962 Talmadge-Aiken Act to undermine the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967 which required states to bring their inspection programs up to federal standards or turn over the inspection responsibility to the federal government.

The 1967 law, sponsored by Rep. Neal Smith (D-Iowa), provides for payment by the United States of

(Continued on Page 7)

In New York, Chicago:

New Pacts Settle Key School Strikes

Teachers in the nation's largest and third largest public-school systems—New York and Chicago—returned to their classrooms with new contracts.

In New York, where 80,000 members of the United Federation of Teachers walked out over overcrowded classes and other work conditions, the union agreed to a new two-year pact that represented retention of class size and a compromise on other issues.

"We've gotten the most we can possibly get, given the financial situation of the city," UFT President Albert Shanker told UFT's 1,300-member delegate assembly, which recommended acceptance of the pact.

The Chicago settlement provided a 7.1 percent average salary increase for 28,000 members of the Chicago Teachers Union, plus other improvements, over a 12-month period.

CTU's 900-member house of delegates approved the terms of the tentative contract by a 655 to 10 vote. Union members were scheduled to vote on the settlement Sept. 25, CTU President Robert M. Healey said.

Meanwhile strikers in two dozen or so other communities in 10 states kept thousands of other teachers away from their jobs.

The New York settlement, approved by a vote of 10,651 to 6,695, was reached under extremely trying conditions. Confronting negotiators were financial problems that have brought the city near bankruptcy.

The pact that was finally hammered out was approved by the union's delegate assembly by a vote of 662 to 359.

The compromise agreement provides for a 45-minute shortening of the school day twice a week in return for teachers giving up two of their 45-minute preparation periods weekly for the duration of the contract.

Class sizes, the key issue for the UFT, will remain at the max-

(Continued on Page 2)

Speakers Set For AFL-CIO Convention

Four prominent senators, two Cabinet members and other high government officials will be among the speakers at the AFL-CIO's 11th Convention, which opens Thursday, Oct. 2, in San Francisco's Convention Center.

Scheduled to address the convention on Oct. 2 are Sec. of Labor John T. Dunlop, W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service and Betty Southard Murphy, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board.

The U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Daniel P. Moynihan, will speak on Oct. 3.

The program for Monday, Oct.

(Continued on Page 8)

Durkin's Senate Victory Seen Rebuff To President's Economic Policies

Democrat John A. Durkin's decisive victory in the rerun of New Hampshire's senatorial election was read by winner and loser alike as evidence that President Ford's personal popularity doesn't extend to his policies.

Big, friendly crowds had turned out to applaud the President on his 11-hour motorcade through the state with Louis C. Wyman, the Republican candidate, at his side. The voter turnout, in a state with a Republican registration edge, was even higher than it had been last November.

The first time around, the election had ended in a virtual dead heat with both candidates claiming victory.

This time, it was never in doubt. Durkin's 27,000 vote lead was a decisive majority in New Hampshire terms.

Durkin saw his victory as evidence the voters "rejected Jerry Ford's program for the economy" and wanted Congress to go to work on an alternative.

Wyman, who earlier said that Ford has "put his name on the line" by campaigning in New Hampshire, said after the election that the message of opposition to heavy federal spending "may be a little too spartan for these times."

Wyman had ripped into Durkin as the candidate of "big labor" in an apparent attempt to shift the spotlight away from his own involvement in a contribution to the Nixon campaign fund that is being investigated by the Watergate prosecutor's office.

New Hampshire's labor move-

(Continued on Page 8)

N.Y., Chicago Teachers Get New Contracts

(Continued from Page 1)

imum levels called for under the old contract—32 pupils in elementary school, 33 in junior high school and 34 in senior high school.

The new contract also provides all instructional employes with a year or more of service a $300 cost-of-living pay adjustment, effective Dec. 1. In addition, the pact calls for two longevity increments.

All wage adjustments, however, depend on whether all or part of the school board's $43 million allocation for collective bargaining is available. The funds were frozen in light of New York's severe financial predicament which has put the city in a near-bankrupt position.

The board and the union also agreed to rehire some of the 4,500 teachers who were laid off recently, using the salaries saved during the walkout and the penalties expected to be imposed under the state's Taylor Law forbidding public employe strikes.

The size of classes, a key issue in the New York strike, also kept Chicago teachers far apart in their talks with the city school board. The tentative agreement reduces class sizes in the primary grades from a maximum of 31 to 30 and, in the intermediate and upper grades, from 34 to 33.

The union also won retention of 1,525 teaching jobs scheduled to be eliminated and a first-time dental-care plan providing up to $1,000 a year in benefits for each eligible union member.

Under the wage provisions of the pact, the starting salary of teachers will jump from $10,400 to $11,000 a year. Top salaries for teachers with doctor's degrees will go from $20,996 to $22,600.

Classes resumed in Lynn, Mass., following settlement of an 11-day teachers strike there. Two strikes ended in Rhode Island but strikes continued in other school districts in the state. Teachers also were out in large numbers in Berkeley and in San Jose in California, as well as in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Clerks Ratify Airline Pact For 3,400

Los Angeles—The Railway & Airline Clerks approved a 30-month contract providing substantial wage boosts and other improvements for 3,400 clerical, office and passenger service employes of Western Airlines.

The agreement provides an average 25 percent wage increase over the life of the contract, an unlimited cost-of-living allowance, greater pension benefits, improved medical insurance coverage and greater job security.

Under the pact, workers receive a 6 percent wage increase retroactive to July 1. Other increases of 5 percent each become effective on Jan. 1, 1976, and on Jan. 1, 1977. A final 6 percent hike is applied on July 1, 1977.

In addition to the general wage increases, customer service representatives—sales personnel, reservations clerks and others—receive an 11-cent hourly wage boost at the top rate and 9 cents an hour at the 49-60 months step effective Sept. 1.

Vacation and holiday improvements, currently tops among the trunk carriers, will increase automatically if any other trunk carrier provides increases.

The Lesson for Today

Minnesota Convention Affirms Political Fund

Minneapolis—The Minnesota AFL-CIO convention emphatically rejected a committee proposal to allow union members to obtain a refund of dues money contributed to state political campaigns.

"The message is out. This is a democratic organization with the delegates setting the policy," commented President David K. Roe at the 18th convention of the state federation.

The Minnesota AFL-CIO allocates three cents from monthly per capita payments for state political contributions and three cents for voter registration, political education mailings and get-out-the-vote drives.

Delegates also called for defense of seniority clauses in union contracts and adopted a resolution seeking an amendment to the state Human Rights Act recognizing seniority systems as non-discriminatory. The resolution noted that full employment is the only solution for the problems of all workers.

The convention also voted to "recommend and encourage the endorsement of Hubert H. Humphrey for President of the United States."

In an address to the delegates, Humphrey leveled a slashing attack on the economic policies of the Ford Administration. The Minnesota senator charged that the Nixon-Ford recession had cost 15 million workers their jobs in the past two years, that people had lost $300 billion in income, that cities and states lost $42 billion in tax revenues, and that the recession cost the nation 2.5 million new homes that never were constructed.

National COPE Director Al Barkan challenged the delegates to realize their full political potential by placing COPE on the top of the agenda for their local union activities. "Voter registration, COPE dollars, education, alliances. That's the recipe for political success in November 1976," Barkan said.

In other convention action, the Minnesota AFL-CIO reaffirmed support for the state usury law's 8 percent ceiling on home mortgage interest and continued to oppose ban-the-can legislation.

The delegates also called for federal legislation to eliminate monopoly control of energy sources and demanded a crash program funded by the federal government to develop alternative energy sources with safeguards to insure the manufacture and distribution of the needed energy at low-cost without profiteering.

Re-elected without opposition to four-year terms were the executive officers of the state federation: President David K. Roe, Executive Vice President Leonard O. LaShomb, and Sec.-Treas. Neil C. Sherburne.

Veterans Day Date Restored to Nov. 11

Congress completed action on a bill changing the official date of Veterans Day back to Nov. 11 — when it had been observed before enactment of the Monday holiday bill.

Veterans organizations had opposed the designation of the fourth Monday in October for the holiday and 46 state legislatures have established Nov. 11 as the state holiday date.

The new federal law, however, does not take effect until 1978. Thus the October date will remain the legal federal holiday this year and for two years thereafter.

In Convention Action:

ITU Delegates Spur Moves for Merger

Honolulu—Merger possibilities among unions in the printing and publishing industry got added impetus at the 117th convention of the International Typographical Union.

Delegates reaffirmed past efforts of the ITU to promote closer relations and unification moves with other unions and stressed the need to continue "its policy of intensive, aggressive action that is paving the way to an early attainment of the goal of merger."

The convention's merger resolution called on local ITU units to help spur merger proposals with additional expressions of support.

ITU President A. Sandy Bevis, who has been involved in developing closer ties with the Newspaper Guild since last November, set the tone for the further exploration of merger discussions in his opening remarks to the convention.

Pro-merger addresses by President Charles A. Perlik, Jr. of the Guild and Sec.-Treas. Burton F. Riley of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union were greeted by applause.

The drive for closer relations in the industry also has involved the Graphic Arts Union, which was formed in 1972 through the unification of the Lithographers, Photoengravers and the Bookbinders.

Perlik told delegates that he was hopeful a new cooperation agreement could be achieved at a meeting next month during the AFL-CIO convention which would bring together Bevis, Perlik, and Presidents Sol Fishko of IPGCU and Kenneth J. Brown of the GAIU.

Riley stressed that new technologies in the industry make it mandatory for the unions to effect a merger.

Delegates acted on a total of 155 propositions, 33 law changes and 21 resolutions.

The key issue of the convention involved deliberations over Proposition No. 128, adopted 159 to 50, that will go to a membership referendum Nov. 19.

The "omnibus" proposition provides for a reclassification option for regular members to become associate members, a major overhaul of the ITU Old Age Pension benefits plan, and the restructuring of monthly dues and per capita payments.

If approved by the regular members who are eligible to vote in the referendum, the proposed changes would go into effect in January.

Under the proposal, regular members paying pension and mortuary dues could opt to become associate members, thereby relieving them of the additional dues payments. However, they would also waive their rights to vote on matters affecting pension and mortuary plans.

Effective Jan. 20, the pension fund would be gradually reduced from the current level of $2.3 million to $1.5 million. If this reduction causes monthly benefits to drop below $10, the remaining money will be divided equally among pensioners to phase out the fund. Current benefits average about $60 a month.

Also under bylaw changes, the new dues structure would provide for a $1 a month per capita and a 1 percent payment on earnings to the international, in addition to local dues.

Retirees earning less than $500 a month would be exempt for the 1 percent payment and retirees with 60 years of continuous membership would be exempt from all dues.

The convention's laws committee suggested that adoption of the wide-ranging proposition would help stem the current decline in the union's membership and pave the way toward stepping up organizing efforts. The convention also called for support of women's rights, ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and a reduction in working hours.

UNION LABEL WEEK proclamation is signed by Arizona Gov. Raul H. Castro during a statehouse ceremony witnessed by labor representatives. From left are R. C. Holt of the Carpenters, William Soltero of the Laborers, Grace Carroll of the Southern Arizona Central Labor Council, Clyde Bowden of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Virginia Claseman of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees, William Yeager of the Machinists, and Sec.-Treas. Darwin Aycock of the State AFL-CIO.

In Convention Resolutions

Industrial Union Dept. Shapes Legislative, Organizing Goals

Pittsburgh—The AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. pressed for more vigorous enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, defended the social security system against its critics and sounded a call for renewed union organizing at its 20th anniversary convention here.

Delegates representing 5.6 million workers in 59 affiliated unions also urged speedier, less costly arbitration procedures, and served warning on J. P. Stevens & Co. that it will face the entire trade union movement if it continues to deny its workers a union contract.

Other resolutions reaffirmed labor's position on such issues as national health insurance, unemployment compensation, foreign trade and civil rights—and the convention explored also the complex issues of raw materials policy with the help of a special study commissioned by the IUD. Its conclusions were reflected in a resolution calling on the government to develop a policy and programs to assure a continuing flow of raw materials necessary to American industry and to stockpile essential ingredients.

Meeting in the midst of Administration assertions that the recession is over, the convention grimly noted that "for many millions of American workers, the recession is still a bitter fact of life." And for those whose unemployment benefits are about to run out, "the worst is yet to come."

The IUD urged a shift of priorities from military to human resources spending and called on Congress to replace the "trickle-down" economic policy of the Ford Administration by "job creation programs with a commitment to full employment."

Its job safety and health statement deplored the slow pace of developing and enforcing standards, but saw some improvement in recent months. But even that modest progress is threatened, the IUD warned, by a small business lobby that is seeking to "panic Congress" into exempting small firms or providing for "courtesy" inspections instead of penalties for violations.

The convention expressed "astonishment" that it should be necessary after all these years to affirm confidence in the social security system. But it did so because of a wave of "scare stories" that the system is going bankrupt.

A detailed convention statement proposed a series of improvements in both the financing mechanism and benefit structure, including applying the social security tax to an employer's entire payroll and supplementing the wage and payroll taxes with a government contribution out of general revenue.

Several resolutions dealt with public employe issues and the problems of state and local governments. The convention endorsed the concept of "counter-cyclical" increased federal assistance to states and cities during recessions. It also affirmed that collective bargaining agreements in the public sector should be "no less binding than their private sector counterparts" and are not to be changed unilaterally.

A political activity resolution said the 1976 elections will determine whether the nation will be governed "by a President who cares about the workers . . . or by one who will continue to turn his back" on worker concerns.

President Ford's attack on government regulatory agencies was sharply criticized in another resolution.

The real problem of regulatory agencies, the convention noted, is that too often they are controlled by the industries they are supposed to regulate.

The IUD urged an increase in the federal minimum wage to $3 an hour, called for strengthening of the National Labor Relations Act through both legislation and administrative action, and urged Congress to complete passage of the construction site picketing bill "so that our friends in the building trades may be afforded the same rights . . . as have been available over the years to workers in other industries."

President I. W. Abel and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman were re-elected by acclamation, and the salary for the full-time secretary-treasurer was raised $5,000 to $40,000 a year. Two new vice presidents joined incumbents who were returned to office—President Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters and Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

Major speakers, in addition to AFL-CIO President George Meany who spoke on the opening day, were Senators Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) and Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.), and National Urban League Director Vernon Jordan.

Coors Called Unsuited For Broadcasting Post

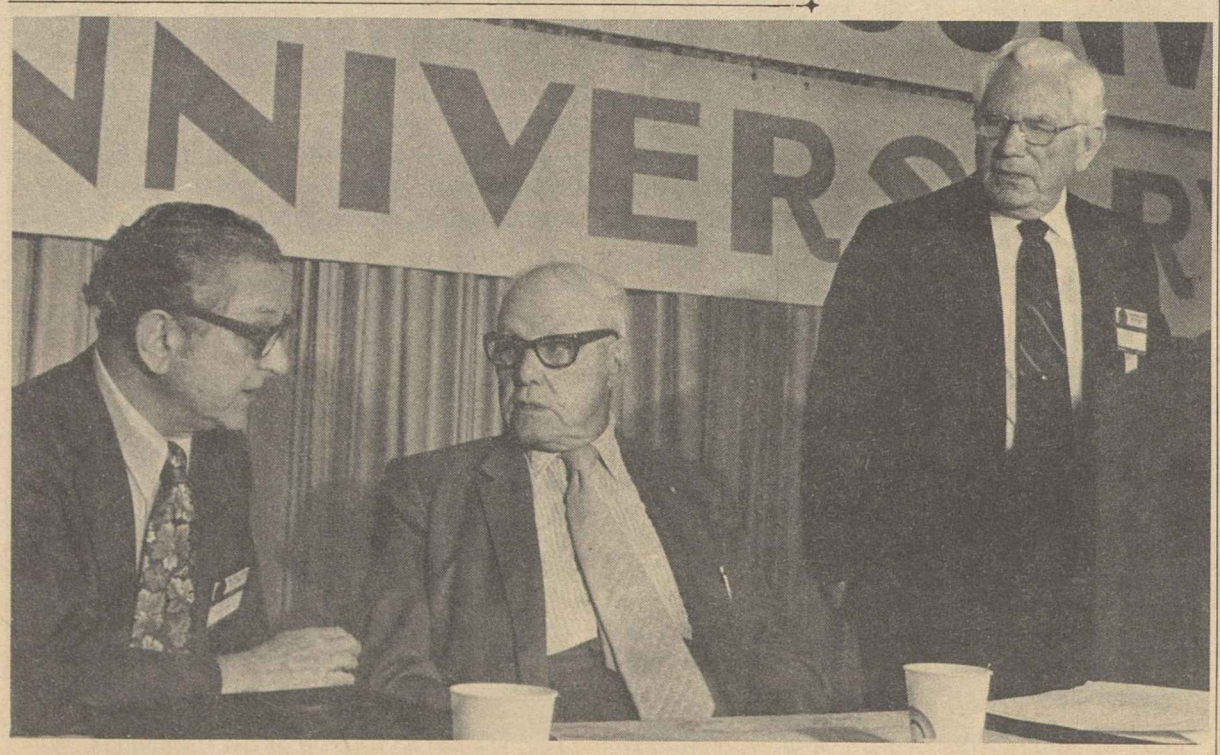
The AFL-CIO has renewed its opposition to the nomination of Joseph Coors to the board of directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting charging that it threatens the "integrity" of public affairs programming on public broadcasting.

In a letter to Sen. John Pastore (D-R.I.) chairman of the Subcommittee on Communications, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said confirmation of Coors "would add division, not diversity to CPB and, we believe, would portend ideological mischief with this nation's public broadcasting system, which operates on the public air waves with the public's money."

Biemiller said Coors's record "of aggressive support for his narrow, extremist political views is, of course, his constitutional right. But if these views were brought to bear in the policy-making of the CPB, they would seriously impugn the integrity of public broadcasting, particularly public affairs programming."

While the CPB board of directors "is supposed to represent the broad spectrum of American public opinion," Biemiller said, "the confirmation of persons whose ideology is either far right or far left brings neither diversity nor balance to the board."

He added: "We believe that Mr. Coors's continuing role in establishing and operating (a television news network) constitutes a real conflict of interest in fact, if not in a statutory sense. Perhaps too loose standards have been applied in the past to potential conflicts of interest in CPB, but adding yet another 'wrong' cannot ever add up to a 'right.'"



ECONOMIC PROBLEMS affecting the nation's industrial workers were reviewed at the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. convention in Pittsburgh by IUD Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman, AFL-CIO President George Meany and IUD President I. W. Abel.

Postal Subsidies Urged For Labor Publications

Pittsburgh—Labor's voice may be stifled by sharply higher mailing costs for non-profit publications, the Industrial Union Dept. warned.

An IUD convention resolution expressed concern that union periodicals will be curtailed or forced to shut down because of increased postage costs. It called on Congress to see that this doesn't happen.

The House Post Office & Civil Service Committee has approved a bill that would establish a permanent federal subsidy for the postal service in recognition of its public service obligations.

The bill should be amended, the IUD convention said, so as to allocate a specific share of this general subsidy for handling and delivery of non-profit publications.

This is necessary, the IUD said, "to enable the non-profit and labor press to continue to print their views in all the diversity that is a basic requirement of a free and vital democratic society."

IUD Study Proposes Raw Materials Policy

Pittsburgh—The AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. has called for a long-term federal program to safeguard the nation's sources of industrial raw material from disruption and price gouging by foreign suppliers.

The economic impact resulting from such disruptions would bring added hardships for American workers, including IUD members employed in the nation's basic industries, Department President I. W. Abel warned.

The 10-point program is detailed in an IUD-commissioned — "Raw Materials for America" — study by Stanley H. Ruttenberg and Jocelyn Gutchess, which was released at the department's convention.

Nine critical raw materials were selected for the study: bauxite, chromium, copper, iron ore, lead, manganese, nickel, tin and zinc. The authors said that while the crisis is not imminent, it is not far down the road.

"The U.S. government," Ruttenberg said, "past and present administrations, have mismanaged our resources in raw materials and minerals . . . There has been a lack of a policy going all the way back to the Truman Administration."

The study stresses that the United States should "seize the initiative and move toward the establishment of long-term raw materials stability" to protect its industrial base and the large number of jobs that metal-using industries provide."

Abel asked that if oil supplies can be cut off so easily, what about the needed raw materials? He noted that the jobs and livelihoods of millions of union members were at stake.

While no groups of nations have yet been successfully formed to control raw materials as closely as oil, the study concluded that signs are appearing that this could occur. It found that raw materials-controlling countries often act in cooperation with the multinational corporations that play a dominant role in the development and extraction of these materials.

In addition, the study found that U.S. tax policy creates incentives for overseas exploration and development of raw materials, to the detriment of the creation of jobs in this country.

The program calls for the United States to enter into bilateral agreements with supplier nations to guarantee a continuous flow of raw materials in return for capital and technical assistance, the establishment of a federal agency along the lines of NASA for research and development, and the stockpiling of critical materials.

It also recommends construction of stand-by facilities for the production and processing of materials, altering the tax base to encourage U.S. exploration, anti-trust laws to prevent the domination of the materials by a few corporations, conservation acts such as recycling, a strong U.S. merchant marine, and the establishment of a new federal Commission on Natural Resources with representation from labor, industry and consumers.

Anti-Unionism Found Hurting North Carolina

Raleigh, N.C.—A University of North Carolina professor, commissioned by the state to do a study on North Carolinians' earnings, has recommended that the state change its traditional anti-union attitude.

According to the study, workers in North Carolina average $21 per week less in wages than those engaged in similar jobs in other states, while profits of many North Carolina industries are higher than similar industries in other states.

The study was conducted by Emil Malizia, a professor from UNC's department of city and regional planning. It is expected to be one of several reports to be considered by the Office of State Planning when it drafts a new state growth policy plan.

It appears unlikely that Malizia's recommendation that the state change its anti-labor stance will appear in the final growth policy statement. Lynn Muchmore, director of the Office of State Planning, said, "There's not likely to arise any policy recommendation favoring unionization" as a result of the study.

"I never expected the policy recommendations to enter into the report," Malizia said. "I wrote the final report pretty much on my own. The reason I did it is because I would like to hear some well-reasoned discussion on the issue of earnings."

Wilbur Hobby, president of the North Carolina AFL-CIO, hailed the study as correctly focusing attention on the fact that the state's anti-labor attitude has kept wages down. North Carolina ranks last in average hourly industrial wages.

Farm Workers' Rights

CALIFORNIA FARM WORKERS finally have that most basic of rights—the right to choose which union will represent them. It means the end of the era when the growers were able to determine the workers' fate just by delivering them into the hands of an organization which offers the growers, not the workers, the best deal.

The first elections in September represented for the Farm Workers a most gratifying development. The UFW struggle to achieve a measure of economic and social respectability for agricultural workers has met formidable obstacles at every step. By a combination of organizational skill, trade union support and an unyielding dedication to their collective bargaining goals—that union has survived to see a fair set of rules of the game come into being.

Regardless of the outcome of the elections in the fall of 1975, the California law paved the way for a decent, fundamental labor relations policy toward farm workers. Such a policy is a prerequisite for farm workers to attain economic and social justice.

Cataloguing the problems that have beset the United Farm Workers would require an impressive list: bringing the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, and the National Farm Workers Association together in organic as well as operating unity; overcoming oppressive law enforcement that resulted in unconstitutional injunctions and brutal police enforcement of those orders by officials virtually owned by the growers; continuous battles against the U.S. Immigration Service to keep the hordes of "illegals" out of the struck fields; and trying to keep the U.S. government, during the Nixon years, from frustrating the grape boycott by drastically increasing grape purchases for the military.

AIDED BY THE AFL-CIO and its allies of concerned citizens and groups, the Farm Workers overcame these early problems to gain contracts with most of the wine and table grape growing industry. These contracts brought the first taste of such basic necessities as decent wages, medical care, pensions, controls on the use of pesticides, establishment of a seniority system—and hiring halls.

The 1970 Teamsters incursion into the lettuce fields, unprincipled as it was, was pallid when contrasted with their action in 1973 as the UFW-grape growers contracts neared expiration. The Teamsters entered into a collusive agreement with the growers, usurping the rightful collective bargaining status of the United Farm Workers. There was no consultation with workers; no worker participation in the "negotiations," no ratification.

UFW leaders and members have wrought at least a minor miracle by surviving under the circumstances that have prevailed thus far. They know that winning the elections will be no simple task.

Thousands of farm workers in California are exercising their basic individual right to choose, freely, the union they want to represent them, and "the sour grapes of oppression" will "taste sweet again."

—From the September 1975 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

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From Sea to Shining Sea

A Word Edgewise:

Compassion, Not Mockery, Key To Aiding World's Starving

By John P. Roche

IT IS HARD FOR anybody who for a quarter of a century has listened to Indian intellectuals contemptuously deriding American democracy not to get some wicked satisfaction out of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's coup. At last (censored) count, she seemed to have put everyone who so much as criticized her cooking in the slammer. She explained in "Saturday Review/World" that this summary imprisonment without a hearing or any legal process actually improved Indian democracy considerably by taking a number of anti-social characters out of circulation. One starts to laugh derisively until he realizes what the stakes are, and recognizes that for his Indian friends this is a time of heartbreak.

Similarly, it is only human to mock the moralistic pretensions of the "Third World" spokesmen who are engaged in efforts to get the rich "North" to subsidize the poor "South." The rhetoric is appalling—if you eat a decent meal, you should feel like a monster—and it would call for saintliness to ignore the anti-American yapping of the coup-of-the-month club. However, once we have all gotten our therapy, it is vital to put the whole business in perspective and distinguish that, despite the posturing of the leaders of the less developed countries (LDCs), millions of human beings in these nations are living on the brink of starvation.

Compassion, not mockery, is in order. For an American to give the leather to the LDCs is really comparable to Muhammad Ali's boasting that he could floor John Roche and Bill Safire in 30 seconds.

The easy thing to say is, "Pull up the anchor—I'm on board," and let the Four Horsemen do their work. Indeed, I know from personal experience that sometimes callousness is a necessary defense—at least for a poor Christian like me: if I really internalized what I saw in Calcutta, I would have gone mad. And I understand the frustration that has led American missionaries, both Catholic and Protestant, in various areas of Latin America to sympathize with revolutionary movements. (Basically unsophisticated, these dedicated people rarely realize that "revolution" merely means the accession to power of a new and probably more efficient gang of exploiters.)

However, at the risk of lowering my guard and appearing to be a "bleeding heart liberal," I confess that when I see a news photo or television shot of a starving child, bloated and listless, I think of my daughter. In macrobiological terms she lucked in; statistically the odds against her being born in the United States in 1955 were astronomical. I am, of course, aware that the odds against my wife and I having an Asian or African child are equally high, but the point is that prenatal babies are not given any choice and most of those born enter, willy-nilly, a short, brutal existence (the current hard estimate is that one billion human beings are on the abyss of starvation). Thus, if I had my way, I would prefer to provide our grain surplus under PL480 (that is, virtually free) to the starving than sell it to the Soviets.

AT THIS POINT the modern acolytes of Dr. Malthus, the Doomsday druids, come panting in with the message that I have gone soft in the head, that American assistance would only constitute a drop in the bucket, that death from malnutrition and associated maladies is nature's remedy for overpopulation. In effect, we are told that the wisest policy is to blank out the LDCs: since we can't save the world from its procreative follies, forget it and enjoy a good dinner. Moreover, they add, we all know what a collection of thieves, bandits and miscellaneous rogues run the LDCs so any aid we give will be channeled to the pockets and Swiss bank accounts of the ruling elite.

I have perhaps violated the habits of a lifetime and caricatured this viewpoint unfairly. Of course we can't single-handedly make a welfare state out of the world, but why the paralysis of perfectionism? We can do our best to help.

When the critics get to the administrative level, however, they have a serious issue. There is no logic in sending aid which does not reach those who need it, but I would have no reservations about side-stepping governments and utilizing international agencies, both public and private. If the junta in an LDC refused to accept aid on this condition, that would be its problem—it would stand before the world responsible for the deprivation of its people.

Maybe this is naive and simplistic, but if forced to the choice I would prefer a bleeding heart to one of flint. Besides, in terms of the utilitarian calculus, the life you save could have been your own.

Meany at IUD Convention:

Labor's Involvement in America Stretches Beyond Plant Gates

The following is excerpted from an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the 11th convention of the Industrial Union Department in Pittsburgh, Sept. 10, 1975.

IT HAS BEEN the philosophy of the labor movement in America to be involved in attempting to resolve the broad problems that face the country as a whole. We have been doing that as long as there has been an American labor movement and we are not about to change.

But now this philosophy and this commitment of the American labor movement to the preservation of the American way of life and to the upbuilding of that way of life is under attack. The attack doesn't come from our old enemies of the right, the National Right-to-Work Committee or the old conservatives. No, this philosophy is under attack from a member of the United States Senate who refers to himself as a "liberal" and, of course, I'm talking about Senator McGovern.

Senator McGovern had some advice for the labor movement on Labor Day. He said the labor movement is getting bankrupt leadership—and that "the only function of a labor union is to protect the conditions of work of its members."

Well, if that is true, what are you doing here this morning? You ought to be out on the job, looking over the shoulders of the shop stewards and protecting the conditions of your members on the job. There wouldn't be any need for an IUD if we accepted that specious argument because we would stay on narrow organizational lines pursuing the narrow goals of just protecting the conditions of work of our members.

So we forget all about our resolutions on national health insurance, tax justice, education, political action—because what the senator says, in effect, is that this is none of our business.

Well, another George told workers about the same thing back in 1894. His name was George Pullman. He told the workers that he would provide for their every need so they wouldn't need unions. Well, the workers didn't listen to George Pullman and I don't think they're going to listen to George McGovern.

The members of the Industrial Union Department know that the eight hours workers are in a plant every day does not insulate them from the rest of American society. We know that after the day's work is done, your members become consumers, home owners, parents and patients.

What good would a pay increase be if it was taken away in regressive taxes? What good is safety on the job if the worker is killed in the home by a defective product? What good is a union if it isn't concerned about its members after they become unemployed or when they retire?

Well, the answer is that such a union wouldn't be much good.

In 1827 the Mechanics Union of Trade Associations—the first real central labor organization in this country—was formed with the primary goal of universal public education. For 148 years organized labor has had no peer as a champion of public education. But I guess now, according to George McGovern, that's all wrong. Well, as far as I am concerned, if we are wrong on that score, I'm damned proud that we are wrong.

AFL-CIO lobbyists and IUD lobbyists worked on Capitol Hill urging representatives and senators to override President Ford's veto of the $7 billion education appropriations bill. We didn't do this for the teachers. We did it for the children. We believe that there is something more to life than just work, and we don't think society benefits very much if workers are just mindless parts of an assembly line.

What about the minimum wage? Our members earn more than the minimum wage, but we still go to the Congress fighting, pleading, arguing for increases in the minimum wage. We could say, "Well, it doesn't affect our members." We don't look upon it from the viewpoint of our members alone because we realize that by upping the minimum wage we bring people at the lower income level into the consumer purchasing stream, and we, along with the entire community benefit.

Every time the labor movement has sought legislation to protect and benefit workers, every unorganized worker has benefitted. Workmen's compensation, Occupational safety and health, Social Security, each of these things became law because of the effort of the trade union movement.

NOW WE ARE in the midst of another battle for another piece of progressive legislation—National Health Security—and we are backing the only bill that makes quality health care a matter of right through a social insurance system.

The vast majority of union members are already covered by non-contributory health insurance programs under collective bargaining agreements. So why are we involved? Unions are disturbed about the quality of health care their members receive. We are worried about the cost.

Frankly, it would be easy for the unions to adopt the McGovern philosophy and support mandated employer-employe insurance plans. After all, most unions have the economic muscle to get their employers to pay any premium costs, plus the deductibles and co-insurance.

But we won't go that way. We believe that fundamental changes must be made in the way the nation provides health care for all of the citizens of this great nation.

Crash Program Needed:

Foot-Dragging Snags Efforts For U.S. Energy Independence

THE FAILURE of the Administration and Congress to coordinate the push for an energy-independent nation by 1985 is impeding efforts to cut U.S. reliance on foreign oil, President Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters declared.

Despite wide bipartisan support for Project Independence, Ward said little has been done to meet that goal.

He said it would take a crash program to complete the list President Ford spelled out in his State of the Union Message last winter: produce 1 million barrels of synthetic fuel and shale oil a day; construct 200 major nuclear power plants; open 250 major new mines; build 30 new major oil refineries; drill several thousand new oil wells; insulate 18 million homes, and cut drastically automobile gas consumption.

It will take something similar to the Manhattan Project of World War II to meet the goals of Project Independence, Ward declared. He was questioned by reporters on the AFL-CIO public affairs interview Labor News Conference.

Ward urged more emphasis on the use of coal and other fuels that are most readily available in the United States and less on such comparatively scarce fuels as oil. He pointed out that this country has about "30 percent of the known coal reserves in the world"—enough, some scientists say, "to last this country another 300 or 400 years." He said that a determined effort that shapes reasonable approaches can meet the serious problems of transportation and environmental safeguards.

Ward also called for stepped-up construction of nuclear power plants and other utilities. He said the United States has the capability to build the 200 nuclear power plants needed, but "unfortunately, other countries are moving ahead of us in the processing of nuclear fuel." He warned that if we don't put our technology to work on that problem, "we are going to be dependent on other countries—import nuclear fuel" for U.S. plants, and face the same kind of cartel problem that exists with the OPEC nations.

Reporters questioning Ward were Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Incorporated. The program is aired Tuesdays on the Mutual radio network.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

TAXATION IS NOT merely a means to provide revenues to the federal, state and local government but, as most economists recognize, taxation is a major instrument of social and economic policy.

Ideally, taxes should be so apportioned that they will distribute the cost of government equally among various income groups and the revenues will promote economic growth, stability and efficiency.

Ideals are rarely achieved. More often they are goals. Two developments on the Washington scene, though, show that we are rapidly moving away from these goals and the tempo may be picking up.

We have known for a long time that loopholes for the wealthy and the rich corporations have been built into our tax system. Some of these loopholes or "tax shelters" were brought out in broad daylight for public inspection by the House Ways & Means Committee the other day.

Chairman Al Ullman unveiled a detailed breakdown of 37 federal tax returns showing legally sanctioned use of the loopholes to avert most or all of their income tax bills.

The documents demonstrated dramatically how "investments" in real estate, oil-drilling, cattle-feeding and movie rentals—many involving "firms" set up only hours before the end of the taxable year—can offset huge incomes.

Here are a few:

- A $448,000-a-year executive who paid a total of $1,200 in taxes. It seems he invested in a real estate syndicate organized on Dec. 28 and the affairs of the syndicate were so set up that he had a "paper" loss of $215,000.
- A lawyer earned $111,000 in salary, dividends and interest and was sheltered by a "paper" loss from a cattle-feeding firm that was formed on Dec. 19. He paid no taxes.
- A physician, who earned $156,000 in salaries, dividends and interest, received a depreciation loss in a motion picture distribution firm that enabled him to get out of paying any taxes whatsoever.

These examples only touch the surface of the type of tax loopholes that concern most citizens. Every dollar that the wealthy individual and the rich corporation escapes from taxation places the burden on the worker, his family and other lower and middle income families.

AN EVEN MORE blatant effort to shift the tax burden is now being espoused by the Ford Administration with Treasury Sec. William E. Simon as its chief advocate.

He says that private corporations should be relieved of much of their burden because capital formation is needed for investments.

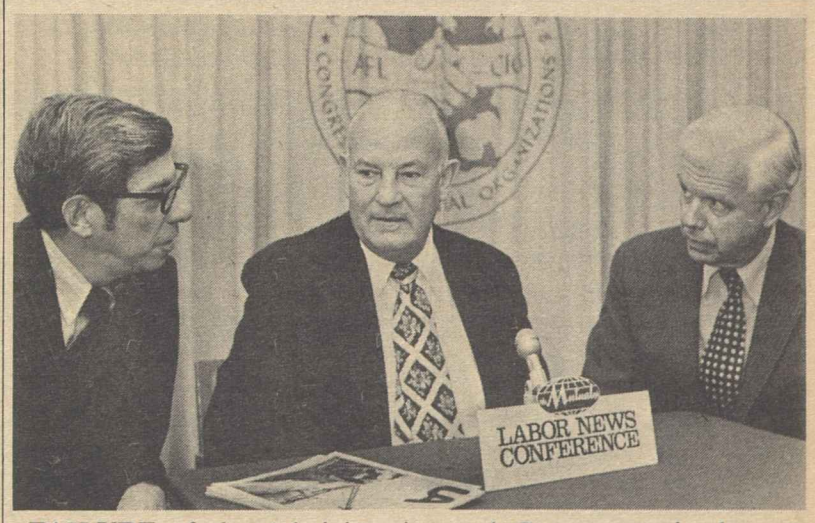
In testimony before Ways & Means, Simon said that "there is no single correct amount that we can identify." However, he said, "what is important is that we have sufficient savings and investment to permit us to continue with some reasonable rate of growth."

For many, this looks like just another tax bonus for the wealthy. Many economists say that the key to adequate capital formation is a return to vigorous economic growth. They see no need of further distorting the tax structure to achieve it.

What the Administration may well succeed in doing, is scuttle the efforts for tax reform or tax justice and efforts to return to tax laws where equity for all citizens is the prerequisite. And 1975 was thought to be the year of tax reform.

This is the concern of Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D-O.), a member of the Ways & Means Committee, who suggested that far from closing tax loopholes that make the federal tax system unjust, "we may be lucky just to hold onto the sieve we have now."

The decision is in the lap of Ways & Means. The Constitution grants Congress a broad power to levy and collect taxes, and it all begins with the House of Representatives and its Ways & Means Committee.



FAILURE of the Administration and Congress to implement Project Independence has been a setback in the effort to cut U.S. reliance on foreign oil, President Martin J. Ward of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, center, charged on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs. The AFL-CIO produced program is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Labor songs and folk tunes spice up the picnickers' fare.

Musical Salute to Bicentennial

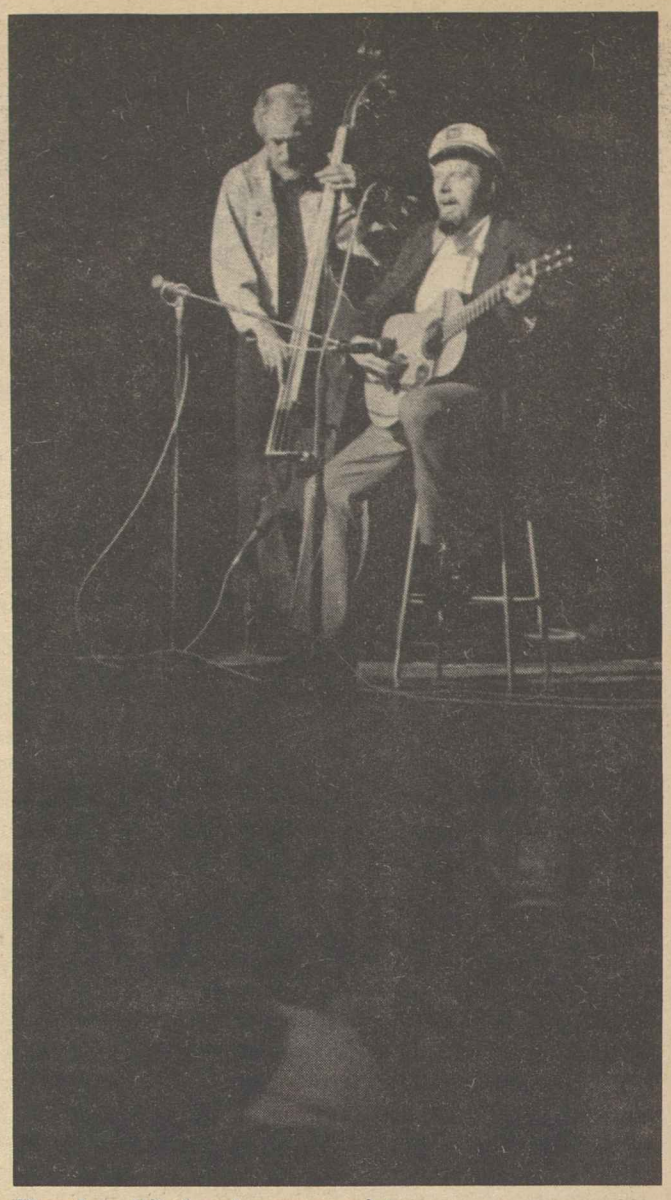
A **LABOR DAY MUSICAL** program at Wolf Trap Farm Park near the nation's capital helped usher in the bicentennial year for the trade union movement.

The six-hour musical salute to America's workers—typical of many other Labor Day events that union organizations sponsored around the country—featured top-line performers and musicians, and several amateur groups.

The Wolf Trap picnickers and pavilion audience were treated to musical entertainment to fit every mood and pleasure. Traditional labor songs, folk singers, blue grass, Dixieland, chamber music, blues, patriotic tunes and the big band sound rounded out the rainy day program.

Featured performers included Theodore Bikel, who is president of Actors' Equity; Odetta, John Raitt, Oscar Brand and Harden & Weaver, a Washington radio announcing team. Music was provided by the Billy Taylor Trio, the Billy Roberts band, Tom Gwaltney's Dixielanders, the Ars Colonia, the Tennessee Cutups, Horan-Toperzer Lab Band and the Folklore Society of Greater Washington.

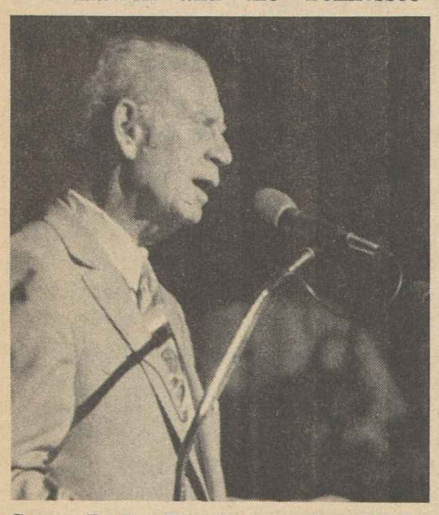
The program was sponsored by the Music Performance Trust Funds of Musicians' Local 161-710 in cooperation with the National Park Service and the AFL-CIO.



Theodore Bikel and accompanist William Takas in the spotlight.

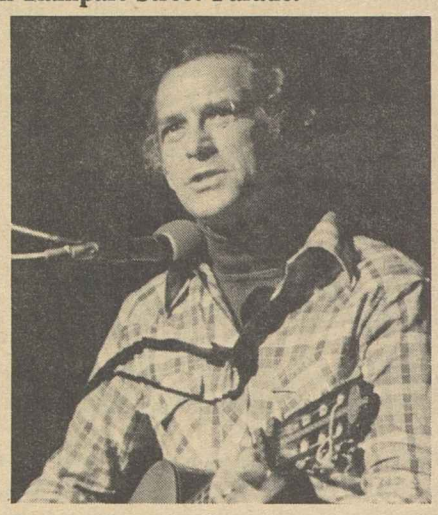
Foot-stompin' and toe-tappin' to Reno-Harrell and the Tennessee Cutups.

Tom Gwaltney and the Dixielanders belt out South Rampart Street Parade.



Sam Jack Kaufman of AFM Local 161-710 welcomes listeners.

Harden & Weaver trade a few one-liners.



Oscar Brand sings and strums in a solo.

Odetta sings the blues.

Regina Birkner and the Ars Colonia in the Bach mood.

Billy Roberts brings back the big band sound.

By AFL-CIO Speakers:

One-Sided 'Detente' Denounced at TUC

Blackpool, England—The Ford Administration's one-sided policy of detente with the Soviet Union came under attack by two AFL-CIO vice presidents in addresses before the British Trades Union Congress here.

Federation Vice President William Sidell, president of the Carpenters, told the 107th annual convention of the TUC that American labor considers "our own well-being and that of our trade-union allies in the free world threatened by a policy called 'detente.' "

Sidell, appearing as a fraternal delegate from the AFL-CIO, noted that detente has one meaning to Westerners and another, quite different meaning within the Kremlin where, in fact, "every signed agreement appears to have a double meaning."

In the same vein, Vice President Sol Stetin attributed recent farm price increases to this year's American grain sales to Russia —sales which he viewed as virtual concessions to the USSR.

"Once again, the American consumer will pay the bill for the Administration's detente with the Soviet dictatorship," Stetin observed. "And that may be only the beginning." Stetin, also a fraternal delegate, is president of the Textile Workers Union of America.

Sidell said that the Soviet Union and other Communist dictatorships never live up to any solemn agreement unless that agreement gives them an overriding advantage.

"Such violations of treaty are documented by history," Sidell said. "One need travel no farther than Czechoslovakia and Hungary to see the results of shattered hopes and promises. Dictators take all. They give nothing. They consider honesty a weakness."

Sidell charged that U.S. participation in the United Nations is a mockery of the democratic principles for which America has stood, declaring that the UN now not only tolerates but actually eulogizes "thugs," such as members of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the apparent dictatorship of India.

"The AFL-CIO will not submit, meekly, passively or otherwise," he declared. "We shall oppose any policy of detente which does not operate evenly. The United States and the free world must derive as many advantages, as many benefits as the Soviet dictatorship and its client states."

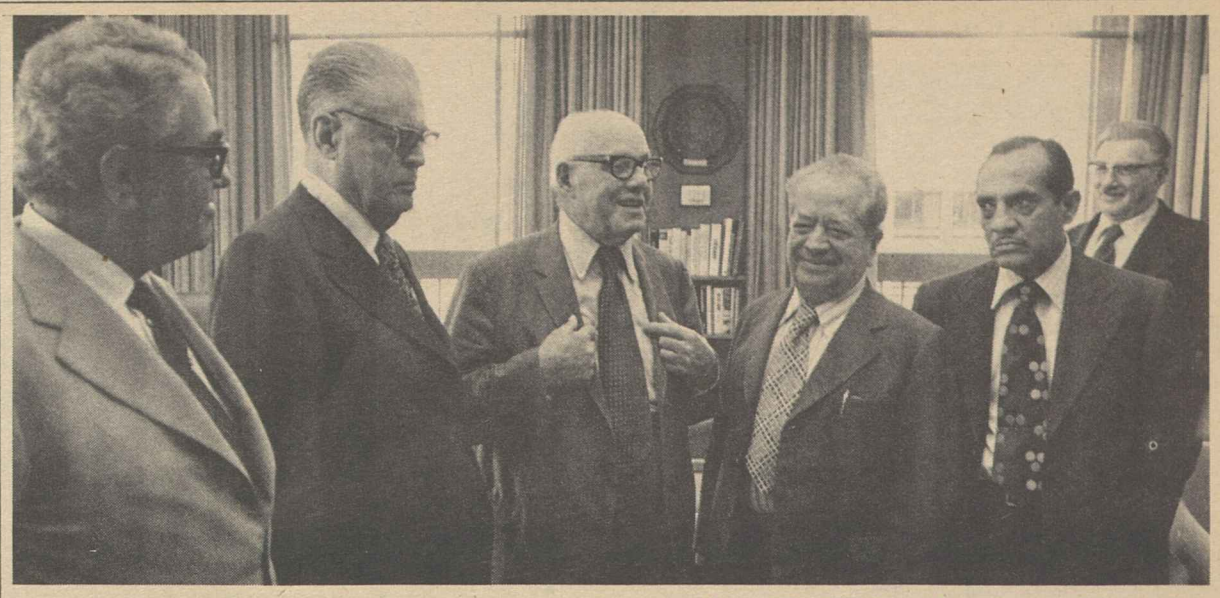
Sidell and Stetin both called for a tightening of regulations affecting U.S.-based multinational corporations which since the late 1960s have been exporting American jobs, equipment and technical know-how.

"We of the AFL-CIO believe in the importance of international trade," Stetin stressed. "But we believe it must be fair trade and that means regulation of the multinationals."

As a result of the mushrooming growth of multinational firms in recent years, Stetin noted, large segments of entire industries have been wiped out, and the United States has been faced with a rising tide of imports. This in turn has caused widespread plant closings and higher unemployment in America.

"The AFL-CIO has urged the U.S. government to regulate imports to halt the job-destroying flood tides of imports," Stetin said. "We have proposed government measures to change the tax laws to stop the unfair, special benefits given U.S.-based multinationals.

"We have urged government controls on the export of capital and technology. What we seek is fairness and balance in the area of international trade and investment," Stetin said. "What we have gotten so far is minimal."



TRADE UNION DELEGATION from Mexico is greeted by AFL-CIO President George Meany for a discussion of issues facing the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers (ORIT). From left are Rafael Camacho Guzman, general secretary of the Mexican Radio & Television Workers and president or ORIT; Gen. Sec. Fidel Velasquez of the Mexican Confederation of Workers (CTM); CTM Associate Gen. Sec. Alfonso Sanchez Maderiaga, CTM Legal Counsel Moises Calleja and Andrew McLellan, the federation's inter-American representative.

British Labor Endorses Voluntary Wage Limit in Economic Crisis

Blackpool, England—Britain's Trades Union Congress voted to support a voluntary wage restraint policy in the face of a grave economic crisis compounded of high unemployment and a 25 percent inflation rate.

The Congress, representing 10 million members of affiliated unions, accepted the pay increase standards developed by the Labor Party government in consultation with the TUC. It calls for holding wage increases negotiated during the next 12 months to a flat 6 pounds a week (about $12.60), with no increase for the relatively small group earning above 8,500 pounds a year.

The vote on the key resolution was more than two-to-one—6,945,000 to 3,375,000 on a roll-call.

From the TUC viewpoint, a key element in the understanding was that pay limitations should be voluntary.

The Government agreed not to seek legislation unless the voluntary efforts, failed, and it looked to the annual TUC convention for support. Wage increases earlier this year had been approaching the 30 percent level as workers and their unions sought to catch up with price hikes.

The flat-increase feature of the pay formula was criticized by a number of unions concerned about compression of wage differentials, but they were outvoted on the issue.

As an important adjunct to the pay policy, the TUC called for a wide range of economic measures by the government to combat unemployment.

It proposed an expanded public works construction program, selective import controls and a curb on export of capital.

In debate during the five-day convention, the consensus was that the voluntary wage restraint could provide some help to the economy, although full recovery was not likely until the world economic picture improves.

It was made clear that, from the TUC position, the Labor Party government will be judged by its response to the trade union movement's major concern to preserve and create jobs.

New Nabisco Contract Boosts Pay 92 Cents

A new two-year contract providing wage increases totaling 92 cents an hour has been ratified by members of the Bakery & Confectionery Workers employed at 15 Nabisco plants across the country.

The agreement covers over 10,000 B&C members, and was approved by more than 95 percent of those voting. Earlier it received the unanimous endorsement of the union's negotiating committee.

Workers' pay is increased immediately by 50 cents an hour, retroactive to Sept. 1. Next Sept. 1, wages are scheduled to rise another 42 cents an hour. Other highlights of the pact:

- An increase in company contributions to welfare improvements, as well as establishment of a dental plan in the second year of the agreement.
- Classification adjustments covering over 3,500 workers.
- Pension improvements as a result of higher company contributions that will enable a worker with 40 years of service to receive $357.50.

The pact contains a number of other improvements relating to uniform allowance, vacations and leaves of absence. The company and the union also agreed to establish a joint committee to discuss job enrichment.

In addition, it was agreed to establish another joint committee to meet before Jan. 1, 1976, to discuss possible changes in the present basic contributory group life insurance cancellation provision as it relates only to workers who may be laid off.

Plants covered by the settlement are in Pittsburgh; Buffalo, N.Y.; Atlanta; Buena Park, Calif.; Denver; San Leandro, Calif.; Houston; Cincinnati; St. Louis; Chicago; Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Richmond, Va.; Portland, Ore.; Philadelphia and Fair Lawn, N.J.

Protests Block Retreat On Meat Inspection

(Continued from Page 1)

half the cost of state inspectors' salaries.

The Talmadge-Aiken Act permits the USDA to enter into cooperative agreements under which a few state-inspected plants have gained federal status. Under these arrangements, state-employed inspectors work under the supervision of federal officials, and the federal government pays half the inspectors' salaries.

The department's latest proposal would have increased federal payments for the state inspectors' salaries from 50 to 80 percent, a proposal repeatedly rejected by Congress. If allowed, states would be encouraged to adopt Talmadge-Aiken agreements instead of turning their plants over to local federal inspection.

Rep. Smith said he has since been informed by Richard L. Feltner, assistant secretary of agriculture, that USDA does not plan to proceed with the plan "at the present time."

"It is not entirely clear at the moment what future action the department has in mind," he noted, "but the plan is dead for now. That is good news for consumers."

Among those who protested the USDA plan were the Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen, which expressed its opposition in a letter to each member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. The Consumer Federation of America also registered its protest.

"The real danger in the Agriculture Dept. plan is that it will start a downward competition in meat inspection standards," CFA's executive director, Carol Tucker Foreman, warned. She noted that if the federal share under the Talmadge-Aiken Act were increased to 80 percent, it would in effect bribe the states to shift to the lower standards of the 1962 statute.

Dr. King's Birthday Urged as Holiday

The union that Martin Luther King was helping when he was slain by an assassin's bullet urged Congress to declare his birthday anniversary a national holiday.

President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees noted in testimony before a House subcommittee that Dr. King was in Memphis to help striking sanitation workers win union recognition when he was killed.

The last AFL-CIO convention, in 1973, endorsed the proposal to make Dr. King's birthday a holiday.

Farm Worker Votes Held Up By Challenges

(Continued from Page 1)

131, but this tally did not include 197 challenged ballots. The challenged ballots include 129 "economic strikers," workers who went out on strike in 1973 because Gallo did not sign a contract with the UFW.

California's new law authorizing the current elections does not spell out precisely what constitutes an "economic striker." If the UFW is successful in overcoming the vote challenge, the outcome of the Gallo election could be reversed.

Another controversy centers on the UFW's protest of a CALRB regulation giving the union's organizers only limited access to field workers. Unless they can speak freely to workers, the UFW charges, the state's new agricultural labor relations law is meaningless.

Altogether, the CALRB reports, about 100 unfair labor practice charges have been filed by various parties since the elections got under way shortly after Labor Day.

1,100 Granted Aid as Imports Cut into Jobs

More than 1,100 workers in four states have been certified by the Labor Dept. as eligible to apply for trade adjustment assistance as the result of petitions by their unions charging that competition from imports were a major cause of layoffs and work reductions.

The group includes 300 members of the Allied Industrial Workers at the Sheller Globe Corp. plant in Portland, Ind., who produced steering wheels and other auto parts.

Nearly 600 workers at the Airco Electronics Division plant in Bradford, Pa., were certified for aid on the basis of a petition by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

The United Textile Workers successfully petitioned for benefits on behalf of 15 workers at the Tullahoma, Tenn., plant of Wilson Sporting Goods Co. which turns out baseballs and softballs.

Assistance to nearly 200 workers who formerly produced motorcycles and snowmobiles at three Harley-Davidson plants in Milwaukee, was granted as a result of a petition filed by the Allied Industrial Workers.

Trade adjustment assistance includes cash benefits, training, counseling, job placement and relocation allowances. Benefits amount to 70 percent of a worker's average pay, not to exceed the national average wage in manufacturing.

Senate Backs Ford:

Federal Wage Hike Limited to 5 Percent

(Continued from Page 1)

dent Nixon was rebuffed, 72-16. But on those occasions, salaries of senators were not affected.

An attempt to overturn the 5 percent ceiling could still be made in the House, but it is unlikely.

The White House made much of the budget cost of the 8.66 percent formula—an estimated $1.6 billion over the 5 percent figure. But as the American Federation of Government Employees and the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. noted, the cost of living has gone up 18 percent since October 1973 but salaried federal workers have received only a 5.5 percent raise during that period.

Ford claimed his pay cutback plan would enable the federal government "to lead the fight against inflation by example."

AFL-CIO President George Meany retorted that it was "grossly unfair for the President to say federal employes must sacrifice while his Administration's food and energy policies are forcing up the prices of everything they must buy."

The 5 percent ceiling does not affect the government's hourly-paid blue-collar workers whose wages are adjusted on the basis of prevailing rates in the localities where they work.

The House, meanwhile, moved towards passage of a comprehensive energy conservation bill that includes a rollback of domestic oil prices.

The labor-supported measure shaped up as the principal congressional alternative to the Ford Administration approach of counting on high prices to reduce the nation's consumption of fuel and its reliance on oil imports.

Apart from its price control features, it includes tough conservation requirements including limiting gasoline consumption over the next three years to 1973 levels, and an allocation plan so that no section of the nation will be shortchanged. It also would impose a penalty on auto manufacturers who failed to bring the average gasoline consumption on their total auto production to 18.5 miles a gallon by 1978 and 28 miles per gallon by 1985.

The price section would bring the average price of domestic oil below the levels set under the now-expired oil price control legislation.

An attempt to delete the entire price control section of the bill was beaten on a key 242-151 vote. Favoring the controls were 218 Democrats and 24 Republicans; opposed were 109 Republicans and 42 Democrats.

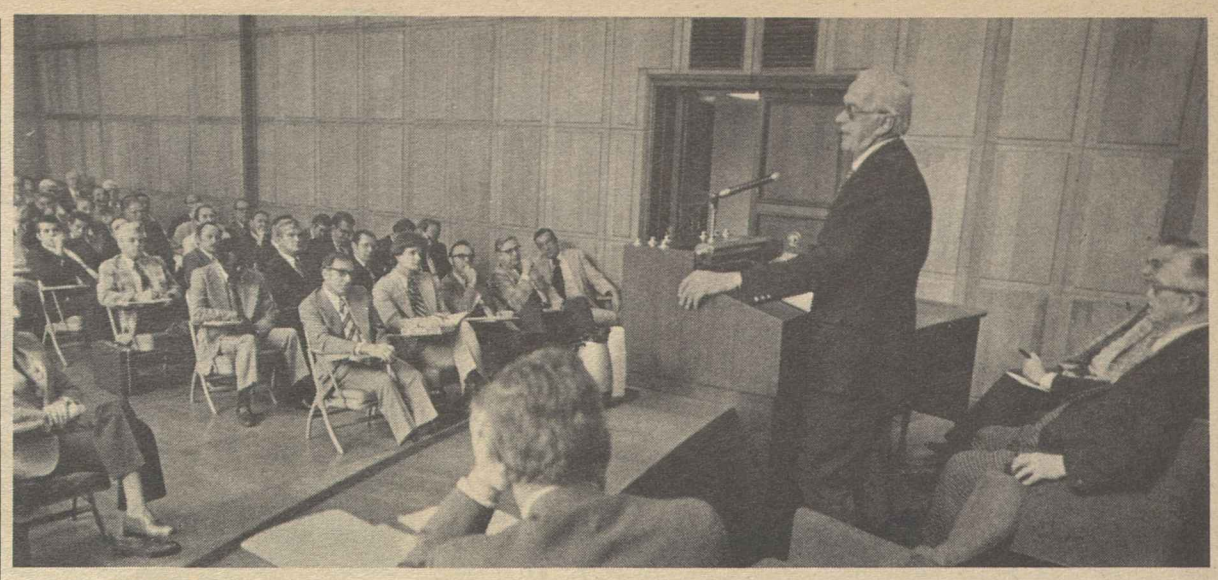
The Senate passed its own version of energy legislation earlier this year, making it possible for a House-Senate conference committee to put together a compromise bill that then would be submitted for final passage.

The Senate, after acting on the federal pay resolution, turned back to an appropriations bill carrying funds for the Labor Dept.

As in past years, small business employer groups sought to curb enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act by amending the appropriations bill.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, only one weakening amendment had been adopted—and that was more in the nature of a foot-in-the-door threat. The Senate agreed that in establishments with 15 or fewer workers, the penalty for a non-serious violation found on a first inspection could not exceed $50.

Actually, most non-serious violations do not bring a fine and the average penalty is $35. But as Sen. Edward W. Brooke (R-Mass.) noted in opposing the amendment, the technical definition of "non-serious" would cover violations involving deafening levels of noise and hazardous conditions of dust and ventilation. The Occupational Safety & Health Administration can now impose fines of up to $1,000.



LABOR'S VIEWS on the provisions and enforcement of the National Labor Relations Act are sought by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), chairman of a House subcommittee that will hold oversight hearings. Thompson discussed the scope of the hearings with union representatives who met at AFL-CIO headquarters to compare experiences and seek a consensus on problem areas.

Burns Offers Aid to Banks —Not City

The Federal Reserve Board apparently is willing to let financially troubled New York City go down the drain, but not its banks.

This is the gist of a letter from the Fed's chairman, Arthur E. Burns, to Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, chairman of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, who asked for Burns's views on the New York City financial crisis.

Humphrey also asked the Fed what contingency plans it had prepared in the event of a full or partial default by the city. Burns replied that the board, as the nation's "lender of last resort," had developed emergency plans to assist banks that might be threatened by the city's collapse.

But Burns did not mention any plans to prevent a default by the city, an omission that obviously disheartened Sen. Humphrey who observed:

"Unfortunately, Chairman Burns stopped short of endorsing any proposals which would have averted the very crisis that the Fed's contingency plans sought to minimize."

Humphrey also noted that, despite a $2.3 billion aid package enacted by the New York state legislature to keep the city afloat for the next three months, the default crisis has not been resolved.

"It has merely been delayed for three months," he said. "In December, New York will quite probably face the same threats of default that it experienced this week and the national consequences will be the same."

Humphrey, in a statement accompanying the release of Chairman Burns's letter, said the Fed's plans to bail out banks that might be hurt by New York City's financial collapse "indicate to me that the national financial and economic consequences of a default are so significant that we should immediately explore the possibility of implementing programs to prevent a default."

Burns indicated in his letter to Humphrey that the Fed would allow unlimited emergency lending to troubled banks whether or not they are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Labor Checks Status Of Vietnam Refugees

Indiantown Gap, Pa.—Labor leaders who recently visited one of the nation's largest Vietnamese refugee centers here came away convinced that nearly all its adult residents want really only two things—a sponsor and a chance to work.

Included in the tour were President Harry Boyer of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO; John McManus, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services; Charles Sims, area representative of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute in Philadelphia, and a number of labor community-services representatives in the East.

Also visiting the center were Ambassador John Eisenhower, son of the late President and chairman of President Ford's Advisory Commission on Refugees, leaders of the Red Cross and Pennsylvania state officials.

McManus said the tour "told us a lot about the refugees themselves, as well as their hopes and problems. The visit also made it clear that no matter how generous and effective the various agencies are in providing for the refugees, a center can only be considered by them as a first step toward resettlement."

"The essential second step," McManus said, "is sponsorship for refugees and their acquisition of jobs. That will demand the sustained cooperation of government, private agencies, labor and employers."

David Oliver, an AFL-CIO Community Services representative, said he met six former South Vietnamese labor leaders in the area of the center he toured. "We had a lively exchange on labor issues," Oliver reported. "They explained South Vietnam's labor structure and expressed hope that they could be sponsored by a group from our labor movement."

A recent survey of the center, which has 11,500 refugees, showed that about 40 percent of those over 16 were considered eligible for the job market by virtue of having some "marketable skills." Of the 40 percent, the breakdown of skills in various fields is: 9.3 percent, clerical; 7.8 percent, mechanical; 7.5 percent, professional or managerial; 6.3 percent, technical; 5.3 percent, construction, and 3.8 percent, agriculture.

The 60 percent of the refugees considered without marketable skills fell into one of three groups—soldiers, students or housewives.

AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis has called upon labor leaders in areas with jobless rates of under 9 percent to join with management-government committees in seeking jobs for Vietnamese refugees. At the same time, he has emphasized labor can do only so much. "The heart of the resettlement problem is employment, and jobs are the responsibility of employers."

Speakers Schedule Set for Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

6, will include the presentation of the AFL-CIO Murray-Green Award posthumously to Joseph A. Beirne, the late president of the Communications Workers and a federation vice president. It will be accepted by Mrs. Beirne.

Speakers that day will include Senators Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) and Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) in the morning, and Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) and Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.) at the afternoon session.

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Sec. of Defense James R. Schlesinger has also accepted an invitation to address the convention, at a time still to be set.

The two fraternal delegates from the British Trades Union Congress will be Daniel McGarvey, president of the Boilermakers, Shipwrights, Blacksmiths & Structural Workers, and Martin Redmond of the National Union of Mineworkers. The Canadian Labor Congress delegate will be Executive Vice President Shirley G. E. Carr.

Two evenings of entertainment featuring union members in the performing arts will be presented during the convention in programs arranged by the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center. They will be shown at the AFL-CIO headquarters hotel, Hyatt-on-the-Square, at 9 p.m. on Oct. 2 and Oct. 6.

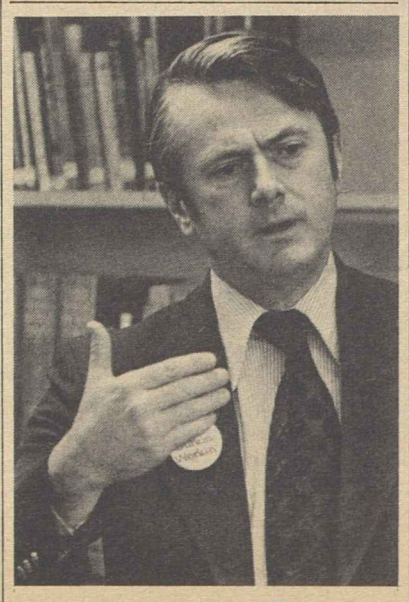
The Oct. 2 "An Evening with Actors" program will feature Theodore Bikel, president of Actors' Equity, and other noted performers. The Oct. 6 program, "An Evening with Musicians," will present a well-known area jazz group and soloists from the San Francisco Opera Company.

The programs are in cooperation with the Associated Actors & Artistes, the Musicians and the Stage Employes.

Rail Waymen Name Zeh As General Counsel

Detroit—Geoffrey N. Zeh has been named general counsel of the Maintenance of Way Employes. He also will serve as the BMWE research director.

Zeh, 32, was formerly with the Washington, D.C., law firm of Mulholland, Hickey & Lyman where he handled legal cases for a number of railroad unions.



SEN. JOHN DURKIN

Durkin Win Seen Slap at Ford Policies

(Continued from Page 1)

ment did actively support Durkin on a program keyed to jobs and economic stimulus, and he carried all the cities while holding down the GOP margin in the rural areas.

The conservative wing of the state's Republican Party was most active in support of Wyman, who had served five terms in the House before running for the Senate last year. Ronald Reagan, the former California governor who is the favorite son of the GOP's right-wing, was among those who campaigned for him.

Durkin's election gave the Democrats a 62-38 majority in the Senate. In the previous Congress, the margin had been 58-42.

Last November, Wyman was initially announced as the winner but an official recount showed Durkin a 10-vote winner and he was so certified. But a Republican-controlled state ballot commission then reversed the action and declared Wyman the winner by two votes.

The Senate struggled for months to recount disputed ballots and determine the winner, but a Republican filibuster prevented the issue from being resolved. Finally, the rerun of the election sought by Republicans was agreed to as the only means of breaking the deadlock.

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Meany Hits Congress' Use Of Budget to Cut Job Plans

Profit Rise Tops Early Forecasts

Corporate profits, both before and after taxes, climbed sharply during the second quarter of 1975 and substantially exceeded the Commerce Dept.'s earlier prediction.

The updated government figures show that after-tax profits of corporations rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $70.3 billion in the three months that ended June 30.

That was up nearly 13 percent from the $62.3 billion rate of the previous quarter. Initially the Commerce Dept. had estimated that second-quarter profits had risen only 8.2 percent to a $67.4 billion rate.

Before-tax profits for the quarter —at an annual rate of $113.3 billion—were $12.1 billion above the first-quarter rate and $4.4 billion more than last month's estimate.

Most of the increase in profits occurred in manufacturing, the Commerce Dept. said, with "substantial gains" for both domestic petroleum refiners and chemical producers. Automobile manufactures reported a smaller loss than previously, and other industries chalked up gains.

A separate report on factory profit margins, issued by the Federal Trade Commission, showed that manufacturers made 4.7 cents for each dollar of sales in the second quarter—up from 3.7 cents in the first quarter. The rate was below the 6 cents posted in the second quarter of 1974, however.

The nation's gross national product (GNP) rose at an annual rate of 1.9 percent after adjustment for inflation—the first gain since the last quarter of 1973.

AT SENATE Budget Committee hearings, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned of the danger of a new economic downturn if Congress continues to compete with the Ford Administration to hold down spending for job programs.

Warns New Slump Threatens Nation

By David L. Perlman

AFL-CIO President George Meany prodded Congress to stop playing "budget one-upmanship" with the Ford Administration and do more to get America back to work.

He warned the Senate Budget Committee that a new economic slump threatens to add to the high unemployment and idle industrial capacity that has turned most of the nation into a vast "distressed area."

The Budget Committee is updating the spending target that Congress set for itself earlier this year and Meany urged a new measuring rod for legislation.

It's "stupid," he said, to consider legislation solely in terms of cost. The only target should be "the needs of the American people."

Meany expressed labor's full agreement with a Budget Committee report earlier this year contending that "the only way to stop deficit spending is to bring the economy close to full employment."

But "the committee did not heed its own counsel," he observed. Actions such as the emergency tax cut helped, but not enough. And there are new "danger signs" in addition to an Administration forecast of an unemployment rate at a recession-level 7.9 percent during 1976 and remaining above 5 percent as far off as 1980.

Meany cited the renewed rise in interest rates, continued high inflation, the crisis of the cities typified by New York's near-bankruptcy, and the scheduled expiration of the emergency income tax cuts at the end of this year.

If the cuts aren't extended, Meany said, American consumers

(Continued on Page 8)

Prices Up 8.6 Percent Over Year

By John R. Oravec

Retail prices for August remained 8.6 percent above the year-ago level although the consumer price index showed the smallest monthly rise in three years—two-tenths of 1 percent.

The slight upward nudge in the CPI came in the wake of an eight-tenths of 1 percent jump in June and a 1.2 percent surge in July. A number of economists reacted by warning that the August figures were more likely an aberration than a trend, and the White House agreed with the assessment.

Lower prices for some food items last month helped offset increases in other commodities and services, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

While prices declined for fresh fruits and vegetables, beef, cereals, bakery products and a few other food items, higher prices were recorded for clothing, used

(Continued on Page 8)

In Convention Action:

Job Goals Stressed By Building Trades

By James M. Shevis

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., whose four million members have been hit harder than any other group of workers during the current economic recession, adopted a positive approach to the myriad problems besieging the industry at the department's 58th convention here.

"This is no time to wring our hands over the situation which currently exists," BCTD President Robert A. Georgine told the 500 delegates.

"Our task is to suggest ways and devise means of escape from the economic swamp in which we are expiring."

The convention responded by adopting a wide-ranging program called for steps to reduce employment in the building trades.

A major resolution demanded that the Ford Administration take immediate action to spur the depressed residential construction industry.

"The Administration claims of a recovery in housing construction are a sham," the resolution declared. "Rhetoric cannot hide the facts."

Housing starts are at their lowest levels in nearly 10 years; the unsold inventory of new homes is bulging; prices of homes are at record levels and mortgage rates are still around 9 percent for homes and 10 percent for apartment projects, the resolution pointed out.

Other major priorities spelled out by the convention included:

- Quick enactment by Congress of the bill titled Equal Treatment for Craft and Industrial Workers, commonly known as the situs picketing bill, which would assure building trades unions the same picketing right as workers in other industries.
- Strengthening the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires payment of

(Continued on Page 3)

Burns for Public Jobs, But at Dirt-Cheap Pay

Athens, Ga.—Chairman Arthur F. Burns of the Federal Reserve Board hasn't really changed his conservative spots even though it briefly seemed that way during his speech to a University of Georgia audience.

Burns raised some eyebrows by embracing the concept that government should be "an employer of last resort" when private industry can't provide jobs for all who are looking for work.

But he quickly made clear that he wasn't really aligning himself with a view long held by the trade union movement and liberal economists.

Burns said that public jobs—"in hospitals, schools, public parks or the like"—should be available "to anyone who is willing to work at a rate of pay somewhat below the federal minimum wage."

He also suggested "certain safeguards—perhaps through a constitutional amendment—that would limit upward adjustment in the

(Continued on Page 3)

Union Teachers Face Arrests, Fines, Curfew

Wilmington, Del.—Mass arrests, heavy fines and an unprecedented daylight curfew have failed to force this city's teachers back to work without a contract.

While there are bigger school systems still out on strike, Wilmington has emerged as a case history of the pressures on teachers when a city sets out to break rather than settle a strike.

The union's contract had expired last June, negotiations had made little progress, and just after Labor Day the 800 members of the AFT local voted not to work without a contract. With few exceptions, they haven't.

Delaware, like most states, has a law prohibiting public employes from striking.

It has been used to arrest or cite for contempt nearly half the teachers, and to break up picket lines.

For more than a week, a fine levied against the local has been mounting at the rate of $1,000 a day. The president and vice president of the local are being fined $100 each for every day the refusal to work continues, and three other officers have been hit with $50-a-day fines.

On Sept. 22, after a negotiating session broke up with no progress

(Continued on Page 2)

BURIAL SERVICES are conducted for Jesse Miller, who was struck down on a Machinists' picket line at Indiana, Pa., by a strikebreaker operating a tractor-trailer rig. Miller and fellow IAM Local 1582 members have been striking the Indiana plant of Fisher Scientific Co. since Aug. 6.

Pennsylvania Workers Mourn Striker's Death

Indiana, Pa.—Western Pennsylvania union members buried 58-year-old Machinist Jesse Miller this week, latest in a long line of labor martyrs in the state.

Miller, on strike, was run down, knocked 20 feet and injured fatally at a Machinist picket post here. A strikebreaker drove the tractor-trailer rig.

State police arrested the driver, James Berger, 30, of Creston, Ohio, and charged him with criminal homicide, failure to stop at the scene of a traffic accident and failure to stop and identify himself. He was denied bail and committed to the Indiana County jail pending a preliminary hearing set for Sept. 26.

Pennsylvania Gov. Milton Shapp headed the mourners at a memorial service for Miller at the plant gates. Hundreds of members of many unions marched from the Indiana County Fair Grounds to the scene of Miller's death. The service, sponsored by the County Central Labor Council, drew top officers of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO headed by Executive Vice President Mike Johnson.

Earlier, at burial services at Jefferson Memorial Cemetery in Pittsburgh, Machinist Vice President Sal Iaccio of New York City headed a large contingent of Machinists members. These included nearly 150 of Miller's fellow strikers.

Miller's killing occurred Sept. 17 at the gates of the Fisher Scientific Co. plant at Indiana where the company forced the 260 members of Machinists Local 1582 to strike Aug. 6.

According to the three pickets on duty at one side of the plant gate, Miller, who was not on picket duty, was walking across the plant driveway to visit them when he was struck.

They said the truck came careening down the highway, suddenly swerved right into the plant gate, struck Miller, then continued on 400 feet to a company loading dock. There the driver, Berger, backed in and slammed down the overhead doors.

The union said the truck had come from a nearby Fisher Scientific warehouse and was leased from a Cleveland firm.

Miller was a maintenance man at the plant that manufactures many kinds of scientific instruments and laboratory equipment. A past commander of his Veterans of Foreign Wars post, he is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and his son, Jesse.

North Carolina Unions Set Organizing Goals

Greensboro, N.C.—A new organizing program was drafted by delegates to the North Carolina AFL-CIO's 18th annual convention in an effort to increase union representation throughout the state, whose workers' wages rank among the lowest in the nation.

The 440 delegates called for local and central bodies to establish organizing committees for the statewide campaign. The convention's resolution also directed the state federation to conduct organizing conferences at least once a year to help coordinate the efforts of locals, national and international unions and AFL-CIO departments.

President Wilbur Hobby was re-elected to a fourth two-year term over Roger L. Bauguss, secretary-treasurer since 1971. Hobby received 35,190 votes to 19,932 for Bauguss.

Delegates elected E. A. Britt of the Paperworkers over Jim Adams of the Postal Workers to succeed Bauguss. Britt is president of the Wilmington AFL-CIO and Adams heads the APWU state council.

Elected to the state federation's executive board for the first time were Eugene Ruff of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Harry Milner of the Teachers, Larry Gregory of the Sheet Metal Workers and Richard Closs of the Glass Bottle Blowers.

The convention adopted a state legislative program that gives top priority to the repeal of the 4 percent sales tax on food, reform of the "right-to-work" law, collective bargaining rights for public employes and improved conditions for school teachers.

Major speakers at the three-day convention included Rep. Andrew Young (D-Ga.), Sec.-Treas. William DuChessi of the Textile Workers Union of America, Assistant Labor Sec. Bernard DeLury, Executive Director Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and Vice President William Winpisinger of the Machinists.

Courts Slap Heavy Fines On Teachers

(Continued from Page 1)

and the school board refusing even to agree not to fire teachers participating in the strike, police pulled 209 teachers from a picket line in front of the school administration building, alleging that they had blocked the entrance of nonstriking administrative staff.

The teachers were arrested, fingerprinted and put in $500 bail each.

But the bail was granted only after they signed forms promising to comply with a curfew that amounted to a house arrest. They were ordered to remain in their homes from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day and refrain from strike activities.

A union challenge to the constitutionality of the curfew order was subsequently upheld by a federal court and the teachers were freed of house arrest and allowed to participate in union activties.

Earlier that day, at the call of the State AFL-CIO, more than 500 union members in the Wilmington area left their shops and job sites to march around City Hall in the rain and demonstrate labor's support for the teachers.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, the biggest of the unsettled strikes was in Boston, where nearly 5,000 AFT members had rejected a "last offer" of longer hours in exchange for a 6 percent raise.

Again, a state law against public employe strikes was invoked and a $5,000-a-day fine was levied against the union. But the state agency that had sought a $50,000-a-day fine asked the judge not to send the union's leaders to jail because, it asserted, "the jailing of union leaders only produces martyrs."

A state judge in Rhode Island took a different view, sending eight officers of the Pawtucket AFT local and six officers of the Woonsocket local to jail for leading teacher strikes. They were sent to a state maximum security prison for seven to nine days until contract settlements were negotiated.

Elsewhere in the nation, there were settlements and new walkouts involving locals of both the AFL-CIO American Federation of Teachers and the unaffiliated National Education Association.

The largest NEA strike, at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., ended when the unit voted 2,321-788 to comply with a court order, but an official said the teachers "were not happy about going back." NEA locals conducted 106 strikes this fall.

A settlement ended a three-week strike in Schenectady, N.Y., by a local of the New York State United Teachers, which is affiliated with both the AFT and the NEA.

Despite Court Ruling:

Harassment of UFW Mars Farm Voting

Fresno, Calif.—Farm Workers' organizers continued to face harassment and arrest even after the California supreme court upheld their right of access to ranches in representation election campaigns.

Several UFW representatives had been arrested for trespassing at a ranch in Earlimart when they appeared at prescribed times to meet with workers. They were taken into custody by sheriff's deputies and later released.

The arrests came despite a ruling by the state's high court staying a lower court decision that struck down the access rule of the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board, which is conducting the elections.

The CALRB rule permits limited access of organizers to workers during lunch breaks and for one hour before and after work. The growers have opposed the rule from the start, claiming that private property rights take precedence over right of access by organizers.

The UFW has filed hundreds of complaints with the farm labor board charging numerous violations by growers of the new law, which went into effect Aug. 28. The board has since issued unfair labor practice charges against two growers and several more are expected shortly.

Despite the harassment and confrontation with growers, the Teamsters and sheriff's deputies, the UFW has made a strong showing in elections conducted thus far.

Of the total ballots cast in more than 100 unit elections, the UFW got 10,802 votes, or 48 percent, to the Teamsters' 8,647 or 38.5 percent. Ballots for no union were cast by 3,035 workers, or 13.5 percent.

The Farm Workers were chosen as the bargaining representative at 57 ranches, compared to 64 for the Teamsters and eight for no union.

Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez charged that the UFW would have an even stronger showing if it were not for extensive intimidation by growers and "massive fraud" by the Teamsters to qualify for ballot appearance.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, appealed to California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., to intervene personally in an effort to halt numerous abuses of the new law.

Kistler cited a report by AFL-CIO staff representatives who described election sites as "unbelievably chaotic."

In his telegram to Brown, Kistler said that the irregularities include the lack of uniformity in election procedures, on-site rulings of labor board officials, and the intimidation of inexperienced CALRB agents by growers' lawyers and Teamsters' representatives.

He said that growers have retained a team of lawyers through a Chicago management consulting firm which is overwhelming CALRB election agents with its expertise in labor law.

Kistler also said that workers must run a gauntlet of armed guards en route to voting places, and the employers remain present while workers cast their ballots.

"Your personal intervention appears necessary to avoid frustration of the intent of the legislation adopted under your leadership," Kistler said in his message to Brown.

Kistler warned that California's agricultural workers could not freely express their preference for collective bargaining representation unless the elections are properly administered.

Meanwhile, the farm labor board resolved a dispute over elections at 147 ranches of the Western Growers Association. The board ruled in the favor of UFW for separate elections at each ranch.

The Teamsters, supported by the growers group, sought to have a single multiemployer election to cover all 147 ranches.

In releasing the results of a number of elections at the Growers Association ranches, the Teamsters won 13 and the UFW won 12. Three voted for no union and four elections are undecided.

At 11 of the 12 ranches where the UFW was chosen, the workers were formerly under Teamsters contracts.

The CALRB will hold hearings Oct. 6 on the controversial election conducted at the E. & J Gallo Co. concerning the status of "economic strikers."

In the Sept. 10 election at Gallo, the Teamsters garnered 223 votes to 131 for the UFW, but the tally did not include 197 challenged ballots, including 129 of the "economic strikers."

The 129 went on strike in 1973 after the Gallo company failed to renew a UFW contract and instead signed an agreement with the Teamsters.

A ruling in favor of the economic strikers could give the Gallo election to the UFW. The ruling would also be applied to 13 other elections contested on the same basis.

Michigan Legislature Memorializes McGavin

Lansing, Mich.—The late Peter M. McGavin, for nearly 15 years executive secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept., was memorialized by the Michigan legislature for his courage and determination in wroking for the rights of workers.

McGavin, a native of Grand Rapids, Mich., died of cancer at his home in Bethesda, Md., on July 6. He was 66 years old.

Robertson Is Named to Fill Top L.A. Post

Los Angeles—William R. Robertson was named interim executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO following the death of Sigmund Arywitz.

Robertson, 58, was unanimously approved for the post by the federation's executive board. He had served as Arywitz's assistant for the past two years.

Nominations will be held in October, followed by elections Nov. 17, to complete the term of the federation's top post which expires next June.

Robertson had been president of Hotel & Restaurant Employees Local 694 for 10 year before joining the county federation staff in 1967. He also has been affiliated with the Mattress Workers, Auto Workers, Meat Cutters, Laborers and the Newspaper Guild.

Fights Double-Digit Unemployment:

Building Trades Convention Presses Jobs, Housing Goals

(Continued from Page 1)

prevailing wages to workers on federally-financed construction projects.

- Congressional enactment of an accelerated public works program to provide jobs for construction workers.
- Developing the Outer Continental Shelf as a source of new domestic supplies of oil and gas. The BCTD called upon the federal government to lease offshore sites as soon as possible, a move that would create thousands of new jobs on the oil rigs and in the development and servicing of onshore facilities.
- Government action to speed the construction of coal-fired and uranium fuel power plants. The department noted that delays in the construction of such power plants have already canceled or deferred 1.2 million man-years of work and resulted in a $100 annual increase in the cost of electrical energy for the average American family.

The department also strongly urged that the Federal Reserve Board act to lower interest rates and insure growth in the nation's money supply to stimulate a vigorous economic recovery.

Also, the Administration should "tear itself away from its obsession with fighting inflation and begin to institute programs instead which will insure that our economy is rerouted onto a path of full employment," the delegates declared in a resolution.

Topping the department's actions on internal affairs was the election of Joseph F. Maloney as secretary-treasurer. The post had been vacant since June 1974 when Georgine, who previously held the position, succeeded to the presidency upon the retirement of Frank Bonadio. Bonadio is president-emeritus.

Maloney, 46, has been an assistant to Iron Workers President John H. Lyons since 1961. A native of Boston, he formerly served as president and business agent of Iron Workers Local 7 there.

Georgine was re-elected to his first full term as president, and the delegates also re-elected the department's 10 vice presidents.

The BCTD constitution was amended to provide that no two of the vice presidents may be from the same union. This restriction formerly applied to all officials, including the president and secretary-treasurer.

In his keynote address to the delegates, Georgine said that the construction industry is literally fighting for its life. It has battled double-digit unemployment for 16 consecutive months, and in a large number of communities the unemployment rates for some crafts and trades are running anywhere from 40 to 60 percent.

Yet, he said, the problems facing the construction industry are not insurmountable. He listed several possible avenues out of the economic morass.

One route is speedy enactment of key labor legislation pending in Congress, particularly passage of the common situs picketing bill and a measure that would revise the framework of collective bargaining in the building trades, Georgine said.

Two convention speakers, Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop and Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.), told the delegates President Ford had assured them he supports the two bills and is prepared to sign them into law once they've moved through Congress.

The collective-bargaining legislation while not ideal from the building trades point of view, could clear up many of the complex problems facing the nation's largest industry, Georgine said.

"No one in this room, I am sure, has any doubt that our system of bargaining can stand some meaningful changes," he said. "We think that whatever the negative effect of this bill is, it is far outweighed by the establishment of an orderly procedure in meeting the obligations to this industry."

Dunlop noted that President Ford's proposed $100 billion Energy Independence Authority—unveiled here at the BCTD's opening session—will require "a renewed effort on the part of this industry to improve collective bargaining.

"In no industry in the country is it more important for management and labor to work together," he added.

Ford's national energy research and development plan generally was well received by the delegates who saw in it some hope for alleviating the 20 percent jobless rate among the building and construction tradesmen.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, addressing the convention, said organized labor welcomed Ford's program as "a distinct improvement over the strategy that the Administration has been putting forward up to now—that the solution to the oil and energy supply problem lies in higher prices in the free market. It represents at least to some extent catching up with proposals that we made to the Administration."

Under Ford's energy program, a new independent federal authority would be set up to work with private enterprise and labor to gain energy independence for the United States in 10 years or less.

"It is a program to secure our jobs, our standards of living and the national interest of the United States," Ford told delegates in his opending day address. He said he would name Americans "of great stature without regard to partisan considerations" as directors of the new government corporation.

The Energy Independence Authority would seek new technologies to support or directly produce or transport American energy; technologies to support U.S. nuclear development, and electrical power from American coal, nuclear and geothermal sources, Ford said.

The central defect of the nation's present energy system, Ford said, is that it relies most on the least plentiful domestic energy sources—oil and natural gas—and relies least on the most abundant energy resources, coal and nuclear power.

Kirkland joined Georgine in attributing many of the nation's economic woes to the mishandling of monetary policy by the Federal Reserve Board and its chairman, Arthur Burns.

He also scored "a divided Congress, without leadership of an effective nature," jurisdictional controversy and an Administration obsessed by the budget and a die-hard resistance to programs "that are not compatible with its vision of the budget in spite of the evidence of overwhelming need in vital areas of the economy."

Kirkland said that, next to energy and the necessary capital to solve the energy problem, nothing is more important to economic recovery now than positive action in the housing field. He noted there has never been an economic recovery from a recession in the United States without a strong recovery in the housing sector. Yet there is no recovery in the housing field in sight, he observed.

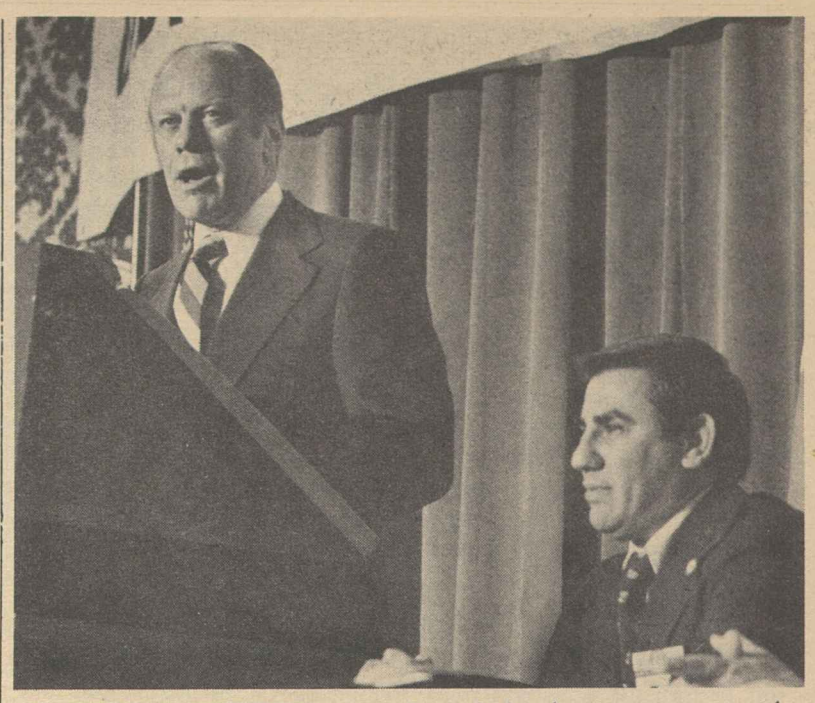
Georgine charged that the deplorable state of housing construction is a direct result of the Fed's tight-money, high-interest policy.

"The entire economy of the United States is in difficulty," he noted. Not only housing but also new utility starts and public works projects are grinding to a halt, he said.

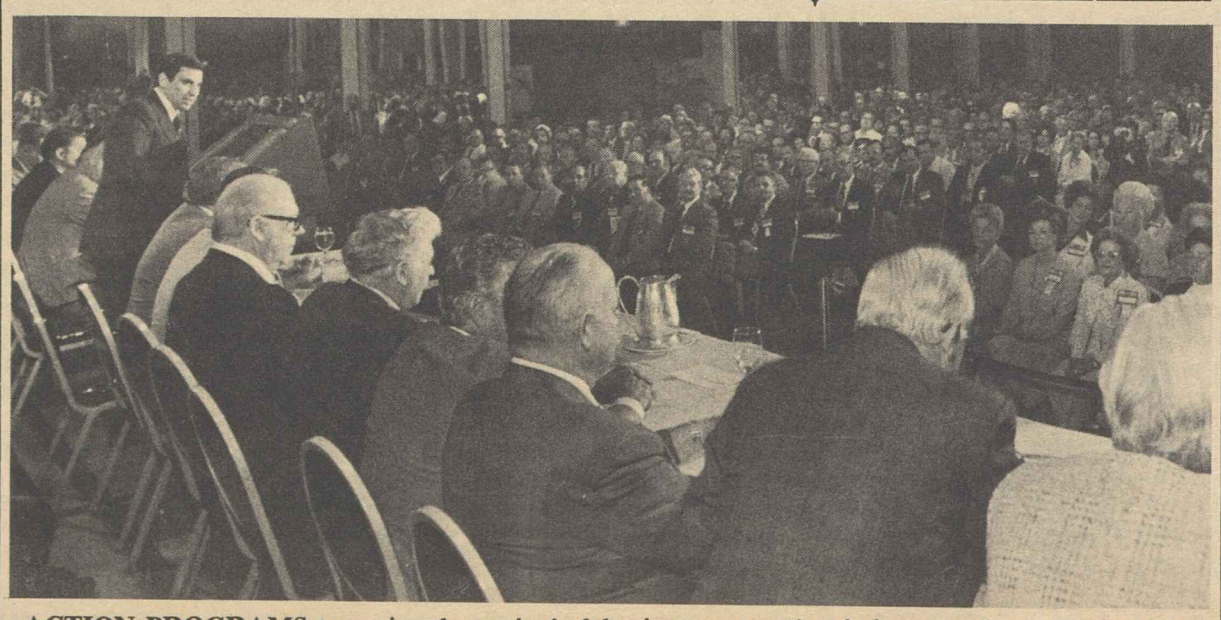
Besides enactment of pending labor legislation, other way of improving the lot of building tradesmen include a self-appraisal by the BCTD and its affiliated unions and a closer working arrangement with industry and government, Georgine said.

The delegates also heard other speakers touch on a wide range of subjects related to the construction industry and prospects of its recovery. Among them were:

Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning of the California AFL-CIO; President James Lee of the State Building Trades Council; California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr.; State Treas. Jesse M. Unruh; President Paul Burnsky of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept.; Edward Murphy, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept.; National COPE Director Al Barkan; Director William Pollard of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights; Alan Kistler, director of the federation's Dept. of Organization & Field Services and president of the Human Resources Development Institute; Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; Betty Southard Murphy, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board.



NATIONAL ENERGY research and development program is proposed by President Ford at the opening session of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. convention in San Francisco. BCTD President Robert A. Georgine is at right.



ACTION PROGRAMS to revive the nation's faltering construction industry and to effectively reduce excessive unemployment are outlined at the AFL-CIO Buildings & Construction Trades Dept. convention by BCTD President Robert A. Georgine.

Spirited Elections Shift Two Key Oregon Posts

Seaside, Ore.—A series of spirited election contests highlighted the five-day convention of the Oregon State AFL-CIO, and challengers unseated incumbents in two out of three top posts.

In the presidential contest, Robert G. Kennedy defeated incumbent Dean Killion by nearly 9,000 votes out of more than 98,000 cast. Kennedy is directing business representatives of Machinists District 24 in Portland. Killion, a member of the Woodworkers, had been president since 1973.

In a three-way race for executive director of legislation and political education, Nellie Fox topped incumbent Lloyd Knudsen and another challenger, Doug Dinsmore. Knudsen had held the post since 1969. Mrs. Fox, from the Retail Clerks, had headed the COPE Women's Activities Dept. of the state federation.

Incumbent Sec.-Treas. Glenn (Pat) Randall, a member of the Carpenters who has held the post since 1967, won re-election with a 21,000 vote margain over Al Thomas of the Bricklayers.

In other major contested elections, Earl Kirkland was re-elected first vice president and Inez McPherson second vice president. Eleven new members were elected to the executive board and seven members were re-elected.

The two-year terms begin on Dec. 1; delegates rejected a proposal to change the terms of office to four years.

More than 100 resolutions acted on by the convention included affirmation of the AFL-CIO's program on major issues such as health security and full funding and stronger enforcement of the occupational safety and health law.

The convention also pledged full support to the Farm Workers, urged public financing of state election campaigns, and endorsed a state lottery.

Delegates were greeted by Gov. Robert Straub, the first Democrat elected to that post in 16 years, who stressed his Administration's job-creation commitment, and Republican Sen. Bob Packwood, who pledged support both for passage of construction site picketing legislation and repeal of the "right-to-work" Section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Other speakers included Sec.-Treas. Louis Knecht of the Communications Workers and Representatives Les AuCoin and Jim Weaver, both first-term Democrats elected with labor support.

Burns Backs Public Jobs for Cheap Wages

(Continued from Page 1)

rate of pay" for these jobs.

Thus, "the budgetary cost of eliminating unemployment need not be burdensome" and persons hired would not be tempted to linger on the public payroll.

Burns complained that unemployment insurance is too generous and "may be blunting incentives to work." He wouldn't, however, abolish it entirely.

"To permit active searching for a regular job," Burns said, "unemployment for a brief period—perhaps 13 weeks or so—would still serve a useful function."

After that, presumably, the jobless worker would have to resort to a public service job paying less than the minimum wage.

Burns also had other noninflationary measures to reduce unemployment," including doing away with the Davis-Bacon Act that sets prevailing wage standards on government-financed construction and changing the minimum wage law so teenagers can be paid less.

He proposed less government regulation of business activity, particularly through "environmental and safety regulations."

And, Burns said, the federal tax structure should be overhauled "so as to increase incentives for business capital spending and for equity investments in American enterprise."

Congress and the Budget

THE INTENT OF THE Congressional Budget Control & Impoundment Act was to enable Congress to reassert its rightful role in setting national goals and priorities. Prior to the act, the Congress did not have the staff, structure or the administrative machinery to cope with the intricacies of the federal budget. As a result, the Congress could not set forth a comprehensive blueprint of its own priorities or effectively challenge those of the Administration.

The 1974 legislation changed all this—on paper. But in actuality, the Congress has neither challenged nor overturned the disastrous blueprint for America that the President presented to the Congress and the nation in his budget message of last February. Although Congress did reject many of the President's proposals to slash funds from existing social programs, in terms of the stimulus needed to create jobs and move the economy forward, the congressional budget represented little more than an endorsement of the Administration's priorities—five solid years of massive unemployment.

When President Ford reluctantly signed the tax cut into law, he pointed to a chart and said: "This is as far as we dare go." He was pointing to a $60 billion projected budget deficit. He did not point to an unemployment chart and say "This is as far as we will let it go."

The AFL-CIO supported the Budget Act. At the same time we had some apprehensions because we did not want the new budget process used as a political tool for the Congress to engage in budget-cutting one-upmanship with the President.

Unfortunately, this is exactly what has happened. The first budget resolution, as well as the Senate committee's reports, analyses and publications have served to rivet attention to broad dollar "targets" generally and the dollar deficit in the federal budget specifically. It has put every senator on notice that actions and votes are to be evaluated by accounting standards and not national needs.

There is, for example, a weekly "Senate Budget Scorekeeping Report" prepared by the Congressional Budget Office in cooperation with this committee. The report provides every senator with a dollar tally of major legislation that has been enacted or has some potential for enactment. The spending target fixed by the first concurrent resolution is presented in boldface type as are figures showing how closely the Congress is adhering to its expenditure targets.

This report states in the introduction that it "is designed to provide the Senate with budgetary information relevant to consideration of upcoming legislative actions." Yet, crucial legislation is cited only in terms of dollar cost and potential impact on the budget deficit—never on the basis of need or value.

The message is obvious. Anything that goes over the target—increases the fiscal 1976 deficit—is bad. Anything under is good.

As far as we are concerned, Mr. Chairman, that's stupid.

There is only one target that this committee should be aiming at and that is the needs of the American people.

If meeting those needs adds up to a FY 1976 deficit of $80 or $90 or $100 billion—so be it; and, if more is required, then more should be provided.

—From testimony by AFL-CIO President George Meany before the Senate Budget Committee.

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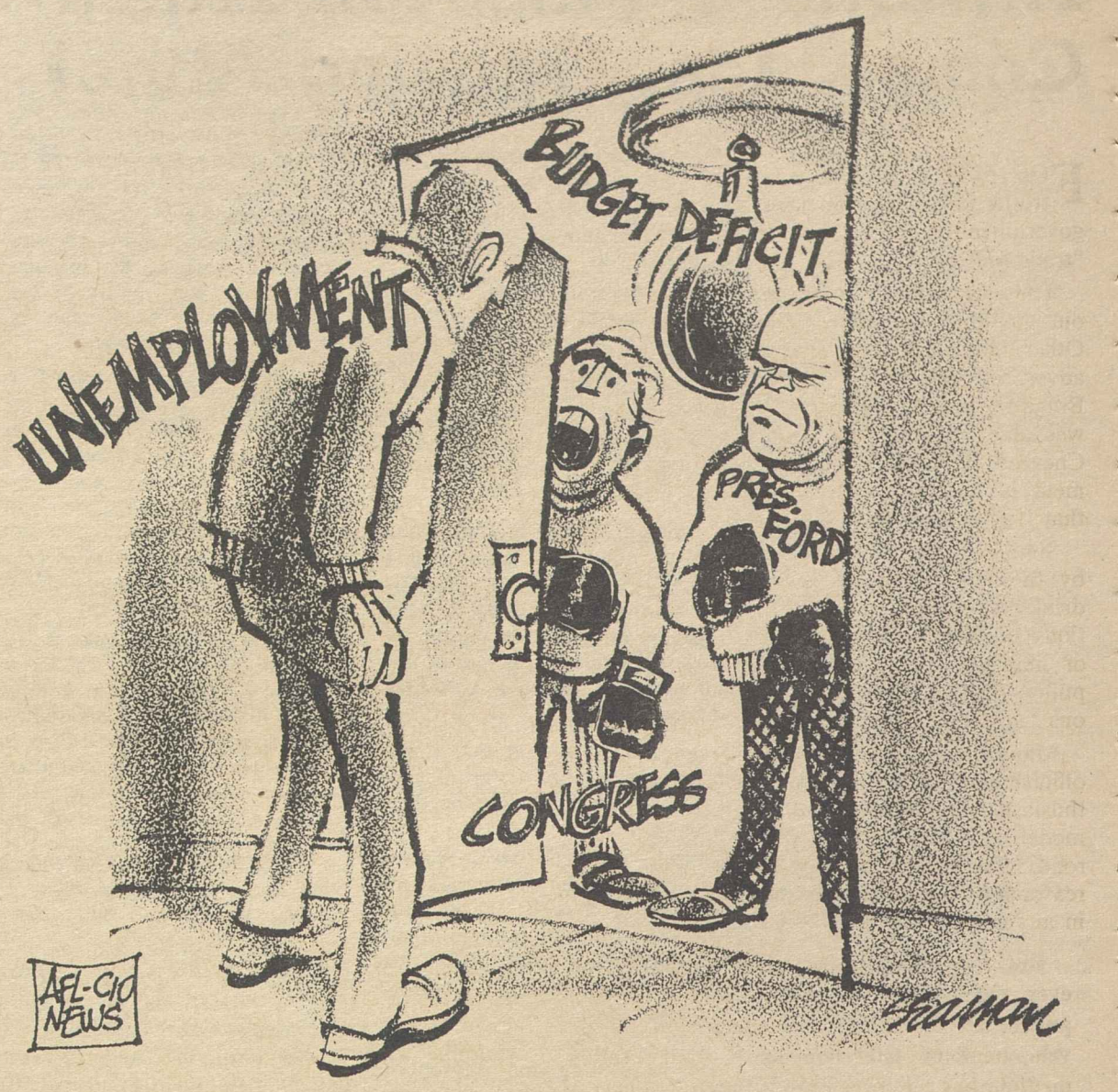

A Word Edgewise:

New Hampshire Vote Reflects Public's Attitude Toward Ford

By John P. Roche

THE SPECIAL SENATE ELECTION in New Hampshire last week was extremely suggestive of things to come between now and the presidential sweepstakes in November 1976. Louis Wyman, the Republican defeated by 30,000 votes by liberal Democrat John Durkin, is one of the sole surviving dinosaurs. In the 1950s, as state attorney general, he developed into a two-bit Joe McCarthy, harassing the university for having "subversive" lecturers and generally protecting the innocent people of the Granite State from sinister forces.

Indeed, there was a time when the combination of Sen. Styles Bridges (a prince of yahoos), Wyman and the Manchester Union Leader (a paper that rivals Pravda for objectivity) could ignite quite a firestorm. All that now remains of this once formidable reactionary fortress is the Union Leader and Gov. Meldrim Thomson, who recently made the funnies by attacking Gerry Ford as a liberal.

Wyman gave up his seat in the House of Representatives to run for the Senate, and after his defeat in the rerun announced that "politically New Hampshire has seen the last of Louis Wyman." Although I rarely hold a grudge for more than 20 years, may I fervently pray that we have all seen the last of Louis Wyman. He was eminently expendable.

What did the election demonstrate? Well, if you believed Wyman's rhetoric, a vote for Durkin was a blow for the tyranny of trade unions, for pampering welfare loafers, for inflation, and for janitors. (Wyman kindly observed that Durkin was not fit to be a janitor—John took this a bit personally as his father had been a janitor.) Gov. Thomson has not surfaced yet with his interpretation, but maybe he will give us another laugh by noting that Wyman lost because that liberal Ford supported him, driving masses of true right-wingers into the Durkin camp.

The Senate election in my judgment indicated that, although Watergate is a dead issue, the Ford Administration has provided the Democrats with an even more powerful appeal: the economy and the lack of leadership. Durkin's practical triumph (however you counted the votes) over Wyman in 1974 was a Watergate freak—the odds were he wouldn't come close. This time he simply walked away; Wyman conceded at 9:30 p.m. With all respect to Gov. Thomson and his rain dancers, the American people are not cheerfully waiting around for unemployment because they know it will raise the Dow-Jones.

Back in 1968 I suggested here that the odds favored Richard Nixon because there was a war on, and Republicans end wars. I also remarked that the other side of this proposition was that the populace associates the Republicans with depressions. In 1968 it seemed worth risking a depression to end a war, but in 1976 what will be the trade off? New Hampshire gives us a hint.

TAKE ANOTHER ISSUE: the Republican yowl about cutting back welfare and other public services. During prosperity this picks up some transitory charm, but there are 21 million Americans over age 65 and, far from being worshippers at the shrine of Arthur Burns and the incredible Alan Greenspan, they properly feel they have earned the right to medical and other public assistance programs. When told about the wonders of the free market, they may not say much—but do they vote? If memory serves, their level of participation is roughly twice that of the 18-30 group.

Increasingly over the past months I have sensed the growth of a new public attitude towards President Ford, and the New Hampshire results seem to verify it. Everyone likes Good Old Gerry, Mrs. Ford is sweet (I think the uproar about her remarks was silly: as the father of a daughter I'm sure I know what she was trying to say), and everything around the White House is hunky-dory—except that President Ford is vanishing like the Cheshire Cat. The American people don't want Good Old Gerry in the Oval Office; they want President Gerald Ford.

Doubtless Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon overdid the "imperial presidency" bit, but Mr. Ford—in his effort to avoid putting on a crown—has somehow projected the image of irrelevance. If the voters hate a politician, it's unfortunate. If they love him, it's pleasant. But if they chuckle at him, he's had it.

How to Buy:

Advertising Puff, Half-Truths Come Under Growing Attack

By Sidney Margolius

FOR MANY YEARS exaggeration and half-truths in advertising have been condoned by government regulators and even courts as ordinary "trade puffery."

Thus, brewers advertise "premium" beer without any documentation that it is any different. Other beers are the "finest." Geritol was long advertised for treating "tired blood," and Wonder Bread for helping children grow 12 ways. Chevron was able to claim that "additive F-310" made Chevron the "most long awaited gasoline development in history," and Ultra Brite can promise that it gives your mouth sex appeal.

Similarly, despite some short-lived challenges by the Federal Trade Commission, Hi-C fruit drink continues to call itself that, with its implications of high vitamin content. Other examples of names with controversial implications of puffery include Easy-Off oven cleaners and various "noiseless" typewriters and air conditioners.

Many advertising men and some government officials tend to defend "puffery" as harmless enthusiasm, as when an auto salesman says the model he is trying to sell you is "the best on the road." The defenders of puffery maintain that no reasonable consumer believes such exaggerations in any case.

But now from universities, Congress and even the advertising trade itself, attacks on puffery are increasing. For one reason, the development of television as a major selling medium has reinforced the emotional appeal of puffery. You see before your own eyes how white teeth, various body deodorants and now even Woolite washing powder for your clothes can attract the opposite sex.

One of the most thorough analyses of how puffery can be deceptive is provided in a new book, The Great American Blow-Up by Ivan L. Preston, a University of Wisconsin journalism professor and himself a former advertising man.

Of course, no one believes you'll have a tiger in your tank when you use Esso (now Exxon), Preston points out. But when Hot Wheels and Johnny Lightning toy racers were shown in TV commercials moving at high speeds, the FTC did find them deceptive.

The toy racers were photographed from a position so close that they zoomed past in what appeared on the screen as an exciting blur. The photography was technically accurate, Preston observes. You can approximate it by moving your hand past your eye at close range. But the FTC considered the effect to be deceptive.

Another problem type of advertising spotlighted by Preston and others, and against which the FTC recently has acted, is "half-truths." This is puffery that has some basis in fact but doesn't tell the whole story. Preston cites electric bulbs advertised as "long life" or "extended life," while other brands were promoted for "better light" and "stay brighter longer." The "long life" bulb makers failed to mention that the longer life was at the expense of brightness. The makers of "brighter" bulbs (sometimes the same manufacturers) failed to mention the shorter life of their lamps.

Rather than bar these terms, the FTC now requires that they be accompanied by facts on number of lumens and expected life. The makers "may still communicate their vague phrases but the consumer now can check the precise facts," Preston observes.

ANOTHER REVEALING expose of the potential deceptions of half-truths is by an advertising man, Paul Stevens, in his book, I Can Sell You Anything. He warns to be especially wary of ads that claim to have more of a certain ingredient but never say what it is.

The most notable example is the persistent advertising for Anacin, which claims more of the ingredient that doctors recommend without ever saying that this is merely aspirin. Stevens also cites Easy Off oven cleaner for advertising more of an active ingredient without identifying it. The gasoline industry also has become notorious for claiming various additives with mysterious numeral designations but no mention of whether other brands may have the same additive.

Even when the special ingredient is identified it may prove to be only an ordinary ingredient under an invented name. Certs is advertised as containing "a sparkling drop of retsyn." What's that—some antibacterial agent? Stevens checked and found out that retsyn is merely the Certs manufacturer's name for vegetable oil.

Stevens also warns to beware of the word "like" in ads, such as the Ivory soap ads: "It's like getting one bar free." The ads don't actually say you get one bar free or that you get 25 percent more soap. One reason, Stevens notes, may be that Ivory soap contains air, which is why it floats, thus it may be lighter than similar-size bars of other soaps.

Preston credits the FTC with making a brave new attempt to resist puffery despite some earlier setbacks in the courts. But judging from the persistence of such commercials as those for Anacin, the commission has a long way to go.

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Weinberger's Parting Shot:

Seidman Scores HEW Proposal To Penalize Strikers' Children

THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTEMPT to disallow welfare aid to children whose fathers are exercising their legal right to strike was branded as unconscionable by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman.

While it's not known whether the Administration approved the move to tie welfare eligibility to unemployment insurance eligibility, Seidman said the White House now has a chance to withdraw the proposal that Caspar Weinberger made before he stepped down as Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare.

Seidman said that Weinberger showed, throughout his service as Secretary of HEW, that his key concern was holding down costs "to be able to cut the taxes of wealthy people," and was "just not interested in meeting the needs of poor and disadvantaged people, the elderly and the sick."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview, Labor News Conference, Seidman rejected the contention of the National Association of Manufacturers and other big business groups that if welfare benefits were allowed for the children of strikers, there would be more strikes and longer strikes.

He pointed out that means and assets tests, as well as other eligibility requirements, would mean that not a great many strikers would be affected. Most of those who would be eligible for welfare payments would be low-wage workers on strike to improve sub-standard wages and working conditions.

Seidman also noted that the 30-day wait for eligibility after workers have become unemployed or have exhausted unemployment insurance payments, would also rule most strikers out of the program, since most strikes don't last 30 days.

Seidman was questioned by Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Jerome Brazda of McGraw-Hill. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired Tuesdays, over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

By Press Associates, Inc.

CONGRESS IS MOVING on legislation to help rebuild the country's deteriorated railroads with nearly everyone in apparent agreement except the Ford Administration.

There are differences on how extensive the federal role should be and how it should be financed. But the Democratic leadership in Congress, a growing number of Republican lawmakers, unions, ecologists, consumer groups, industry leaders and shippers agree that rail transportation must be saved and revitalized.

AFL-CIO President George Meany has emphasized that the federation looks upon restoration of railroads "as one of the nation's top priorities, and we are not going to let Congress forget it."

An important aspect of rail rehabilitation, its supporters agree, is that more than 40,000 jobless railroad workers could be employed in upgrading railroad tracks and roadbeds.

President Harold C. Crotty of the Maintenance of Way Employes, in recent testimony for the Railway Labor Executives' Association, warned that layoffs (they have increased on railroads even while leveling off in other industries) will lead to increasing "derailments, property damage, deaths and injuries—all due to defects in maintenance."

In other era, federal assistance for railroads would have been considered pure, self-interest legislation. Over the years and particularly throughout the 1950s and the 1960s railroad managements discouraged passenger service. One of the keys to killing off this less-profitable-than-cargo business was to allow deterioration of tracks and roadbeds. The public came to realize what was happening. Few tears were shed for rail managements.

But in 1970 Congress realized that a transportation crisis made salvation of rail passenger service vital to the public's interest. It created a semi-public corporation, Amtrak, to take over that service.

Then came 1973. Arab sheiks shut off their oil spigots. America was caught in a drastic energy crunch. Railroads became essential to the nation's economy because of their energy-saving advantages over other modes of transportation.

Some months ago Rep. John Heinz (R-Pa.) introduced a bill that would have provided far more money for rehabilitation — $2.5 billion over two-and-a-half years—than Congress now seems likely to approve.

Initially there were reports that President Ford might favor the proposal. Now, apparently, the President has placed the legislation on his list of items that he would veto should they clear Congress. If rail rehabilitation passes, and it is vetoed, that means lawmakers will again be seeking a two-thirds margin to pass legislation as has been the case so often in the Nixon and Ford administrations.

THERE WAS ONE noteworthy development during recent congressional hearings on rail rehabilitation legislation. President Paul Reistrup of Amtrak, who took over as the passenger corporation's head earlier this year, pointed out "there hasn't been a single program of track work throughout the country" sufficient to allow Amtrak to improve time schedules in its five-year existence.

"The federal government is never going to get full value received for the investment in new, high-speed passenger trains unless track is improved," Reistrup said—and he emphasized "the whole economy is going to pay a steep price if this country's rail plant is permitted to fall into further disrepair."

However, Transportation Sec. William T. Coleman appeared in opposition. But his testimony had a strain of inconsistency. At one point, he said, "it is important that railroads be in condition to move quickly and significantly an increased amount of freight and passengers." But then he complained rehabilitation funds would add to the budget deficit, even contending that if money could be found for railroads there would be "better, more intelligent, more effective ways to spend it."

This is the "philosophy," Meany has pointed out, "that has resulted in America's economy being in just about as bad shape as the railroads."

ATTEMPTS TO DISALLOW welfare aid to children whose fathers are on strike were assailed by AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Jerome Brazda of McGraw-Hill Publications and Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

BRICKLAYERS CONVENTION delegates deliberate the adoption of a new constitution as union President Thomas F. Murphy presides over the sessions held at Atlantic City, N.J.

New Constitution Voted:

Bricklayers Adopt Structural Changes

Atlantic City, N.J.—Delegates to the 73rd convention of the Bricklayers answered a mandate to implement progressive member service programs as they adopted a new constitution, voted to change the union's name, and set in motion the machinery "to determine the course of this organization for decades to come."

President Thomas F. Murphy and Sec. John T. Joyce called on the convention for "a demonstration that our organization is willing to pay the price for continued success" and urged that it build "upon the foundation we've laid during the past three years."

That "foundation," laid down since the 1972 convention, includes an international pension fund; expanded masonry promotion; creation of headquarters departments to deal with collective bargaining services, organizing, communications and education, and data processing.

Under the name change approved by the delegates, the union will be known as the International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen rather than the Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers International Union.

The new constitution adopted by a 92.2 percent majority of the convention, however, embodies more than merely a new name. It provides a broader definition of overall work jurisdiction, establishes minimum dues for local unions, provides for conventions every four years rather than the present two year interval, creates a new general board, and sets up a formula for future dues and salary increases.

The general board, made up of the principal officers of all local unions, will meet midway between regular conventions. The board will have all the powers of a convention, except those of electing officers and amending bylaws.

Both the board and the convention will have the right to set the level of dues for the succeeding year. Dues of members and salary increases for officers will be determined by a percentage equal to the percentage increases in wages and fringe benefits negotiated for journeymen in all local unions the previous year.

Meanwhile the convention voted a salary increase for international officers and increased membership per capita dues by $1 a month.

In other major convention business, the Bricklayers pledged to work for broad remedial action from the federal government toward creating jobs and improving the unemployment compensation system.

The convention also urged immediate measures to resurrect the housing industry and create a stable industry for the future. This would be achieved by emergency mortgage relief measures; a stable, reasonable Federal Reserve Board interest rate policy; acceptance of the backlog of public housing applications, and approval of long-term mortgage loans for housing-for-the-elderly projects.

Speakers during the five-day convention included President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.; Plasterers & Cement Masons President Joseph T. Power and Sec.-Treas. John J. Hauck; Fred J. Driscoll, Jr., chairman of the Impartial Jurisdictional Disputes Board; Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.); and contractor association representatives.

Architect and author Philip Johnson received the union's 1975 Louis Sullivan Award, presented biennially to an American or Canadian architect whose work best demonstrates the union's concern for architectural and environmental quality.

Major resolutions called for:

- Exploration of possible merger with the Plasterers & Cement Masons
- Opposition of efforts to weaken or repeal the 44-year-old Davis-Bacon Act intended to protect local wage standards from employers who would import workers from low wage areas to perform federal construction.
- Senate approval of the situs picketing bill.
- Legislation permitting labor and management representatives to share administrative responsibilities for jointly-funded promotion programs.
- Legislation to restore posthumously U.S. citizenship rights to the late labor leader, Eugene V. Debs.

Larson Boat Boycott Ends After Accord

Pittsburgh — Steelworkers President I. W. Abel has called for lifting of the union's consumer boycott against Larson Industries of Little Falls, Minn., following negotiation of an initial agreement with the company.

The boycott action was endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council last July in support of a Steelworkers strike.

Terms of the 28-month agreement include a grievance procedure, a dues checkoff system, an 8 percent across the board wage increase for the first year, cost-of-living adjustments, a pension plan, a profit-sharing plan, an insurance program, a job bidding procedure, the first plant safety committee, shift wage differential and an additional holiday.

The Steelworkers said achievement of the contract was aided substantially by the boycott. The firm builds boats for recreation.

Expanded Aid Pressed For Nation's Railroads

Miami Beach—The United Transportation Union convention approved a long-range program calling for extensive aid to the nation's railroads through a more equitable division of the transportation tax dollar.

As the 1,200 delegates wound up the convention here, they called for a $25 billion fund for maintaining and rehabilitating railroads. This fund, they said in a statement on legislative goals, would consist largely of federal grants, guaranteed loans and a possible diesel fuel tax of 5 cents a gallon over a 10 year period.

Currently, the convention noted, 85 percent of the U.S. transportation tax dollar goes to highways, 10 percent to airports, 4 percent to waterways and six-tenths of 1 percent to railroads.

The UTU, which includes 10,000 bus operators among its 250,000 members, also urged Congress to release additional monies from the highway trust fund to provide more urban mass transit aid for bus and rail service. The suggested increase would raise present aid of $11.7 billion to $20 billion over the next five years.

Delegates asked quick action by Congress to transfer jurisdiction over rail safety to the Labor Dept. Currently this jurisdiction is under the Federal Railroad Administration. Under the proposal, a new, separate agency in the Labor Dept. would handle all unsafe rail conditions.

As part of the effort to conserve energy through the greater use of rail passenger service, the UTU went on record favoring an increase of Amtrak funds for new routes, better equipment and improved roadbed. Amtrak is the federal corporation set up to run railroad passenger routes.

Among convention speakers who pledged support of the UTU program to improve transportation service were Senators Vance Hartke (D-Ind.), Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) and Rep. Harley O. Staggers (D-W. Va.).

AFL-CIO President George Meany, who made the opening address to the convention, also gave strong backing to the UTU goals.

President Al H. Chesser was re-elected to his second four-year term. Several other top UTU officials were also re-elected to new terms.

Meany Cites Stevens As Scofflaw Example

The best way to clear up a backlog of unfair labor practice complaints against employers would be to penalize J. P. Stevens & Co. with more than a "slap on the wrist" for its union-busting activities, AFL-CIO President George Meany suggested.

Meany told a conference of union representatives that the Stevens firm is an example to other employers that it is possible to violate federal labor law "with virtual impunity" and to use delaying tactics before both the National Labor Relations Board and the courts to put off even token penalties.

"Make J. P. Stevens obey" the law "and the NLRB case load will decline," Meany predicted.

The union representatives met at AFL-CIO headquarters to explore common problems arising out of the National Labor Relations Act and its enforcement by the NLRB. A House Labor subcommittee has scheduled oversight hearings at which unions will testify.

Merely by delaying tactics, Meany noted, a hostile employer can break up a union organizing drive. The average lag between the filing of an unfair labor practice charge to the issuance of a decision by the NLRB was 316 days in 1972, Meany pointed out. And an employer could generally add another year's delay by court appeals.

Even when a union finally overcomes all these obstacles to achieve bargaining rights, Meany said, a hostile employer can launch a new round of delaying tactics by refusing to bargain in good faith—setting off further NLRB hearings and further court appeals.

He termed the Stevens textile chain "the monument to the NLRB's inability to defend the legal rights of workers to organize and bargain collectively."

Meany termed the J. P. Stevens firm "the epitome of the Watergate mentality; one that preaches disrespect of the law."

Trophies Spur COPE Activity

The Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO has awarded trophies to five locals with the best political education record in their central body areas as part of a new program to stimulate participation in COPE activities.

The trophies, which were presented during the recent Maryland-D.C. convention, went to Glass Bottle Blowers Local 200 in the Baltimore central body, Textile Workers 1874 in the Cumberland Council, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1307 on the Eastern Shore, Ladies' Garment Workers Local 435 in the Hagerstown area, and Local 2 of the Office & Professional Employees in the Washington, D.C., area.

Locals that received the awards had the highest percentage of registered voters and the greatest number of hours volunteered in COPE and women's activities programs.

Federal Job-Injury Benefits Bill Pressed as States Miss Deadline

The AFL-CIO gave a strong endorsement to a bill that would replace the 50-state jumble of workers' compensation programs with uniform minimum standards based on the unanimous recommendations of a national commission.

The commission's report, issued three years ago, made 19 key recommendations and suggested that states be given until July 1975 to comply with them. If not, Congress should act.

"As of July 1, 1975," the AFL-CIO noted in its statement to the Senate Labor Committee, "not a single state had enacted legislation to comply with all the 19 essential recommendations."

This "failure of the states" compels enactment of federal legislation, the AFL-CIO declared.

Labor's endorsement went to a bill introduced by Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), the committee chairman, and Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.), the ranking minority member, with numerous cosponsors.

It would require all employers to provide workmen's compensation protection against job-related injuries or illness for all workers at not less than the standards set forth in the bill.

For total disability or death, the payment would be at least two-thirds of the worker's lost wage, subject to a maximum that would by three years after enactment, amount to 200 percent of the statewide average weekly wage.

The minimum benefit would be the smaller of either 50 percent of the state average wage or the full amount of lost wages.

There would be no limitation on duration of benefits, or on additional rehabilitation payments, and benefits would be adjusted at least once a year to reflect increases in the state average wage and the maximum benefit schedule.

The legislation also sets out standards in many problem areas, such as waiting periods, definitions of disability, choice of physicians and attorney fees.

Urging prompt enactment of the legislation, the AFL-CIO statement noted that:

- 13 states exclude workers employed by small firms.
- 30 states deny coverage to farm workers.
- 49 states deny coverage to domestic workers and casual workers.
- 20 states do not cover public employes.
- 10 states limit medical care.
- 46 states limit the benefits payable to survivors in occupational death cases.
- 34 states have a maximum weekly benefit below the level recommended as adequate by the commission.

D'Ambrosio Succeeds Jewell:

Allied Industrial Workers Elect New Team of Officers

Kansas City—Delegates to the 20th convention of the Allied Industrial Workers chose new top officers, elected four new members of the executive board, and set major new union policies.

More than 500 delegates attended the four-day convention of the 40-year-old union that represents some 100,000 members throughout the United States.

Dominick D'Ambrosio, 53, who had been the union's secretary-treasurer, was elected without opposition to become president, suceeding Gilbert Jewell, who retired after five years as top officer.

Elected secretary-treasurer was Raymond R. Reinhold, 61, of Decatur, Ill., who had been the director of AIW Region 8, the largest in the union.

Angelo R. Verdin of Milwaukee, president of the 8,000-member AIW Local 232, was elected board member-at-large, a fulltime position on the union's executive board. He succeeds Frank Evans of Cleveland, who retired after serving on the AIW executive board for 36 years.

Two of six regional directors, who make up the balance of the union's board, were among the newly elected officers.

The elections of both Reinhold and Verdin were contested and required run-off balloting.

After three days of discussion, the delegates voted to increase the basic dues of members by $1.50 to $7.25 a month. Of the $1.50 increase, the convention allocated 85 cents to the regional offices, 40 cents to the international and 25 cents to the local unions.

The union's executive board had recommended a graduated scale of dues, pegging each local unit's dues to the plantwide average wage with lower paid units paying a lower rate. This was narrowly voted down in a roll call, and a proposal for a flat $2 dues increase was also defeated. Finally, by standing vote, the delegates accepted the $1.50 a month flat increase.

Under the AIW's structure, local unions may vote to set dues above the $7.25 level and keep the balance. Of the $7.25, $1.65 will go to the international union, $2.35 to the regional offices, $1.00 to the strike fund with $2.25 remaining in the locals.

In his reports to delegates, Jewell said the union needed extra revenue to counteract a steady decline in membership due to the current recession which has hit the AIW with its high membership in the automotive industry. Also, he said the union needed more income to offset higher costs.

Delegates also voted to grant collective bargaining rights to the union's fulltime representatives, if they provide proof that a majority wants such procedures.

Jewell reported that the union had resumed merger talks with the Molders and that he believed it would be in the best interest of both unions to continue the discussions.

Newly elected to the board were Archie Robbins of Joplin, Mo., as Region 8 director and Robert Johnson of Milwaukee, as Region 9 director. Re-elected to the board were Nick Serraglio of Cleveland, Region 3 director; J. B. Arnold, Jr., of Cincinnati, Region 4 director; Les Enochs of Wyandotte, Mich., Region 6 director, and Robert Brenner of Battle Creek, Mich., Region 7 director.

More than 70 resolutions were considered by the delegates, many of them supporting basic positions of the AFL-CIO in national affairs.

The retirement of Jewell and Evans marks the end of an era and leaves the union without any members of the top executive board who were active during the turbulent 1930s.

Jewell, who helped to found the AIW while working in an auto plant in Kansas City in 1934, recalled his early years, citing the lack of benefits, job security and decent wages, as well as the difficulty in organizing and the high unemployment.

Noting that the current economic crisis "is the worst since the great depression of the 1930s," Jewell told the delegates:

"I don't want anyone in this room to have to relive the past that the workers of my generation had to endure. The rights that we now take for granted can be lost much more easily and quickly than they were achieved. The members of my generation are now mostly gone so it will be up to you and the workers who follow you to be sure that history does not repeat itself."

He criticized the Ford Administration for failing to comprehend the dangers of unemployment by following government policies that not only fail to reduce joblessness but keep inflation rising.

Jewell blamed the Administration for vetoing badly needed job-creating legislation while at the same time permitting the Russians to make huge purchases of American farm products.

He said: "Ford is saying it's OK to take a chance on boosting inflation as long as we are dealing with the Russians, but when it comes to putting unemployed Americans back to work, we can't take any chances. We think it is wrong."

Delegates later approved resolutions which blamed the Ford Administration for permitting the current recession to continue.

The AIW celebrated its 40th anniversary at the convention. It was formed as the United Automobile Workers and became known as the UAW-AFL after its 1939 split with UAW-CIO (now unaffiliated) and changed its name to Allied Industrial Workers in 1956.

NEW TOP OFFICERS of the Allied Industrial Workers are sworn in by retiring President Gilbert Jewell at the union's 20th convention in Kansas City. They are President Dominick D'Ambrosio, center, and Sec.-Treas. Raymond R. Reinhold.

Rollcall Vote in Senate On Federal Pay Raise

The Senate on Sept. 18 voted 53-39 to go along with President Ford's proposal to cut the 8.66 percent salary increase due federal employes to 5 percent.

The AFL-CIO opposed the cutback. So did the 25 Democrats and 14 Republicans who voted against reducing the pay raise that a government survey determined was needed to maintain comparability with private industry salaries.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 25

Bentsen (Tex.)
Bumpers (Ark.)
Byrd, (W.Va.)
Clark (Iowa)
Cranston (Calif.)
Culver (Iowa)
Ford (Ky.)
Gravel (Alaska)
Hart (Colo.)
Hartke (Ind.)
Haskell (Colo.)
Humphrey (Minn.)
Inouye (Hawaii)
Jackson (Wash.)
Kennedy (Mass.)
Long (La.)
Magnuson (Wash.)
McGee (Wyo.)
McIntyre (N.H.)
Mondale (Minn.)
Pastore (R.I.)
Pell (R.I.)
Randolph (W.Va.)
Ribicoff (Conn.)
Williams (N.J.)

Republicans 14

Beall (Md.)
Brooke (Mass.)
Case (N.J.)
Fong (Hawaii)
Javits (N.Y.)
Laxalt (Nev.)
Mathias (Md.)
Percy (Ill.)
Schweiker (Pa.)
Scott (Pa.)
Scott (Va.)
Stafford (Vt.)
Stevens (Alaska)
Taft (Ohio)

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 31

Abourezk (S.D.)
Allen (Ala.)
Biden (Del.)
Burdick (N.D.)
Byrd (Va.)
Cannon (Nev.)
Chiles (Fla.)
Church (Ida.)
Durkin (N.H.)
Eastland (Miss.)
Glenn (Ohio)
Hathaway (Me.)
Hollings (S.C.)
Huddleston (Ky.)
Johnston (La.)
Leahy (Vt.)
Mansfield (Mont.)
McClellan (Ark.)
Montoya (N.M.)
Morgan (N.C.)
Muskie (Me.)
Nelson (Wis.)
Nunn (Ga.)
Proxmire (Wis.)
Sparkman (Ala.)
Stennis (Miss.)
Stevenson (Ill.)
Stone (Fla.)
Symington (Mo.)
Talmadge (Ga.)
Tunney (Calif.)

Republicans 22

Baker (Tenn.)
Bartlett (Okla.)
Bellmon (Okla.)
Brock (Tenn.)
Buckley (N.Y.)
Curtis (Neb.)
Dole (Kan.)
Domenici (N.M.)
Fannin (Ariz.)
Garn (Utah)
Goldwater (Ariz.)
Griffin (Mich.)
Hansen (Wyo.)
Hatfield (Ore.)
Hruska (Neb.)
McClure (Ida.)
Packwood (Ore.)
Pearson (Kan.)
Roth (Del.)
Thurmond (S.C.)
Tower (Tex.)
Young (N.D.)

Paired right: Bayh (D-Ind.), Metcalf (D-Mont.)
Paired wrong: Eagleton (D-Mo.), Moss (D-Utah)
Present but did not vote: Helms (R-N.C.), Weicker (R-Conn.)
Absent and not paired: Hart (D-Mich.), McGovern (D-S.D.)

Lobbying Disclosure Bill Hit as Red Tape Tangle

Legislation seeking to compel fuller disclosure of lobbying operations would defeat its avowed purpose by burying pertinent information in filing cabinets choked with "unnecessary and irrelevant" reports, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said.

He told a House Judiciary subcommittee that the record-keeping and reporting requirements in the bills under consideration — including virtually every contact made by a lobbyist and every phase of the policymaking process he sought to influence—would "leave little opportunity for the lobbyist to engage in lobbying."

Other portions of the legislation, he said, represent "a wholly unjustified intrusion" into the internal affairs of voluntary organizations. Thus, a reference in the bill to publications of voluntary membership organizations raises the question of whether the AFL-CIO News would have to drop its coverage of legislative developments to exclude itself from the cumbersome regulations.

Biemiller emphasized the open nature of the AFL-CIO's function as the "people's lobby" with a broad interest in a vast amount of legislation that comes before Congress each year—affecting workers "as consumers and citizens, as well as trade unionists."

He reminded the panel of the "vital" and fully legitimate role that lobbying plays in the legislative process through providing information and informed opinion as to the impact of legislation before Congress.

The present lobbying law has been "scrupulously observed" by labor's legislative representatives, Biemiller said. They are registered; they file quarterly reports of their salaries and expenses, and their activities on behalf of AFL-CIO policies "are well known to all on Capitol Hill."

Deficiencies in the present law, Biemiller suggested, can be met "by closing loopholes, providing for consistent and realistic enforcement and extending it to apply to lobbying of the executive branch and to so-called grass-roots lobbying."

But this can be accomplished, he stressed, without adopting remedies that would be "worse than the evils they are designed to correct."

Plan to Weaken Rules On Day Care Scored

The AFL-CIO has registered strong objections to proposals that would further weaken standards for day care centers established by the Dept. of Health, Education, & Welfare.

The HEW standards, due to become effective Oct. 1, already have been weakened as a result of public hearings several months ago. They would permit day care centers to establish child-staff ratios of one adult for four children in the age range of six weeks to three years.

However, Sen. Dewey F. Bartlett (R-Okla.) and Rep. James R. Jones (D-Okla.) have now called for legislation or an HEW waiver that could seriously alter the child-staff ratio. Their proposal would allow one adult to care for four children in the age range from birth to ten months, six children ten months to two years old, or eight children two to three years old.

In a letter to HEW Sec. David Mathews, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman urged that further attempts to weaken the standards be denied and that they be allowed to go into effect Oct. 1 as they now stand.

Seidman said "it would be a tragedy if day care operators who want to simply warehouse little children . . . are allowed to continue the practice of providing, at the taxpayer's expense, nothing more than institutionalized child neglect."

In addition, Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller wrote members of Congress to urge rejection of efforts to weaken the day care regulations by legislative means.

Biemiller said the AFL-CIO is opposed to workers' taxes being used for programs that "will damage children." He said that if there is to be a change in the HEW regulations, it should be to require more caretakers, not fewer.

Job Needs Ignored:

Meany Scores Use Of Budget Curbs

(Continued from Page 1)

will lose $9 billion in purchasing power next year. "The only thing that was keeping the workers' head above water was the tax cut and, unless Congress acts, that lifejacket will be yanked away."

He summoned Congress to "develop a program to overturn the economic policies of the Administration, turn the economy around, put America back to work and prevent the onset of another economic catastrophe."

If it requires a temporary $100 billion deficit to accomplish this, Meany said, "so be it." And "if more is required, then more should be provided."

The recession isn't over and won't be over until America is back to work, Meany testified. And "announcements heralding its end are based on statistical nonsense."

While production indexes may no longer be declining, Meany noted that they also ended their decline in March 1933, "and no one uses that date as the end of the Great Depression."

A misplaced priority on holding down the budget deficit won't create the 70,000 new jobs that must be created "each and every week over the next three years if we are to approach full employment in 1978," Meany said.

He went beyond the statistics of testimony to speak of the "tragedy" of losing a job "in America's work-oriented society." Families go deeper into debt despite the "important cushion" of unemployment insurance, and money problems add to family stress.

Then, Meany added, there are the millions of young people seeking to enter the job markets—white and black, college graduates and high school dropouts—to be told that there are no career opportunities for them and there won't be for years to come.

"This is the meaning of the Administration's vetoes of badly needed job-creating legislation," Meany said angrily. "This is the message of the Federal Reserve Board, which tightens monetary policy and increases interest rates."

The concept of independent congressional budget action was to give Congress the resources to cope with the intricacies of the federal budget and shape its own priorities, Meany noted.

"But in actuality, Congress has neither challenged nor overturned the disastrous blueprint . . . that the President presented."

While Congress did reject many of Ford's proposals to cut back existing social programs, "in terms of the stimulus needed to create jobs and move the economy forward, the congressional budget represented little more than an endorsement of the Administration's priorities—five solid years of massive unemployment."

Meany outlined the AFL-CIO's program for economic recovery and called on the committee to propose a budget resolution that supports the spending authority to finance the recovery.

Building Trades Get Safety Training Grant

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. has been awarded a $498,890 Labor Dept. contract to expand an existing job safety and health training program.

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration said the project will be extended for 18 months, and expanded to include 200 BCTD and industry representatives.

Ripoff

Rise in Prices Slows After Rapid Increase

(Continued from Page 1)

cars, gasoline, medical services and auto insurance. Consumers were still paying 9.4 percent more for food than in August 1974.

August also marked the first time since February 1973 that workers' real spendable earnings have shown an increase over the year, BLS said in a separate report. But this was largely a result of reduced federal income tax withholdings.

Based on 1967 dollars to adjust for inflation since then, the real weekly take-home pay for a worker with three dependents amounted to $92.47 in August. This is an increase of nine-tenths of 1 percent from July and 1.1 percent from August 1974.

BLS pointed out that real average weekly earnings before payroll tax deductions were down 2.7 percent over the year. The decline resulted from the 8.6 percent rise in the CPI, coupled with a 1.1 percent drop in average weekly hours while average earnings increased 6.8 percent.

However, the decline in real weekly earnings was overcome by the reduced income tax withholding rates which went into effect May 1, BLS said.

The all-items CPI in August increased to 162.8 percent of the 1967 base level. This means that the same products and services that an urban family bought for $10 in 1967 cost $16.28 last month.

After seasonal adjustments, the food price components held steady last month while nonfood commodities rose five-tenths of 1 percent.

Beef prices declined in August for the first time in five months and fruit and vegetable prices also dropped after sharp increases in both June and July. Cereals, bakery products and oils were lower in price.

However, pork prices rose 4.6 percent, a steep increase for the fifth consecutive month. Poultry prices were up nine-tenths of 1 percent and dairy product prices were also up more than in recent months.

Sugar prices, which had declined for the first seven months of the year, rose 14.9 percent in August, and coffee prices also increased for the first time this year.

BLS said that all major categories rose in the service index, up five-tenths of 1 percent from July. Rents increased five-tenths of 1 percent, medical care six-tenths of 1 percent, transportation eight-tenths of 1 percent, and household services two-tenths of 1 percent. Auto insurance charges climbed 1.3 percent over the month while hospital rates rose nine-tenths of 1 percent.

Charles Crissey Dies, Edited Guild Reporter

Falls Church, Va. — Charles E. Crissey, retired editor of the Newspaper Guild's bi-monthly publication, the Guild Reporter, died at his home here Sept. 21 after a long illness. He was 80 years old.

Crissey retired as editor of the Guild Reporter in 1963 after serving nearly 20 years in various Guild posts. Before that he had been a reporter for more than 20 years for the Elizabeth, N.J., Daily Journal.

He served as a judge in the journalism competition conducted by the International Labor Press Association in 1971 and 1972.

AFGE Sets New Try for Full Pay Rise

The Government Employees announced a new effort to win the full 8.66 percent comparability increase for federal workers through legislation that would exclude Congress, federal judges and government "supergraders" from the same pay raise.

AFGE President Clyde M. Webber said at a press conference that the union would ask the House to consider the federal pay comparability issue without having to vote themselves a wage increase above the amount proposed by President Ford.

Ford last month rejected the recommendations of his advisers that an 8.66 percent increase is necessary to bring federal wages in line with those of the private sector, based on findings of a Bureau of Labor Statistics survey.

Instead, Ford placed a 5 percent ceiling on the raise, an action that could be overturned by either house of Congress. A move to reject the President's pay lid has already failed in the Senate, however.

Webber expressed the union's dismay at the Senate action, but noted that many senators had voted against the 8.66 percent recommendation because it would have applied to their own salaries as well as to those of rank-and-file government workers.

He said the House would be asked to remove the salaries of high government officials and legislators from the comparability plan and to vote the full 8.66 percent for federal workers while limiting their own raises to the President's recommended 5 percent.

In addition, AFGE, which represents more than 680,000 federal employes, said it will seek other legislation to limit the President's ability to reduce or delay federal cost-of-living pay adjustments to emergency situations in which private sector wages also are subject to controls.

Latin Union Group Maps Voter Drive

Miami—A nationwide voter registration and education program to spur wider participation in the electoral process was developed at a two-day meeting here of the executive board of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

Several states where there are large concentrations of Latino workers were designated as target areas to develop an overall strategy for the program. Additional emphasis will also be placed in states where registration-by-mail laws are in effect.

The immediate objective of the program is a stepped-up effort during the next six months to register the more than 8 million Latinos eligible to vote. The prime target states are Texas, California, Arizona, Florida, Michigan, Indiana, New York, Colorado and Illinois.

The LCLAA board also approved the establishment of a national advisory board and an administrative committee.

Serving as advisers will be the presidents of 23 unions which have an active membership in the council, in addition to AFL-CIO officials. The administrative committee is composed of 22 members from representative unions of the council.

House Again Defies Veto Threat, Passes Energy Conservation Bill

A House-Senate conference committee will make the next move in a continuing confrontation between Congress and President Ford over the nation's oil pricing and energy conservation policy.

Ford wants to deal with the problem of reducing oil imports by letting prices rise so that most people will use less energy and oil companies will have a bigger "incentive" to develop new resources. He admits that would give another big push to the cost of living.

The House bill would hold down oil prices, but impose stiff new standards of fuel efficiency and limit the use of gasoline to consumption levels of prior years, with authorization to the President to establish a rationing system if necessary.

Republicans who fought the bill warned that it would face a sure veto which Congress would not override.

The 255-148 vote by which the House passed the bill was short of the two-thirds that would be needed to override a veto. And an earlier 232-171 vote against sending the bill back to committee for rewriting was even further from the two-thirds mark.

The final form of the legislation that goes to the President won't be known until the conference committee reaches an agreement and both the House and Senate approve the provisions.

An added complication was a 204-201 vote to write an anti-busing amendment to the legislation. The excuse for injecting the school bus issue was that forbidding busing children beyond their nearest school would conserve fuel.

An anti-busing amendment also complicated an unrelated Senate bill—carrying funds for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

As adopted by a 51-44 vote, it would prohibit HEW from requiring busing beyond neighborhood schools but would not affect court-ordered busing plans.

In other developments:

- The House Labor Committee voted 34-0 to approve the construction industry collective bargaining bill that Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop drafted in consultation with building trades unions and employers. It is expected to get quick House approval and be passed by the Senate at the same time as the jobsite picketing bill.
- The House Ways & Means Committee continued to work on tax reform legislation and also drew up a proposed change in the tax deduction now allowed for child care expenses for working mothers. Present income limitations would be lifted and a partial tax credit would replace the present deduction system.

Earlier, the committee voted to increase the minimum tax that must be paid by wealthy individuals who have substantial income from tax-exempt sources. It would raise about $700 million a year in additional revenue.

- A labor-supported bill authorizing the congressional General Accounting Office to audit the Federal Reserve System was blocked from the House floor by the House Rules Committee. Its chief sponsor is Rep. Wright Patman (D-Tex.), former chairman of the House Banking Committee, which approved the bill. But the Rules Committee voted 8-6 to postpone action on it indefinitely.

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Ford's Nixon Script Poses Threat of Disaster—Meany

Executive Council Report:

Labor's Voice Vital In Troubled Nation

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO has continued to be an effective, clear and militant voice for workers in the past two difficult years marked by inflation, unemployment, Watergate, a bankrupt foreign policy and increased human suffering.

That theme emerges from the 438-page Report of the Executive Council to the 11th AFL-CIO convention, a document that reviews developments in the labor movement since the 1973 convention and events in the nation and the world that affect trade unions and their members.

The report of the 35-member council covers internal changes and development, Watergate, the national economy, energy and the environment, international relations, social security, urban affairs and housing, education, community services, occupational health and safety, civil rights, national and state legislation, political activities, and labor and the law.

Supporting the survey of the past two years are detailed proposals for action referred to various convention committees and then to the delegates for discussion and action.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, in his opening overview section termed the report the "gloomiest ever presented to an AFL-CIO convention in this organization's 20-year history."

He reported that "this country is in trouble at home and abroad. At every turn, grave problems must be faced, grave questions resolved—each with ominous implications for the future. America's economy is in major trouble; her social welfare programs are being undermined; her prospects for peace, prosperity and security are in doubt."

Meany called on the leadership

(Continued on Page 15)

Senate Cuts Job Safety Coverage

A 48-45 vote in the Senate weakened job safety and health protection for America's workers, and the AFL-CIO looked to a House-Senate conference committee to plug the loophole.

The Senate, at the urging of a small business employer lobby, voted to exclude establishments and job sites with fewer than four workers from enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

While the exclusion is substantially less than the 25-worker figure perennially sought by the employer lobby, the group of workers that would be denied protection include those most in need of federal standards. Particularly vulnerable would be small construction sites and the type of shop or facility where workers are least likely to be organized.

In past years, it was the House that voted to weaken job safety enforcement through an amendment to an appropriations bill prohibiting the use of funds to inspect establishments with fewer than a specified number of workers. Generally,

(Continued on Page 16)

Kirkland Scores Press For Shoddy Reporting

By Rex Hardesty

San Francisco—Many U.S. newspapers display malice in their coverage of organized labor, but more often it's just a matter of ignorance and poor reporting, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland declared.

"A free labor movement and a free press share much common ground," Kirkland told the convention of the International Labor Press Association. He said the common ground includes the constitutional freedoms of association and expression which make both possible.

"But the difference is we know who we are," Kirkland said, and newspapers try to deny who they are — business enterprises, with a publisher who is a businessman and which depend on the goodwill of advertisers for their success.

"Editorialists speak from a pulpit only money can buy," Kirkland said, and that's fine as long as they don't pretend to be unbiased defenders of the public interest or a moral force.

(Continued on Page 4)

AT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL meeting before start of the AFL-CIO convention, President George Meany discusses a section of the federation's constitution. AFL-CIO Vice President I. W. Abel is at right.

'Ominous Signs':

Congressional Panel Warns of Downturn

By David L. Perlman

Labor's warning of another economic plunge before the nation has even started its climb out of the present recession has been reinforced by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress.

The committee reported "ominous signs on the horizon that a new recession could be in the making" and called for "swift and decisive actions" to head it off.

At the same hour the report was being released, two AFL-CIO representatives were testifying along similar lines at House Budget Committee hearings.

Assistant Legislative Director Kenneth Young, joined by Legislative Rep. Ray Denison, described the nation's economy as "more vulnerable than at any time in history."

In a follow-up to AFL-CIO President George Meany's testimony the previous week before the Senate Budget Committee, they stressed labor's conviction that the number of unemployed is a much more important figure than the size of the budget deficit.

Announcements heralding the end of the recession are "statistical nonsense," Young said.

He called on the committee to update its budget targets so as to provide adequate funding for such job-creating programs as:

- Accelerated public works by providing funds to local governments for needed short-term construction and repairs.
- An expanded public service employment program and increased federal aid where unemployment is highest.
- Federal funds to restore railroad tracks and roadbeds.

The testimony urged also extension of the individual income tax cuts now in effect through 1976.

The emergency tax cut enacted last March "helped to cushion the decline," the AFL-CIO testified, but "continuing" measures are needed to achieve recovery.

The Joint Economic Committee report suggested an additional tax cut on top of continuation of the existing reduction. And it appeared to call for more wage and price "jawboning" by the President.

It did, however, recommend such direct job-creating measures as:

- An emergency program to employ 1.6 million unemployed workers on short-term projects.
- Additional aid to state and local governments so they will not have to lay off workers.
- A monetary policy designed to lower interest rates and help the housing industry—unlike the restrictive doctrine of Federal Re-

(Continued on Page 4)

U.S. Needs New Policy, Leadership

By Saul Miller

San Francisco—President Ford is a "nice guy" who is "still playing by the old Nixon script" that set America on the wrong track at home and abroad more than six years ago, AFL-CIO President George Meany told the opening session of the federation's 11th convention.

It is not enough to have a new President, even a "decent and honorable" man like Ford, Meany told more than 1,000 delegates in his keynote address. "We need a new philosophy. We need new policies —we need new directions for America."

In today's dangerous world it is obvious, Meany emphasized, that an "economically weak America is a prescription for disaster."

The policies of the Nixon-Ford Administrations "have plunged America into the worst economic crisis since the 1930s," Meany said, "and no amount of economic gobbledygook from the White House can wipe away that fact." He spelled out in detail the wide sweep and range of unemployment and recession and asserted that it is clear that "the fault lies not in our system but in our leadership."

He added: "High interest rates and tight money policies were not written into the Constitution by our founding fathers—they were dictated by Arthur Burns," chairman

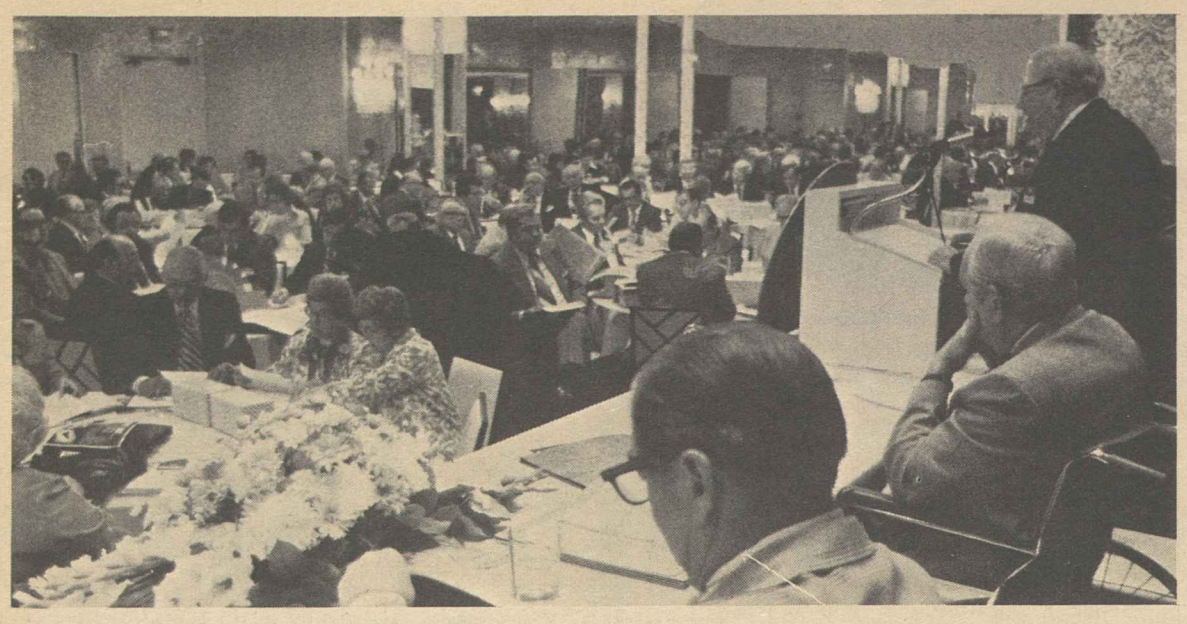
(Continued on Page 16)

5% Ceiling Imposed on Federal Pay

Congress broke its commitment to keep federal employe salaries "comparable" to the pay for similar jobs in the private sector. It went along with the 5 percent pay raise ceiling that President Ford said would demonstrate leadership in the fight on inflation.

If either the House or the Senate had mustered a simple majority vote to disapprove the 5 percent limit, 1.3 million white-collar federal workers would have received the 8.66 percent increase that a Bureau of Labor Statistics salary survey determined was needed under the comparability formula. The pay adjustment also applies to the military services and to the compensation of black-lung disease victims.

(Continued on Page 16)



RETIRING PRESIDENT Richard F. Walsh of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept. addresses delegates to the department's convention. Walsh was succeeded by Joseph D. Keenan, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Delegates also elected Earl D. McDavid of the Retail Clerks as secretary-treasurer to succeed retiring Edward P. Murphy.

New Programs, Stronger Role Mapped by Professional Council

San Francisco—The Council of AFL-CIO Unions for Professional Employees, in existence less than eight years, has grown "from infancy to adolescence" since its last convention, delegates to this year's meeting here were told.

Reporting on the highlights of the organization's activities since 1973, Executive Sec. Jack Golodner noted three more unions have affiliated to bring the total number to 20. The 20 unions represent over one million professional and technical workers, including chemists, engineers, broadcast technicians, actors, teachers, musicians, university professors and physicians.

Teachers President Albert Shanker, elected as the council's new president, promised the organization would have an even more visible profile in the near future.

The council represents an important cutting edge in the labor movement today," Shanker declared.

"Professional and white collar employes are the fastest growing segment of the workforce, and the council's expanded influence since it was formed demonstrates that salaried professionals now realize that benefits of collective bargaining go hand in hand with individual excellence and professional dignity," he observed.

"In the coming years, we intend to bring this message to even more professional, technical and white-collar people. We also will be articulating the needs of these people before the legislatures and agencies of government, as well as the general public."

In his report to the 100 delegates to the council's fifth biennial convention, Golodner noted that the paid per-capita membership since 1973 has increased more than 20 percent, from 480,000 to 582,000. The new affiliates are the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, the Television & Radio Artistes, and the Screen Actors Guild.

As an indication of the council's increased legislative activities, Golodner pointed out that its representatives have appeared before congressional committees an average of once every three months over the past 24 months.

Shanker, a vice president of the AFL-CIO, succeeds George Gill, executive vice president of the Communications Workers, who had served as acting president for the past year and was not a candidate for election.

Musicians President Hal C. Davis, the council's treasurer, was elected its new executive vice president while Rodney Bower, president of the Professional & Technical Engineers, was chosen to succeed Davis.

The three new officers were sworn in by AFL-CIO President George Meany at a special luncheon program highlighted by remarks by Rep. James G. O'Hara (D-Mich.).

One of the main goals of the council is to end the present exemption of professional employes from the overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The council passed a resolution committing the organization to continue to work for FLSA coverage of professionals.

Two other resolutions denounced the repression of artists in the Soviet Union and in Chile, Argentina, Spain and South Africa.

The council condemned the Ford Administration's policy of so-called detente with the USSR, and declared its solidarity with the artists, scientists and other professional workers of the Soviet Union who seek "the freedom to pursue their professions and participate as free men and women in the common effort to achieve peace and understanding in the world."

The Ford Administration came in for more strong criticism from O'Hara, the luncheon speaker, who noted that unemployment is still well over 8 percent, prices are too high and wages too low. He cited figures on the depressed housing industry and in other areas indicating the long-awaited economic recovery is still far off.

"The Nixon-Ford Administrations have shattered the dreams of millions of American families," O'Hara said. He is chairman of the House Education & Labor subcommittee on higher education.

"Doesn't it strike you as ironic . . . that we could have approached the realization of Phil Murray's dream of 'carpets on the floor, pictures on the wall and music in the home' and Bill Green's vision of more leisure time for workers and their families—and that the people who could help fill that leisure time —the artists, the teachers, the actors, the musicians — are among those hardest hit by unemployment?"

In other action at the one-day convention, the council:

- Passed several resolutions to facilitate the organization of female employes and to improve "the working life" of women and increase their participation in union affairs.
- Pledged support of efforts to insure that all government-funded projects in the arts and entertainment fields employ artists and related craft people in accordance with prevailing standards for wages and other working conditions.
- Established as a priority the achievement of full educational opportunities for all citizens from early childhood through retirement.
- Urged amendment of the nation's copyright laws to require payment of compensation to performers when their recorded works are used by others for profit and to provide compensation to broadcasters when their productions are picked up by cable television operators.

Pledger Elected Head Of Colorado AFL-CIO

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Norman N. Pledger was elected president of the Colorado AFL-CIO over incumbent William F. Smith at the state federation's 11th biennial convention here.

Pledger, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and president of the Colorado Springs Area Labor Council, defeated Smith by a vote of 40,428 to 24,402. Sec.-Treas. Zelda Bransted was re-elected by acclamation by the 200 delegates. The terms are for two years.

Smith, a former Machinists official had been elected at a special convention in May 1974 after the state labor council was removed from trusteeship. Mrs. Bransted was appointed secretary-treasurer last November following the death of Americo Toffoli.

Delegates also expanded the executive board from 15 vice presidents. The executive board will determine the winners in three undecided contests Oct. 10.

On state legislative issues, the delegates urged collective bargaining rights for public employes, improvements in unemployment compensation, postal card registration of voters, a special tax on corporations for the extraction of oil and minerals, maternity sick leaves for women workers, stronger consumer protection and the licensing of building contractors.

Speakers at the two-day convention included Gov. Richard D. Lamm (D), Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany and COPE director Al Barkan.

New Program Approved:

Endorsement Given One-Label Concept

By James M. Shevis

San Francisco—A growing Union Label & Service Trades Dept. took a first step toward a "universal" union label to cover the multitude of products and services produced by its affiliates.

The 300 delegates to the department's biennial convention here approved a policy statement giving the executive board a green light to institute a program urging affiliated unions to adopt one of three different universal insignias indicating that a particular product or service was made or performed by an AFL-CIO union.

The universal label concept has been brought up at previous conventions and in discussions held as far back as the department's first convention in 1909. It has been rejected for a variety of reasons, including impracticality, lack of agreement on design, legality and wide differences in conditions and methods of granting the label to an employer.

But the department's executive board, acknowledging that its new policy is neither perfect nor foolproof, told delegates "it is time to make a new beginning step by step" toward adoption of a universally recognized union label.

Steelworkers President I. W. Abel, addressing the convention, observed "such an all-union label would almost certainly simplify and add to the effectiveness of the tremendous work that this department is already doing." At its last convention, the Steelworkers passed a resolution pledging support for the development and promotion of a universal label.

"Whatever steps are taken to make that label instantly and universally recognized is, in our view, movement in the right direction," said Abel, who is also president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

In other action, the convention elected a new president and secretary-treasurer, and voted to increase the size of the executive board from 7 to 11 members. Delegates also approved a series of resolutions designed to regulate imports and to further the department's basic objective of promoting union goods and services.

The department reported it has gained three new affiliates the Asbestos Workers, the Stone Polishers and the Elevator Constructors. Two other unions—the Chemical Workers and the Brick & Clay Workers —have reaffiliated.

Mergers of long-term affiliates with other department affiliates have reduced the total by two, but the department still numbers 87 national and international union affiliates.

The convention adopted a constitutional change to expand the size of the executive board to "provide more input to the department and also give broader knowledge and insights to the department between conventions." Four new vice presidents will be elected by the executive board after Jan. 1, 1976.

At the convention, Vice President Joseph D. Keenan was elected president; Vice Presidents Joseph P. McCurdy and Ed S. Miller resigned, and three new vice presidents were elected to fill vacancies created by the changes in officers.

Newly elected vice presidents are Howard D. Collins, president of the United Garment Workers of America; Paul P. McCastland, a vice president of the Hotel & Restaurant Employes; and Harold F. Chadwick, secretary-treasurer of the Stage Employes. Re-elected were Vice President Daniel E. Conway of the Bakery & Confectionery Workers; Wesley A. Taylor of the Graphic Arts; James T. Housewright of the Retail Clerks, and Thomas F. Murphy of the Bricklayers.

Keenan, an AFL-CIO vice president and secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers succeeds Richard F. Walsh as president of the department. Walsh, president emeritus of the Stage Employes has served as president of the department since 1960.

Earl D. McDavid was chosen to replace Edward P. Murphy as secretary-treasurer. Murphy, 58, held the position the past five years. He has been partially disabled since May 1974 and has chosen to retire.

McDavid, 52 served as a vice president and organizing director for the Retail Clerks' Northwestern division, based in Seattle, Wash.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Lane Kirkland praised Murphy as a "fine, good and strong trade unionist," and told delegates his opinion was shared by President George Meany. Murphy served as assistant secretary-treasurer of the department for 20 years before becoming secretary-treasurer in 1971.

Kirkland spoke on one of the major themes of the two-day meeting at the Holiday Inn-Union Square—the pressing need to regulate the flood of imported goods into the United States.

Just as important, he noted, is the task of instilling in American consumers a preference for union-made goods.

In this connection, Kirkland said, "the device of the consumer boycott is increasingly a vital instrument" in alerting the buying public to the torrent of non-union and foreign-made goods and services that are costing Americans their jobs.

To cope with the problem, the convention approved resolutions:

- Urging workers and their families to refuse to purchase foreign-made goods.
- Calling upon the AFL-CIO to seek a "truth in advertising" law to require that advertisers state in ads in what country a product was made.
- Mounting a general advertising campaign to let the public know the extent to which union-made goods are being squeezed out of the domestic market by foreign and non-union goods.
- Pledging to continue its fight for stronger anti-dumping laws and to press for enactment of federal legislation to allow foreign countries a fair share of U.S. markets, "but prevent them from taking over such markets, lock, stock and barrel."
- Calling on Congress to prohibit the use of temporary, non-immigrant foreign nationals as production workers in U.S. industries, particularly the printing trades.

Other resolutions asked an end to the Treasury Dept. practice of printing U.S. saving bonds at non-union plants; support for the Textile Workers Union of America against J. P. Stevens & Co., and vigorous opposition to elimination of product price marking.

At Department Convention:

Federal Bargaining Law Set As Top Metal Trades Goal

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. declared passage of a true collective bargaining bill for federal employes its number one objective.

In a resolution adopted at its 57th convention here, the department called upon Congress to enact legislation "establishing the right of federal workers to bargain collectively in a full and true manner for their hours, wages and working conditions."

Metal Trades President Paul J. Burnsky, who was re-elected to another term with additional duties, said a federal law is "the only means to achieve true collective bargaining for federal workers."

For more than a decade, the department's resolution noted, the federal government has maintained by executive order and administrative fiat, a system of collective bargaining that has failed to meet the legitimate aims of organized workers in the federal service.

Despite the fact that federal workers constitute the largest labor force in the country they "are still being treated as second-class citizens in the field of labor-management relations," the resolution charged.

Burnsky noted that "a significant amount" of the department's time and energies is devoted to the federal sector. The department's councils represent workers of all crafts and trades in United States naval shipyards and in a variety of other federal installations.

Two Administration officials who followed Burnsky's opening remarks to the 150 convention delegates indicated a more favorable outlook for a federal bargaining bill.

Chairman Robert E. Hampton of the U.S. Civil Service Commission said he thought that "eventually that is going to come about." He added "the experience that we have had under the Executive Orders is providing a pretty sound basis for that to become a factor."

In a speech delivered in behalf of W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, the Administration's chief mediator noted that at least three bills now are before Congress to establish a legislative base for collective bargaining in the federal sector.

"I hope that out of them will emerge a system that will more adequately serve the best interests of the workers, the government and the general public," he said.

Usery was unable to attend the convention. He was tied up in efforts to resolve a three-month strike against the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics at Groton, Conn. The strike involves 10,000 workers represented by metal trades councils.

Attilio DiPasquale, the Navy's civilian labor relations director, called for further debate of proposed remedies in federal bargaining, cautioning that "somebody had better have all the answers to a model federal law before we ask the Congress to throw out what we have and give us something different."

AFL-CIO President George Meany, in a telegram to the convention, noted "these are very tough times for all workers and their unions." He added, "I have every confidence that your department and its affiliates will meet the challenges that face them, and that your convention will produce the solid, trade union programs your members need and deserve."

Delegates pledged the Metal Trades Dept. to "a vigorous dedication of total commitment to the vital task of organizational growth." The measure called upon each of the department's 22 affilates to continue to support the concept of coordinated organizing.

The convention also adopted resolutions calling for:

- A revival of U.S. shipbuilding. The U.S. merchant marine fleet is at its lowest number of units since 1939 and is in "dire need of rebuilding," the department noted.
- An end to the current Navy Dept. practice of using Defense appropriations to have ship repair work done in foreign shipyards, "possibly adding to the unemployment problems through reduction-in-force actions at naval shipyards."
- Full collective bargaining rights and better living conditions for all U.S. citizens employed by the Panama Canal Co. in the Panama Canal Zone. Another resolution urged Congress to support the suspended "third locks" construction program in the Canal Zone.
- Enactment of federal legislation that would require the major oil companies to use American-built, American-manned U.S.-flag vessels for the transportation of at least 30 percent of their imported oil.

Burnsky reported on efforts to obtain a national master agreement with the Navy Dept. in behalf of the federal metal trades councils representing workers at the eight Navy shipyards.

"We are hopeful such a venture will be accomplished soon," Burnsky said.

Under a constitutional amendment unanimously adopted by the delegates, the secretary-treasurer's office was abolished, and its duties assigned to Burnsky who was voted a $10,000 salary increase to $42,500 a year.

Clayton W. Bilderback, who held the secretary-treasurer's position for 13 years, retired at the end of the convention. Delegates gave him a standing ovation for his service and devotion to the organization.

Besides Burnsky, the convention re-elected the department's nine vice presidents and elected Machinists President Floyd E. Smith to the newly-created office of 10th vice president.

Two of the convention speakers warned of the threat to the U.S. shipbuilding industry posed by the current Soviet maritime buildup, and its effect on the nation's economy.

Arthur E. Farr, chairman of the Pacific Coast Shipbuilders Association, noted the Soviet Union is now modernizing and building naval and merchant ships at nearly twice the annual rate of the U.S.

Admiral Isaac C. Kidd, Jr., NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, said the Russians are spending a national fortune to acquire a naval and merchant marine capability of the first magnitude. Detente notwithstanding, he added, "we better be prepared" to block this potential threat to the nation's vitals.

TOP PRIORITY was given at the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. convention to the drive for legislation providing true collective bargaining rights for federal workers on wages, hours and working conditions. Metal Trades President Paul J. Burnsky, addressing delegates, said the executive order governing labor relations fails to meet the legitimate goals of organized workers.

Fare-Free Rides Urged To Revive Mass Transit

Calgary—Innovative programs are needed to revitalize the ailing mass transportation industries in the United States and Canada, delegates to the 43rd biennial convention of the Amalgamated Transit Union were told.

No-fare urban transit and government subsidies were cited as key approaches to improving services and luring passengers back to support faltering systems.

ATU President Dan V. Maroney, Jr. stressed in his keynote address to the 500 convention delegates at this western Canadian city that the most effective and proven program to increase ridership on urban transit systems is through the union-supported no-fare concept.

Maroney said the rejuvenation of urban transit systems is particularly vital in the face of current energy shortages, as he called for effective political action at the local, state and provincial, and national levels to help achieve this goal.

By combining the no-fare concept with other programs, Maroney said, the transit industry would reverse the decline that saw transit ridership drop from a record high of 19.5 billion in 1945 to 5.5 billion in 1973.

He said no-fare transit would both improve services and double the number of jobs in the industry over the next five years.

A revitalized transit industry would be instrumental in helping the United States and Canada achieve their employment, environmental, energy and economic goals, Maroney stressed.

"We must organize politically at all levels to promote this program," he stressed. "If management is not going to do anything about the declining industry, then we have to, and we do it through political action."

Maroney's theme was reinforced by President Matthew Guinan of the Transport Workers who told the delegates that obtaining "the billions of dollars in government funds necessary to undo the long years of neglect to our transportation systems can be done only by legislation."

He said mass transit subsidies are vitally needed to develop effective systems to cope with the energy crisis.

Norman Hill, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, told the convention that the political coalition of organized labor and the minorities is essential in resolving the problems of society.

Black Leaders Hit U.N. Move To Oust Israel

New York—Seventeen prominent black Americans, headed by A. Philip Randolph, made public a letter they have sent to the African delegations to the United Nations strongly opposing any move to suspend Israel from the General Assembly.

Such action, the letter said, could "betray the noble principles that guided the African liberation movements . . . and would effectively destroy the United Nations as an instrument for aiding the development of the emerging nations."

The letter was sent as "an expression of our mutual commitment to a free Africa." The signers have all been identified with the struggles of the African people for liberation from colonialism and racism.

The signers are all members of the recently formed Black Americans to Support Israel Committee, which is chaired by Randolph.

They include AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis; Rep. Walter Fauntroy (D-D.C.); Dorothy I. Height, president National Council of Negro Women; Rep. Barbara Jordan (D-Tex.); Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., executive director, National Urban League; Benjamin E. Mays, president, Atlanta Board of Education; Frank C. Montero, chairman, Africa Defense and Aid Fund, American Committee on Africa; D. Ward Nichols, bishop, A.M.E. Church; Eleanor Holmes Norton, New York City Commissioner of Human Rights; Frederick O'Neal, president, Associated Actors & Artistes; Bayard Rustin, president, A. Philip Randolph Institute; Percy B. Sutton, borough president of Manhattan; William J. Trent, professor of urban affairs, Hunter College; Roy Wilkins, executive director, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and Rep. Andrew Young (D-Ga.).

Connecticut Delegates Ask Fair Tax Policy

Hartford, Conn.—Responding to a severe revenue crunch facing the state and local governments, the 11th convention of the Connecticut AFL-CIO called for enactment of a progressive income tax and a cut in the regressive sales tax rate.

The resolution's goal is a more even and fair distribution of the tax burden. Although 6 percent of Connecticut families receive 40 percent of the income in the state, the tax burden falls on lower income groups. The state federation pointed out that 74 percent of revenues come from exceptionally high property and sales taxes.

The state AFL-CIO proposal would cut the sales from 7.5 percent to 3 percent while providing more state aid to local governments. The progressive tax package would actually reduce taxes for a family of four earning less than $16,000 a year, the median state income.

The more than 600 delegates to the three-day convention re-elected President John J. Driscoll by acclamation to his eighth consecutive two-year term. Justin Ostro was also re-elected without opposition as executive vice president.

Walter M. O'Connor was elected secretary-treasurer following a tight three-way race to succeed Joseph C. Bober, who did not seek re-election after 12 years service. O'Connor is president of the state Fire Fighters association.

Michael Ferrucci, Jr., of the State, County & Municipal Employees was elected executive secretary to replace George Froehlich of the Rubber Workers, who is retiring.

The convention voted support of the AFL-CIO economic action program, National Health Security, labor's position on foreign policy and the Longshoremen's embargo of Russian grain.

ILA President Thomas W. Gleason explained to delegates the union's objectives in the recent grain boycott. Gov. Ella T. Grasso in her address to the convention praised the unions involved for their efforts to protect American consumers from adverse economic impact of the grain sales to the Soviets.

Other speakers included Bishop Joseph F. Donnelly, who is involved in the Farm Workers' struggle for union rights; President Sol Stetin of the Textile Workers Union of America; Director Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organizing & Field Services; Earl McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept.; and Walter Stein of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut.

Historical Records Of Unions Surveyed

AFL-CIO affiliates are being asked to cooperate in a Labor Studies Center survey of any historical materials they possess that may be useful to the development of national labor archives.

One of the long-range objectives of the federation's Studies Center is the establishment of labor archives at its new campus, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland noted in his letter to the affiliates.

Kirkland pointed out that the preservation of materials is essential in the accurate portrayal of the development and growth of the American labor movement.

The Studies Center survey is a first step that seeks to determine which unions have already preserved their historical records and where they are preserved.

NEWS COVERAGE of the labor movement in the commercial press is scored by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at the International Labor Press Association convention.

Kirkland Scores Press For Shoddy Reporting

(Continued from Page 1)

He said this attitude reaches its most absurb form with the suggestion that news media representatives be allowed to sit in on collective bargaining negotiations "to represent the general public," between labor and management.

Kirkland delivered the ILPA's 7th lecture in the series named after A. J. Liebling, famed critic of the press. Kirkland quoted Liebling several times and said his comments were delivered in the "Joe Liebling tradition of fair comment and constructive criticism."

Kirkland cited several steps he would like to see taken to correct the more blantant misrepresentations of labor in the nation's news media:

● Some elementary training for reporters on labor, collective bargaining, and economics—"the dismal science is reported dismally." Kirkland said most of what is passed off as economic reporting is really business reporting and it's time someone analyzed a new contract in terms of what it means for increased purchasing power and better conditions in the community.

● Development of some "new cliches" so unions and union members aren't painted in any of the current stereotypes. Kirkland said that if AFL-CIO President George Meany were delivering the Liebling lecture, the general press news coverage would start:

"Cantankerous, cigar-chewing George Meany, the 81-year-old boss of the AFL-CIO gruffly criticized the news media in a speech to his union's editors."

● Admit that total objectivity is a false goal and seek fairness and balance, "which is more desirable and more attainable." He decried what he said was growing willingness to accept as fact anything that is printed—even a press handout from business.

He recounted the retraction run by conservative columnist James J. Kilpatrick after he had printed a quote of George Meany on public employes. Kilpatrick traced it to Sen. Paul Fannin (R-Ariz.), who got it from a southern business group who got it from the National Right to Work Committee, "which made it up out of whole cloth."

Similarly, Kirkland traced news coverage of the Longshoremen's boycott of Soviet grain purchases to two inaccuracies that became "fact" once published. He said the astounding thing about the grain boycott was that it took a job action just to get attention to the problem, which shouldn't have been necessary after the 1972 experience "with the other great grain robbery."

What it added up to, Kirkland said, was that "the editorialists wouldn't take us at our word. Fortunately, someone in government was willing to take us at our word."

● Occasionally identify some of those "unnamed sources," or at least identify whether they have a grudge, a vested interest or some other interest in the topic.

Kirkland said many of the misrepresentations of labor can be traced to "disillusioned old friends" and a new wave of the "more progressive than thou" school. Both are off base, he said. In the first place, the "romantic days of fervor" of a mutual cause between reporters and labor never existed and you have only to look at the savagery of how the media covered labor 30 years ago to prove it.

One of the best of summations of the way labor is treated, in the news media, Kirkland said, was in Liebling's 1961 comment that: "a fortune cookie is not worth buying if the paper inside always carries the same legend."

Panel Warns Of New Slump In Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

serve Chairman Arthur Burns.

Within the Ford Administration, Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop appears to have been more influential than Treasury Sec. William E. Simon on the issue of extending the tax cut.

When Simon appeared before the House Budget Committee, he allied himself with Burns in opposition to extension of the tax cut. While he stopped short of openly opposing it at the hearing, he later told reporters, "You don't have to be clairvoyant to know where I stand."

A day later, Dunlop told the Senate Budget Committee directly that his "personal view" is for "continuation of the business and personal tax cuts, without limit of time, as recommended by the President's Labor-Management Committee last January."

President Ford, the following day, said he hopes to propose tax cut legislation "in a week or so" but did not spell out its ingredients.

At ILPA Sessions:

Labor Editors Report Cutbacks As Costs Rise, Economy Slumps

San Francisco—The same economic problems labor editors have been writing about for the past two years are having a sharp impact on their publications, delegates to the International Labor Press Association convention were told.

The convention's 175 delegates from 135 publications heard Nat Goldfinger, AFL-CIO research director, outline a distressed economy of combined recession and inflation for which he predicted no relief until major policies of the Ford Administration are jettisoned.

And delegates also heard the results of a survey of ILPA publications showing that in the last two years, an alarming percentage of member publications have been hit by reductions in frequency, size and staff—or all three.

Delegates elected Albert K. Herling of the Bakery & Confectionery Workers' publication, the B&C News, as the new ILPA president, a post vacant since the death earlier in 1975 of Max Steinbock of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. The memory of Steinbock was honored on opening day of four-day convention.

Herling was elected by an 83-29 margin over Burt Beck of the Clothing Workers' Advance. Allen Y. Zack, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Public Relations, was elected without opposition as secretary-treasurer. He succeeds John M. Barry, managing editor of the AFL-CIO News, who did not seek re-election.

The convention also made minor adjustments in its constitution, set up a joint committee with the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. to promote union-made products, and questioned Sec. of Labor John T. Dunlop in a press conference format.

The report on cost-related cutbacks said that response to a questionnaire sent to all ILPA publications determined that reductions had been made in publication size by 31 percent of the members, in staff size by 21 percent, and in frequency of publication by 45 percent of national and international union publications. For regional and local papers, the cutbacks were even more severe in some categories.

The survey found postal rate and paper price increases to be the most inflationary forces. It gave a dim projection for the immediate future, with more than 50 percent of labor editors either predicting further entrenchment or expressing uncertainty.

Other convention elections saw four new vice presidents chosen and 11 re-elected. The new vice presidents are Diane Curry of the Railway Clerks Interchange, Charles Borsari of the Ohio AFL-CIO Focus, Russ Gibbons of Steel Labor and Jerry Archuleta of OCAW News, who won in a runoff over incumbent William Moody of Graphic Arts Unionist.

Neville S. Hamilton of the Canadian Paperworkers Journal was unopposed as Canadian vice president.

The 11 vice presidents returned to office were James M. Cesnik, the Guild Reporter; Gene Klare, Oregon Labor Press; Sal Perrotta, Los Angeles Citizen; Mel Stack, Retail Clerks Advocate; Bernard Stephens, Public Employee Press of AFSCME District Council 37; Patricia Strandt, Cement, Lime & Gypsum Voice; Allen R. Williams, Aero Facts, Machinists, St. Louis; Stan Williams, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO News; R. J. Williamson, Maintenance of Way Employes Railway Journal; and Patrick J. Ziska, the Laborer.

Diane Curry, who topped all vice presidential candidates on the first ballot with 97 votes, also addressed the convention on the expanding role of women in the labor press.

In addition to the union label committee, the convention heard from the newly elected secretary-treasurer of ULSTD, Earl McDavid, who said he was picking up the due bill on a pledge of "you give us the material and we'll run it," made at the previous convention.

That pledge had been made by Steelworkers Public Relations Director Ray Pasnick, who proceded Steinbock as ILPA president. Pasnick chaired the convention and will serve as president until the swearing-in of the new officers in January 1975.

In response to questioning about job safety, Dunlop said he had already appointed new people to most of the highest positions of OSHA, but said he was shopping for "more innovative thinking or education" on how to get compliance with the law rather than expanding the number of OSHA inspectors. He claimed 75,000 would be needed for on-site inspections under the law.

Shirley Carr, an executive vice president of the Canadian Labor Congress, stressed a theme which the delegates also heard about the United States—biased press coverage.

She said she hoped that a growing and strong labor press could help overcome the troubles with the commercial news media, which in Canada "is grossly unfair until it's very hard to get the truth printed."

Labor history was the topic for both California AFL-CIO Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning and a special presentation to the convention on the bicentennial. Henning traced the history of California labor, and the AFL-CIO's cooperation in the 200th anniversary observance was described by Carolyn Jacobson of the Working Americans Bicentennial Project as an ideal forum for getting labor's story told.

Among the convention's panels on editing and related skills was a discussion of trade union public relations. Panelists were AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack, Montana AFL-CIO Exec. Sec. James W. Murray, Service Employees Vice Pres. Elinor Glenn, and Henry Fleisher, whose firm represents several major unions.

Top ILPA Awards Cite Coverage of Nixon's Fall

San Francisco—The decline and fall of Richard Nixon was the premier news story of 1974 for trade union publications as well as the general press.

Judges in the International Labor Press Association's 1975 journalism awards competition noted that more than a third of the 96 prize-winning entries dealt with the scandal that engulfed the Nixon Administration and ultimately led to congressional moves for impeachment and Nixon's resignation.

"Nixon's prime target, the press, was the agency that brought him down—and the labor press played an active role in contributing to public enlightment on the perjurious conduct of the President's hard-nosed cabal," the judges said in a report to the ILPA convention here.

"News stories by the score, columns, cartoons, photographs and editorials in ILPA member publications shouted to the housetops the story of the Nixon Administration and the economic ills its policies created or aggravated. . . .

"Together the entries constitute a magnificent service by a press that capably fulfilled its responsibility for keeping the record straight—and interpreting its meaning for union members bombarded by conflicting opinions and competing versions. . . ."

This year's ILPA contest drew a record 630 entries in 16 categories of competition. The judges were Eugene A. Kelly, retired assistant editor of the AFL-CIO News; Archie W. Robinson, retired labor editor of U.S. News & World Report, and Samuel F. Marshall, former union editor now with the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

The top award winners in terms of general editorial excellence were:

International Publications — Circulation of 100,000 or more, newspaper format, the Machinist; magazine format, Retail Clerks Advocate; less than 100,000 circulation, newspaper format, the Seafarers Log; magazine format, the Screen Actor.

State and Local Central Bodies—Circulation of 20,000 or more, Northern California Labor; circulation of less than 20,000, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO News.

District or Regional Publications—Circulation of 20,000 or more, 1199 News national edition, (Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, New York), circulation of less than 20,000, Midwest News, (Clothing Workers, Chicago).

Local Union Publications—Circulation of 15,000 or more, the Provincial (British Columbia Government Employees); circulation of 7,500-15,000, Stand By (New York Local, Television & Radio Artists); circulation of 2,500-7,500, TELIPO (Fur, Leather & Machine Joint Board, New York); circulation of less than 2,500, College Union Voice (Teachers Local 1600, Chicago).

Special Performance Awards — Best original cartoon, Bernie Seaman in the IUE News; best original photograph, The Advance (Clothing Workers); best editorial, St. Paul Union Advocate; best signed column, William C. Marshall in the Michigan AFL-CIO News; best feature (unique performance), St. Louis Labor Tribune; best front page, newspaper format, TEMPO; best cover, magazine format, the Butcher Workman.

Ford Veto Scored:

Maritime Dept. Convention Presses Oil Cargo Issue

San Francisco—Union action to correct the injustices of the Russian grain deal is but the latest installment of the "long, tough fight" to reshape conditions for U.S. maritime workers, delegates to the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. convention were told.

MTD President Paul Hall told the two-day biennial convention that he saw no quick resolution to the multiple problems stemming from the world's energy supply, trade patterns and growing influences of multinational corporations.

The convention vowed to continue the fight Hall outlined, adopting a program which called for an overhaul of the tax structure favoring U.S. investment abroad; adoption of a coordinated energy policy and requirement that a percentage of all U.S. oil imports be carried in U.S. flag ships; a continued fight for the transportation law which President Ford vetoed in 1974 and a package of economic reforms designed to bring the U.S. economy out of "the worst recession since the 1930s."

Despite the veto, the convention described the ability to get the 1974 Energy Transportation Security Act through Congress "a great victory over the multinational oil companies" and said the maritime unions "will not relent until a share of oil cargoes are reserved for U.S. tankers."

Other parts of the program adopted by the convention include:

- Measures to stop the "vicious rate cutting practiced by Russian shippers ever since they got a foot in the door through the great grain robbery of 1972."
- Stronger enforcement of the Jones Act which bars foreign ships from handling trade within the United States particularly between the U.S. and the Virgin Islands, scene of extensive development in oil refineries in recent years.
- Restoration of the budget of the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to prevent loss of 393 medical positions at the Public Health Service hospitals on which seagoing workers depend for adequate health care.

"The idea is to cut out services until the number of patients drops, then close the hospitals for lack of patient demand," MTD administrator O. William Moody, Jr., told delegates. The convention endorsed an amendment by Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) to restore the 393 positions and provide the $12.9 million necessary for them.

The convention empowered the MTD executive board to choose a new secretary-treasurer to replace Peter M. McGavin, who served for 15 years before his death July 6. The convention amended its constitution to provide for the selection before the 1977 convention and named Moody in an acting capacity.

Hall, president of the Seafarers, was re-elected department president by the convention. Jack McDonald of the Operating Engineers also was re-elected to a new four-year term as vice president. The 44 unions affiliated with the department each designate one representative to serve on the MTD executive board.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the convention that the crisis that has gripped the entire U.S. economy in the recession of 1974-75 is similar to what the maritime trades have been undergoing for the last decade.

Yet, Kirkland said, any form of assistance for the beleagured industry is attacked by the nation's news media, one of the many U.S. industries that regularly receives federal subsidies through tax breaks, reduced mail rates and contracts. In refutation of what he termed gross misrepresentation of the recent boycott of grain shipments to Russia by the Longshoremen. Kirkland stressed that "at no time in the lengthy negotiations" with the Ford Administration was the issue of seafaring jobs put forward.

He praised the role of Sec. of Labor John T. Dunlop in the negotiations over the boycott, which Kirkland said were necessitated by the United States' being the only nation in the world that would allow a monopolistic force like the Soviet government to deal in secret with U.S. grain companies and lock up future shipments at its own price.

Sen. J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.), author of a Senate amendment that would close the waiver loophole in the Jones Act, told the convention that the recent election of Sen. John Durkin in New Hampshire displayed the most effective use of labor political action the nation has ever seen.

As chairman of the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee, Johnston urged a similar role for labor in future elections and told delegates he felt the Democratic Party "had learned its lesson" in not heeding labor's advice and retaining its support.

Johnston quoted a recent poll by the campaign committee which showed overwhelming support for national health insurance and 47 percent to 29 percent majority in favor of a "massive overhaul of the U.S. economy such as the New Deal."

Several convention resolutions expressed concern about the worsening posture of the U.S. merchant marine fleet in relation to the Russian fleet, noting that U.S. ships have never gotten more than 11 percent of the cargo instead of the one-third promised with the 1972 Russian grain purchases.

"Any large-scale grain purchase deals with Soviet bloc nations should be stopped until adequate safeguards for the Free World, the American people and the U.S. merchant marine are firmly established on the basis of complete reciprocity, in the spirit of true detente, not the Administration's calamitous one-way detente with the Communist superpowers," MTD said.

Other convention resolutions called for a $3 minimum wage law; compilation of a labor list on available arbitrators; a national fisheries policy; full collective bargaining rights for federal workers and a single federal authority on maritime affairs.

GOVERNMENT POLICIES keyed to a strong U.S. merchant fleet are proposed at the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. convention by MTD President Paul Hall. O. William Moody, Jr., MTD administrator and acting secretary-treasurer is at right.

Inadequate GI Benefits Held 'National Disgrace'

San Francisco—The treatment of the Vietnam veteran has been "a national disgrace," the Executive Council told the AFL-CIO convention here.

The nation is not living up to its commitment to do all it can to help Vietnam veterans readjust and take their rightful places as productive members of American society, the council declared.

The council attributed public and governmental indifference to veterans of the Vietnam conflict to a hastiness to forget an unpopular war. It also laid much of the blame to financial roadblocks put up by fiscally conservative Republican administrations.

"In health care, the needs of the crippled and maimed veterans have been cruelly victimized by the budget-slashing policies of consecutive Republican administrations who have done little else but pay lip service to veterans," the council said in its report.

In education, inadequate benefits have forced thousands of veterans into the already long lines of the unemployed, the council noted. Veterans' unemployment in August was 9.7 percent. For college-aged veterans, 20 to 24 years of age, who might be taking advantage of the GI educational bill if benefits were greater, the jobless rate in August was 17.5 percent.

"This contemporary educational program has never reached parity with its World War II predecessor," the council noted. "While participation rates have increased in the past, they have yet to reach the levels following World War II."

The council scored President Ford for vetoing AFL-CIO-endorsed legislation modernizing the GI educational program last year. The veto eventually was overridden by Congress but "inflation and skyrocketing education costs of the past years have already sharply eroded these gains."

Rollcall Vote in Senate On Job Safety Cutback

On Sept. 24, the Senate weakened the Occupational Safety & Health Act by prohibiting inspection of any job site or establishment with fewer than four employes.

The labor-opposed amendment to an appropriations bill was passed by a 48-45 vote.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 32

Bayh (Ind.)	Hart (Colo.)	Mondale (D-Minn.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Hartke (Ind.)	Montoya (N.M.)
Biden (Del.)	Hathaway (Me.)	Pastore (R.I.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Pell (R.I.)
Clark (Iowa)	Humphrey (Minn.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Culver (Iowa)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Durkin (N.H.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Symington (Mo.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Tunney (Calif.)
Glenn (Ohio)	McGee (Wyo.)	Williams (N.J.)
Gravel (Alaska)	Metcalf (Mont.)	

Republicans 13

Beall (Md.)	Mathias (Md.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Brooke (Mass.)	Percy (Ill.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Case (N.J.)	Schweiker (Pa.)	Taft (Ohio)
Hatfield (Ore.)	Scott (Pa.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Javits (N.Y.)		

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 24

Abourezk (S.D.)	Haskell (Colo.)	Morgan (N.C.)
Allen (Ala.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Moss (Utah)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Johnston (La.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Byrd (W.Va.)	Long (La.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Church (Ida.)	McClellan (Ark.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Eastland (Miss.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Stone (Fla.)
Ford (Ky.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	Talmadge (Ga.)

Republicans 24

Baker (Tenn.)	Fannin (Ariz.)	McClure (Ida.)
Bartlett (Okla.)	Fong (Hawaii)	Packwood (Ore.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Garn (Utah)	Pearson (Kan.)
Brock (Tenn.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Roth (Del.)
Buckley (N.Y.)	Hansen (Wyo.)	Scott (Va.)
Byrd (Va.)	Helms (N.C.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Curtis (Neb.)	Hruska (Neb.)	Tower (Tex.)
Dole (Kan.)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Young (N.D.)

Paired right: Hart (D-Mich.)
Paired wrong: Muskie (D-Me.)
Absent but announced right: Jackson (D-Wash.)
Absent and not announced: Cannon (D-Nev.); Domenici (R-N.M.); Griffin (R-Mich); Sparkman (D-Ala.)

Mortgage Trust Yields Security, Spurs Jobs

San Francisco — Massive new financial resources — both public and private — are needed for housing construction and mortgage loans for all income groups, the Executive Council declared.

It noted in its report to the convention that the volume of available credit must be increased because of the dismal economic condition of the housing industry.

Pension funds and union general treasury funds are a vital source of investment credit being channeled into the nation's savings, the council observed.

But it expressed concern that the managers of these funds may be overemphasizing stock market investments rather than government-insured residential construction financing and permanent mortgage loans.

Funds invested in housing construction, the council pointed out, provide an exceptional return, in addition to creating jobs throughout various sectors of the economy.

In reaffirming its support of essential social investment, the council stressed that organized labor continues to lead in the effort to provide decent housing and decent jobs for all Americans.

The AFL-CIO Mortgage Investment Trust was created in 1964 to help achieve this goal, it pointed out. In addition to its secure investment return, the trust helps spur employment for the hard pressed construction trades and industrial sector.

The trust, which operates much like a mutual fund, pays earnings semi-annually. Investments in the trust grew over the past four years from $10.4 mililon to more than $60 million, the council reported.

Court Backs Union On Bargaining Data

St. Paul — The Minnesota Supreme Court has ruled that a public employer must provide a union representing its employes with all necessary information to carry on bargaining. The decision upheld a protest by Operating Engineers Local 49 over refusal of the state's Public Works Dept. to furnish it with information on a test given employes.

STRIKING TEACHERS in Wilmington, Del., are supported by union members throughout the state in the City Hall demonstration protesting mass arrests and fines imposed in an effort to break the "no-contract, no-work" policy of the AFT local.

High Unemployment Threatening To Rip America's Social Fabric

San Francisco—The Ford Administration's projections of intolerable levels of unemployment for the next five years are "an insult to America's capacity to achieve full employment," the Executive Council reported to the AFL-CIO convention.

Earlier this year, the Administration projected jobless rates of 7.9 percent next year, 7.2 percent in 1977, 6.5 percent in 1978, 5.8 percent in 1979 and 5.1 percent in 1980.

"Such high jobless rates can tear apart the fabric of American society," the council said.

"With each one percent of unemployment representing about one million workers, these projections mean the American economy and American society will suffer human hardship beyond measure and irreparable waste of human resources."

Sustained full employment is necessary to establish the economic environment for management to support and maintain adequate apprenticeship, training and upgrading efforts, the council noted.

Reporting on activities of the AFL-CIO's Human Resources Development Institute, which was given new responsibility under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act of 1972, the council noted HRDI has become the federation's manpower arm.

The 1973 convention recommended that "HRDI continue to involve state and local leaders of organized labor in manpower programs and planning." In carrying out this responsibility, HRDI maintains a directory identifying over 700 individuals from organized labor who are serving on state or local manpower planning councils.

"HRDI staff members have been instrumental in supporting state and local central bodies in initiating and increasing labor representation on local planning councils," the council said.

Recognizing its responsibility to assure organized labor's knowledge of CETA and its effects, HRDI has increased its technical assistance and education efforts, the council added.

It noted that in cooperation with the Labor Studies Center, HRDI conducted manpower seminars in five cities in 1974 designed specifically for the leadership of state and local central labor councils.

It also conducted 40 manpower education conferences in cooperation with local labor councils, and developed 57 manpower education programs. It worker closely with the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education, international union education programs and state and local central body programs, and with local representatives of the AFL-CIO Community Services Dept.

To carry out its responsibility of assisting disadvantaged persons such as prisoners, welfare recipients, veterans and young people to enter the labor force, HRDI developed 48,333 job opportunities and placed 20,416 individuals in those jobs from October 1973 through June 1975—far exceeding its contractual commitment to the Labor Dept.

Over the same period, HRDI gave personal interviews and job counseling to 13,720 individuals and provided special counseling to another 7,816 service men and women under the Veterans' Assistance Program, initiated in 1970.

HRDI also worked to implement the federation's Action Program to Put America Back to Work, developing jobs and providing adequate counseling.

It also has cooperated with government and voluntary programs to help the Vietnamese refugee program, administered the Apprenticeship Outreach Programs sponsored by local building trades councils, and served as a clearinghouse on behalf of the U.S. Employment Service and a number of AFL-CIO international unions in assuring that employer applications to import alien workers possessing specific job skills receive an adequate review by the unions concerned.

Job, Production Losses Linked to Trade Policy

San Francisco—America's foreign trade policy has added to unemployment and retarded economic recovery, the Executive Council charged.

During the past two years, the council said, the unrealistic approach to foreign trade has continued to erode production, living standards and the nation's industrial base.

Both the Administration's policymakers and Congress failed to heed the warnings that domestic conditions would worsen unless tax, trade and investment laws were changed.

The result was a sharp increase in the outrush of U.S. capital, production facilities and jobs in the past two years.

Foreign investments by U.S.-based multinational corporations rose 20 percent in 1973, 24 percent in 1974, and are expected to rise an additional 17 percent this year to more than $29 billion.

The council said that banks and the multinationals continued to use U.S. trade, tax and investment laws to export the nation's vital commodities and jobs, while juggling prices, currencies and credit to add to their profits.

They have licensed the newest technology for use abroad and combined in joint ventures with foreign governments and foreign companies regardless of the impact on the U.S. economy.

The sharp increase in petroleum prices imposed by the oil-producing Arab nations hit the U.S. economy when it was already in serious trouble, partly as a result of misguided foreign trade and investment policies, the council said.

While the AFL-CIO opposed the 1974 Trade Act, labor has sought to get the International Trade Commission to enforce sections of the law that could minimize loses in jobs and production.

Union witnesses testified that further tariff cutting would threaten the survival of many U.S. industries and cause additional production cutbacks.

The AFL-CIO has also opposed the extension of import preferences to low-wage countries and expanding imports from Communist countries while the nation suffered from high unemployment.

But the council noted that President Ford has granted favored-nation status to Romania and announced his intention to grant preferential zero tariffs on imports from low-wage countries.

The council said lack of regulation of multinationals and tax laws that make it profitable for business firms to operate abroad have contributed heavily, along with tariff policies, to America's economic crisis.

Subversion, Aggression:

New Assaults Levied On Free Institutions

San Francisco—The political manipulations that "ended the usefulness of the International Labor Organization" typified the Communist tactics of subverting free institutions, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said in its report to the convention.

And worse, the council said, the Soviet undermining of freedom around the world is largely going unchallenged.

"The strong political, economic and social alliances between nations of the Free World have been weakened by a lack of leadership and necessary popular resolution to confront the Soviet government's growing number of client nations," the council declared.

The impact of the fear and chaos can go far beyond the significance of the military conquest of Vietnam and Cambodia, the council pointed out.

The Executive Council report covered these developments also:

• In Chile, the "cruel and inhuman suppression of human rights which has been publicly exhibited is not foreign to other lands in this hemisphere." The council reported that throughout Latin America, "the free trade union movements which once flourished are pale and nervous partners of their military companions" who have made government by decree, without popular consent, more the rule than the exception.

• The Middle East would have "peace and prosperity within the grasp of all nations in that region if it were not for the incitement to war and the greed of the Soviet Union." The combination of material wealth in the Arab states and the economic genius of Israel could be united to the benefit of the whole world, the council said, if it were not for a "corrosive and debilitating war being pursued for the obvious objectives of the USSR."

• In Europe, for the first time, "a representative of the labor front organization of the Soviet Union has addressed a convention of a free trade union national center—the West German DGB." The council reiterated that it "viewed with disgust the fraternization of democratic Western European labor centers with Communist Party labor fronts."

• Free labor around the world should "protest and condemn the new Communist-military alliance that threatens freedom, democracy and peace in Portugal," the council said.

In view of all this, the council noted with alarm a decline in U.S. military strength in relation to Russia and said "Americans are subjected to the calls of isolationist voices at home and fearful national leaders abroad to further curtail U.S. military forces."

The council also detailed the cooperative efforts between the AFL-CIO and its Japanese counterpart, DOMEI, and said the deep human misery in Northern Ireland will continue as long as "political repression, religious and economic discrimination, press censorship and detention without trial are practiced in the name of justice."

U.S. labor's efforts to contribute to a strong and free trade unions continue through the three institutes that serve Africa, Latin America and Asia, the council reported.

The council said the African-American Labor Center faced three major issues "which have dominated the political and economic life of the African continent during the past two years—the devastating drought, which has extended 4,000 miles across the continent from Senegal to Ethiopia; the pressures of worldwide inflation and of exorbitant administered oil prices which are hitting the Black African nations harder than most; and, perhaps most importantly, the trend toward a one-party state or direct military rule in the southern third of the continent."

The council described the activities of the Asian-American Free Labor Institute "as diverse as the countries in which they are developed."

The council noted that the American Institute of Free Labor Development, the oldest of the three institutes, has passed the quarter million mark in total number of Latin American labor leaders receiving training during AIFLD's 14 years.

Ford Policies Called Disastrous to Poor

San Francisco—America's poor have suffered most from the Ford Administration's "policies of disaster," the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

They have been the hardest hit by the combination of high unemployment and double-digit inflation. And the Ford Administration policies, the council charged, "increase the number of people in need while cutting back on the programs to help them."

The report cited such "callous" Administration policies as "an all-out attempt to cut back on food stamps for the hungry, preventing large numbers of the working poor and welfare recipients from obtaining badly-needed social services, eliminating longstanding civil rights and protections of individuals applying for or receiving public assistance, and prohibiting welfare payments to needy children if the family breadwinner is out of work due to a labor dispute."

In another area, the council reiterated labor's concern at the vast unmet need for child care programs for children whose mothers are working.

Currently, the report noted, there are 26 million children of working mothers of whom 6 million are under the age of six.

With quality child care so difficult to obtain, most working mothers "face the never-ending nightmare of making arrangements with a changing group of sitters or relatives, or leaving their children in custodial parking lots or, worst of all, leaving children alone in 'self-care.'"

In the face of this need, the council asserted, "the Administration response has been to cut back on day care provided under the social services program and to restrict needed funds, thus lowering the quality of care provided in the few remaining programs."

The AFL-CIO, it declared, continues to oppose cutbacks in child care programs or reduction in the quality of care.

NLRB Delays Pose Problem:

Organizing Gains Achieved Despite Employer Resistance

San Francisco—The necessity of unions becomes more obvious to workers when their buying power is dramatically eroded, the Executive Council reported to the convention, but high unemployment also breeds fears that non-union employers can exploit.

These are among the intangibles the council found in its report on the first two years of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services since it was expanded and substantially revised in 1973.

Some other aspects of the federation's organizing operations are not so intangible:

- A massive backlog in cases and other problems with the National Labor Relations Board have become a barrier to organizing.
- Coordinated organizing attempts have been expanded, with good results, to drives without geographic limits.
- Bargaining rights and union protections are being won steadily by hospital employes, fram workers, federal workers and other segments of the workforce previously without labor law protections.
- The trend in cutting back on directly affiliated local unions is continuing, with more of these locals affiliating with international unions.
- Campaigns in support of legislation on foreign trade and transportation in late 1974 got the federation's field services organization prepared for the 41 conferences staged in support of the Action Program launched by the AFL-CIO General Board in January 1975.
- Boycott campaigns continue to be an integral part of organizing, as demonstrated by the Farah effort on behalf of clothing workers and the grape and lettuce boycotts on behalf of farm workers.

The council reported that employer intransigience shows clearly in congressional testimony by NLRB Chairman Betty Murphy on the increased filing of unfair labor practice charges in recent months. Charges against employers make up 80 percent of such filings, the council noted.

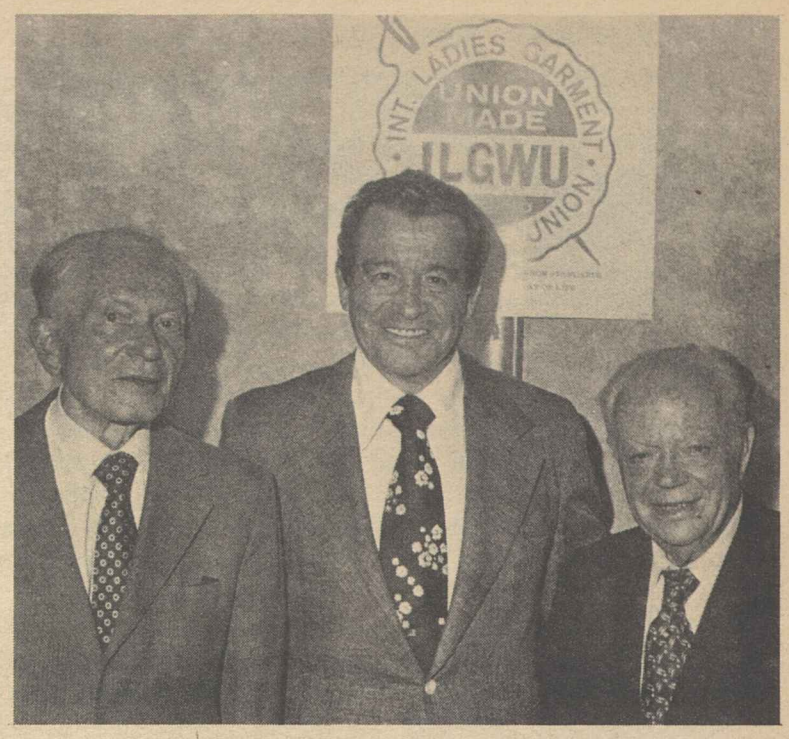
The council also expressed concern over NLRB decisions to narrow union access to employe lists and the status of representation elections among hospital employes, newly covered by the board. To date, AFL-CIO unions have won 101 elections at nonprofit hospitals. But 253 unfair labor practice cases are outstanding among the 404 election petitions submitted.

Figures aren't available on all representation elections in the two years since the last convention, the council said, but AFL-CIO data show federation affiliates have won 6,000 new units covering 152,000 employes.

The council noted that coordinated organizing efforts are continuing in California, Florida, New Orleans and Puerto Rico. When the Steelworkers, Machinists and IBEW joined the federation in helping a successful Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers' organizing drive in Madisonville, Ky., recently the council said it represented a breakthrough in the concept of coordinated organizing begun by 10 GE unions several years ago.

The council pointed out that several steps have been taken in refining the Dept. of Organizing & Field Services' role as coordinator of federation activities, ranging from local level legislative work to the bicentennial and encompassing apprenticeship training, manpower and political activities.

"The field staff is becoming a regular channel of information to headquarters as to the needs of the central bodies while informing them of priorities of the federation," the council said, noting that this replaced the situation in the past when close involvement central bodies was "only on a sporadic or ad hoc basis."



NEW PRESIDENT of the Ladies' Garment Workers, Sol C. Chaikin, is flanked by two predecessors, Louis Stulberg, left, and David Dubinsky. Chaikin, secretary-treasurer of the ILGWU since 1973, was installed Sept. 4 to succeed Stulberg.

Top Priority Assigned To Needs of Jobless

San Francisco—Widespread unemployment during the past two years has made meeting the immediate needs of the jobless the first priority of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services.

In a report to the federation's 11th biennial convention here, the Executive Council noted:

"While the nation was debating economic theories and legislative responses, the department went to work, nationally and locally, to review the problems of the unemployed, determine their immediate needs, pinpoint available social services, establish referral and follow-up procedures, train union counsellors and foster the improvement of programs and services when necessary."

The creation of local task forces was one major way in which the department moved to promote and coordinate efforts to provide for the special needs of the jobless.

Another was the allocation by the several agencies directly concerned, including the United Way, of special funds for emergency assistance.

Among the department's special programs were:

- Aid to the 130,000 Vietnamese refugees who entered the United States following the fall of South Vietnam. In this connection, the council noted that the employment and integration of Vietnamese refugees will not contribute to America's unemployment problem since their number is only "a drop in the bucket" in a country with a labor force of more than 92 million.
- The American Blood Commission, an organization brought about largely through the federation's efforts. Its purpose is to make available, free of charge, low-risk blood to all who need it, rather than commercially-bought blood which has more often transmitted disease.
- The National Resource Center for Legal Services, which the AFL-CIO helped to bring into being. The organization is designed to develop, guide and evaluate prepaid legal aid plans, which are increasingly a subject of collective bargaining.
- Programs of strike assistance.

Community services embraces a variety of human needs and problems, the council noted. Alcoholism, drug abuse and crime are major problems facing workers and their families, and the Dept. of Community Services is engaged in cooperative programs with voluntary and public agencies in these areas.

Since the last AFL-CIO convention, the department also has worked on an experimental project on labor involvement in the arts in Pennsylvania; establishment of the George Meany Award for distinguished union scouting activities; continuing development of consumer, health and welfare counseling programs, and disaster relief services and first aid programs in cooperation with the American National Red Cross.

Tax Structure Termed Loaded with Loopholes

San Francisco—Despite the labor movement's long crusade for tax justice, the AFL-CIO Executive Council report described the federal tax structure as still "overloaded with inequities."

Through an assortment of loopholes and special privileges, corporations and the wealthy can still avoid a large share of their tax obligation while those with lesser incomes continue to pay in full.

Thus, the council report noted, "corporations are bearing less and less of the nation's tax burden." While a decade ago, corporations accounted for about one-third of the nation's revenue income from income taxes, the corporate share has slipped in recent years to about 25 percent.

"If corporations presently were bearing the same share of the income tax load as in the 1960s, federal revenues for fiscal 1975 would be some $20 billion higher," the report said.

The emergency tax cut enacted early this year was "a first step toward ending the economic downslide," the council said. But "if the loopholes of special privilege to wealthy individuals and corporations had been closed—thus taxing billions of dollars that now escape the tax structure—a larger tax cut could have been enacted."

In addition, the council declared, "more money would have been available to fund the programs necessary to create jobs, protect the jobless, and help state and local governments provide essential facilities and services."

On the temporary tax cut, the council report noted that the program enacted by Congress early this year was far superior to the original Ford Administration proposal with its "lopsided rebate" giving the largest refunds to the wealthiest taxpayers.

The public got a glimpse of the manner in which tax loopholes can be used by the wealthy when former President Nixon's tax returns were brought under scrutiny, the council noted.

Likewise, the energy crisis pointed up the loopholes used by oil companies and other multinational corporations to avoid taxes.

In 1973, the Executive Council noted, "10 corporations with profits totaling almost $1 billion paid no federal income taxes at all, and the nation's largest oil companies paid U.S. income taxes at effective rates of about 6 percent of their worldwide profits."

J. P. Stevens Cited For NLRA Abuses

Wallace, N.C. — The National Labor Relations Board has issued a new order to J. P. Stevens & Co. directing the firm to post notices on its plant bulletin board that it will not interfere with the right of employes to engage in union activities.

The latest order stems from an NLRB ruling that found Stevens guilty of questioning a plant worker about her union activities, the Textile Union Workers of America reported.

Review of Watergate, Nixon Ouster Finds American System Met Test

San Francisco—Midway through the AFL-CIO's last convention, President Nixon shocked the nation by firing his attorney general and deputy attorney general because they had refused to dismiss a special prosecutor whose investigation of the Watergate coverup was moving perilously close to the Oval Office of the White House.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council report to the current convention examines labor's role in the turbulent 10 months that followed, culminating in Nixon's resignation "in shame and disgrace."

Delegates to the 1973 convention adopted without dissent a quickly drafted resolution that made the AFL-CIO, as the council report noted, "the first responsible national organization to call for the resignation or impeachment of the President."

When Nixon made it clear that he didn't intend to resign, the AFL-CIO pressed for impeachment as the only way to bring the facts before the American people and give the President due process of law.

As the council report stressed, the AFL-CIO campaign was keyed to getting the impeachment process under way so that the truth would emerge and not to influence the Senate which would sit as a jury if the House voted impeachment.

As part of the AFL-CIO educational campaign, the AFL-CIO News printed a series of full-page statements, each distributed as a pamphlet at plant gates and union meetings, on "Why Richard Nixon Must Be Impeached—Now." Nearly 200 other labor newspapers reprinted one or more of the statements.

The White House and its allies sought to discredit the AFL-CIO, charging that labor was using its "political muscle" to impeach a President for political reasons.

At its February 1974 meeting, the Executive Council reiterated that the purpose of the impeachment procedure is to bring out the truth and once the House Judiciary Committee began its impeachment inquiry, the council adopted a policy of "restraint" in public statements on Watergate "out of respect for the judicial process."

When the Judiciary Committee, after open and televised deliberations, voted three articles of impeachment, the council said it could take "no satisfaction" in contemplating the removal of a President, but "the nation cannot shirk from this distasteful task."

The Executive Council did, however, voice the nation's admiration for the manner in which the Judiciary Committee faced up to its responsibilities, proving anew "that this is a government of law."

The final revelation of the long-concealed transcript exposing Nixon's direct involvement in the criminal coverup forced his resignation in the face of certain impeachment by the House and conviction by the Senate.

In its report to the current convention, the AFL-CIO Executive Council notes that the Watergate scandals left public confidence in government "severely shaken."

But, the council stressed, "in the final test, this system of government did work, and we in the labor movement can be proud that our faith in America stood that test."

Job Placements Drop As Applications Rise

Some 3.1 million persons were placed in jobs by the Public Employment Service during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 1975, the Labor Dept. reported. This was 5.9 percent below the previous year.

During the same period, more than 15 million persons filed or renewed applications for jobs through the federal-state employment service, a 13 percent increase over the number seeking jobs in the previous year.

Labor and the Press

A **NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER** is nothing more than a businessman whose business happens to be publishing a newspaper. There is nothing wrong in that, but somehow it seems to embarrass publishers and editors.

For some reason, they try to hide this fact with a cloak of newsprint. Admitting their natural and inherent prejudice as businessmen would, in my opinion, lend some credence to their criticisms of the labor movement. After all, a person who is honest enough to admit where he comes from—a person who is frank enough to state his viewpoint candidly merits a hearing.

That is one reason for the success of the labor press. There is no mistaking your point of departure—you are advocates. The labor press is a tool workers need and must use in their struggle for social and economic justice.

Commercial newspaper editors do not seem to suffer from vertigo. Up their pedestals they climb—so high they can't see ground.

From such a lofty perch, they proclaim the commandments of labor relations. Thou shalt not strike. Thou shalt not be greedy. Thou shalt not injure the public interest. Thou shalt honor thy employer.

They anoint themselves with printer's ink and stand as the guardians of the public interest against the onslaught of the greedy board. As their competition dwindles and disappears, in city after city, they succumb to the most acute delusions of adequacy—leading even to hallucinations of infallibility. There is a danger, in my opinion, of an imperial anything—be it president, publisher or unionist.

What we seek is fairness, balance, accuracy. Those three words—fairness, balance, accuracy—are what the newspaper business proclaims for itself. It is what the labor movement has been too often denied by the press.

THE JOURNALISTIC TRESPASSES committed against the labor movement are both sins of omission and sins of commission. They are both flagrant and unwitting.

I have to believe that much of it is just plain ignorance. Few American reporters know much about the labor movement. Part of this ignorance, of course, is attributable to the utter failure of education to include trade union history and development in school texts. But the schools should not suffer all the blame. There is an unwillingness to learn, to be confused by the facts.

Simple factual errors are the most irritating and, it would seem to me, the most grievous for a journalist. I do not begrudge a person a differing opinion, just so we both have our facts straight.

The next time an editor composes an editorial about the First Amendment, and freedom of the press, I urge him to remember that unions are an expression of freedom of association and the strike is an expression of freedom of speech.

And if but one of the fragile components of the First Amendment is permitted to be destroyed, that grouping of freedoms is destroyed.

Freedom is precious to all of us, and whether editors like it or not, that includes the freedom for people to make what editors believe to be the "wrong" as well as the "right" decision.

—From the Liebling Memorial Lecture delivered by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at the ILPA Convention.

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'We Are Assembled...'

A Word Edgewise:

Watchdog Institution Sought To Police Intelligence Agencies

By John P. Roche

WHEN A SEPTIC TANK hasn't been pumped for more than a quarter of a century, you are likely to discover all sorts of detritus. Thus the question that should be asked about various extraordinary, if not criminal activities of the Central Intelligence Agency is not, "Why did they do it?" but, "How could they get away with it?" To this there is a flat, simple answer: the President and Congress did not exercise control.

You would think that an agency which works in secret should have been given far closer scrutiny: secret operations are notoriously corrupting. But, historically, Presidents have been positively deferential to directors of intelligence. I was stunned in 1960 when President-elect John Kennedy solemnly announced to the American people that J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI and Allen Dulles of the CIA would stay in office. They were his first announced appointments. Maybe you all slept better that night, but I tossed in bed wondering about Kennedy's sense of priorities.

When I was in the White House, I spent a good deal of time musing on Juvenal's classic query: "Who guards the guardians?" Interestingly enough, in the light of Sam Adams's recent testimony to the House investigating committee, I became convinced that much of the data on the Vietnam war that came to the President from Saigon was cooked to order; that is, designed to disguise what to me appeared to be an increasingly ominous situation.

Adams said that Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker and General Creighton Abrams deliberately underestimated the enemy order of battle to make it appear we were mopping up. He had access to back-channel military cables unseen by me, but independently I reached the conclusion that no figures out of Saigon could be trusted (and so informed the President).

Now how do you put a handle on this billiard ball? I had contacts with people in State and the CIA who were equally unhappy, but only once was I able to demonstrate conclusively that the Saigon mission was engaged in numerology. Confronted with a choice between my dour views and those of George Carver, the CIA's resident optimist on Vietnam, it is hardly surprising that the President, any President, would listen to Carver, the professional. And then there were those captured enemy documents which invariably indicated the Communists were going down for the count—Hanoi's disinformation division must have had a jolly time preparing and getting them captured. LBJ had a special supply of those in his desk to cheer me up.

So what about Congress? Ever since the agency was established, the legislators have deferentially tucked the CIA's billions into budgetary hideyholes and asked no embarrassing questions. You can't blame the CIA for this. After all, when the Comptroller General of the United States, who is Congress's financial watchdog, tried to audit the CIA, and was politely but firmly told to toodle off to Health, Education & Welfare, Congress took no remedial action. In other words, the present Senate and House investigations were necessitated by the persistent failure of Congress to do its constitutional job; that is, find out how the people's money was spent.

There is, in short, plenty of blame to go around, but the important thing is that this nonsense of an unpoliced intelligence agency must be stopped. Not by abolishing it. That would be absurd, and besides most of the CIA's work in gathering and analyzing data is first-rate. Probably 90 percent of the top agency executives learned about the poisons, dart guns and other random horrors from the newspapers. On the other hand, it will not be sufficient simply to hose down the squalid areas and revert to normalcy.

AN INSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION must be found based on two propositions. First, no executive branch, Democratic or Republican, can be trusted to police itself; and, second, by its nature a congressional committee can not maintain the requisite day-to-day oversight.

Enter what I call the vice squad, an agency patterned on the General Accounting Office, responsible to Congress and equipped with plenary authority to inspect any aspect of intelligence work. A comptroller general of intelligence with a skilled staff could literally raid, say, the covert operations section, freeze all hands in place, and find out precisely what the United States of America is up to this week. Investigations make headlines—what we need is an institution.

Meany's Report:

Strong Labor Movement Is Key To Struggle for Social Justice

The following is excerpted from AFL-CIO President George Meany's report, the opening section of the Report of the Executive Council to the Eleventh Convention.

THIS COUNTRY IS IN TROUBLE at home and abroad. At every turn, grave problems must be faced, grave questions resolved—each with ominous implications for the future. America's economy is in major trouble; her social welfare programs are being undermined; her relations with other nations are in disrepair; her prospects for peace, prosperity and security are in doubt.

Indeed, this report is the gloomiest ever presented to an AFL-CIO convention in this organization's 20-year history.

That gloom must, of course, be tempered by the labor movement's abiding faith in this country, its institutions and, most importantly, its people. We know America is equal to any challenge and can meet and best any foe, because of the strength and the resolve of her people.

We in the labor movement have unshakable faith that the American people will chart a progressive, and responsible and responsive course for their nation, provided that the serious questions confronting them are presented to them factually and honestly.

The alternative courses are clearly marked.

For economic policy, one path leads to a return to 19th Century economics—the classic "trickle-down" theory which is based on more wealth for the few and hardship and even poverty for the many. It is easily identified by its benchmarks—low wages, recurring recessions, broad gaps between the haves and the havenots and the simplistic view that every person determines his or her own economic destiny.

The other path—the one the labor movement has traditionally chosen—is general prosperity, built on mass purchasing power, with workers able to buy the products they produce. Its benchmarks are full employment, full production, a balanced economy, and a government with a social conscience.

THE LABOR MOVEMENT IS in good shape. There is a new strength and unity of purpose that does not express itself in figures on a chart.

In terms of political action, the labor movement is stronger than it has ever been. Increasingly, individual unions are developing their own political action machinery. In conjuction with our own political arm, COPE, the labor movement has the single most effective political organization in the country. As a result, compared with the rest of the population, a higher percentage of union members are registered and vote. And they are better informed voters as a result of labor's political education programs.

The labor movement has not lost its will to fight for those in society who can not defend themselves. We have led the fight for important legislation, for jobs, for housing and for protections for all workers.

While our members have suffered greatly as a result of the recession and inflation, their union contracts provided them a basic protection unavailable to the unorganized worker. The massive wage cuts of the 1930s did not recur. And when workers were unemployed, their unemployment insurance, which the labor movement has fought so hard to improve, helped keep body and soul together.

And, then, there are the visible signs of a stronger movement. Our membership has increased, despite the recession. The AFL-CIO has reorganized its structure in the field and the progress in that area has been good. The Public Employee Department has been established providing government workers with a unified voice for their interests. The Labor Studies Center has opened its new campus and expanded its courses for the education of trade union leadership. Several unions are discussing mergers, which is a healthy sign. Minorities and women are increasing their participation within the movement, which augurs well for the future.

BUT IT IS NOT altogether rosy. Old alliances of workers, the civil rights movement and various progressive groups have been strained by economic conditions and weakened by demagogic attacks. But these alliances have endured and will endure, because there are certain basic underpinnings in them that transcend instant disagreements.

The employer who would discriminate against black workers would discriminate against all workers. The employer who pollutes the air would also foul the lungs of those who work for him. The companies that would conspire against consumers would also conspire against workers.

Those traditional foes of a strong labor movement who continue to oppose legislation the labor movement believes is vital—improved unemployment insurance and workers' compensation, stronger enforcement of job safety laws, higher minimum wage and the like—are also the foes of full civil rights, a healthy environment and protection for consumers.

So this convention must resolve to stand by the tested principles of the labor movement as it develops the policies of the AFL-CIO for the next two years.

We approach the future with confidence in our abilities, the courage of our convictions and the knowledge that the labor movement is one institution in society that will never abandon the fight for social justice. We hope that our traditional allies will stand with us.

It is our obligation to help our country build for its tricentennial a nation of justice, compassion and strength—a nation that mirrors its people. It is an obligation we must not shirk.

Job Losses Mount:

Curbs on Imports Held Vital To Future of Clothing Industry

THE DEEP PENETRATION of products from low-wage countries into U.S. markets has brought depression conditions to the men's apparel industry, President Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers said in renewing the call for fair and reasonable regulation of imports.

Finley said that some 50,000 men's apparel industry workers have suffered either layoff or severe cuts of working hours as U.S. production plummeted while the tide of imports rose. He warned that another 50,000 men's clothing industry workers soon will be permanently laid off, if the present trade situation is allowed to continue unchecked.

The affected workers, a large proportion of them women whose families have to depend on a second income to maintain decent living standards, have little protection when imports wipe out their jobs, Finley stressed. The AFL-CIO vice president appeared on the network radio interview, Labor News Conference, aired Tuesdays on the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Finley said that the union's pending petition for trade adjustment assistance for 20,000 unemployed or underemployed workers because of imports covers only those affected in the tailored clothing portion of the industry, and that, in the near future, similar petitions will be filed for as many as 30,000 more who work in shirts, pants, sportswear, underwear and other segments of the industry.

He said that while Congress did liberalize trade adjustment assistance last year to provide protection to a greater number of affected workers, that help is, at best, only a stop-gap supplement to unemployment insurance. Temporary aid is no answer—the long-range solution is jobs in a healthy U.S. apparel industry, he asserted.

Those jobs and the health of that industry, Finley declared, hinge on updating U.S. trade laws and policies to achieve fair, reasonable and effective regulation of products and other commerce, as well as technology and investment capital in the U.S. and overseas.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL dismisses as "wishful thinking" by liberals the idea that John Durkin's landslide election to the U.S. Senate from New Hampshire represents any rejection of President Ford's policies.

On the other hand, columnist Hobart Rowen of the Washington Post emphasizes if President Ford correctly reads the results of the election he will find "that a majority of voters has little patience with an economic game plan that seems to promise high jobless rates and no relief from inflation."

Who is right?

All of the logic and evidence most certainly supports Rowen's thesis and rejects the WSP's theme that Republican Louis Wyman's defeat was an example of candidates no longer being able to ride a President's "coattails" and partly attributable to Wyman "waffling" on some of Ford's programs.

Granted, there were issues aside from Ford's program or lack of it. Wyman is under investigation for being an "intermediary" in handling a $300,000 campaign contribution to Nixon's 1972 campaign that allegedly obtained an ambassador's post for the doner. He did waffle on a few issues, most notably opposing oil decontrol.

But the Wyman involvement in Watergate, if it could be called that, was in the air when he ran his dead-heat race with Durkin last year. As for Wyman's stand for continued regulation of oil prices, a contrary position would be tantamount to political suicide in New England, an area almost totally dependent on oil and natural gas for its utilities.

Durkin campaigned heavily on economic issues, laying the blame squarely on the President for creating a situation in which the country is agonized by both inflation and heavy unemployment. He charged Ford with stubborn adherence to the selfish philosophy of big corporations.

Ford came into New Hampshire and put his prestige and program on the line in a 120-mile motorcade across the state. He sermonized the conservative's gospel: the economy is recovering, it will be just fine if left alone, there's too much regulation of business, and "don't rock the boat." California's former governor Ronald Reagan appeared in New Hampshire, even outdoing Ford as a conservative political evangelist.

Durkin said his overwhelming victory clearly demonstrated that "the people of New Hampshire have rejected Jerry Ford's program for the economy." Wyman, himself, conceded that opposition to federal programs to bolster the economy might be "a little too spartan for these times."

And that is precisely a summary of an election held in a state where registered Republicans outnumber registered Democrats by a three-to-two margin.

FURTHERMORE, A NATIONWIDE economic survey completed in recent weeks by Caddell's Cambridge Reports, Inc., indicates that 6 percent of the people don't believe the Administration's promises that a recovery is starting. A poll conducted by Louis Harris produced an almost identical result.

There are signs of an overdue awakening in Congress to the realization that there must be more stimulation for the economy. Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) and Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Minn.) have introduced a bill to require the President to present a budget to bring unemployment down to at least 3 percent over 18 months. Humphrey, chairman of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, plans a series of hearings throughout the country on the need for a "true full employment program."

Meanwhile, Ford inexorably continues his campaign against government spending, vowing to use his veto "again and again and again" against job programs. He also insists on a halt to expansion of social programs that benefit the poor, the aged, the disabled—and the unemployed. He either hasn't read the results from New Hampshire or refuses to accept them.

MASSIVE IMPORTS of products from low-wage countries are destroying jobs in the U.S. men's apparel industry, Clothing Workers President Murray H. Finley, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning Finley were Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine.

Anti-Poverty Goals Linked To Economy

San Francisco — The AFL-CIO remains fully committed to the eradication of poverty, the Executive Council stressed in its report to the convention.

The council statement noted that the chief hope for ending poverty is "an expanding economy which offers everyone, without discrimination, the opportunity to obtain decent jobs at decent pay, housing, quality education, adequate health and social services."

But while striving for these broader goals, the AFL-CIO has given its "wholehearted endorsement" to the programs developed under the Economic Opportunity Act and the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The council noted continuing trade union participation on OEO community action agencies, on manpower planning committees, as sponsors of Job Corps training programs and in the operation of Neighborhood Youth Corps programs.

Because of the recession, the report noted, many union members who have lost their jobs have become direct beneficiaries of community action services for the poor.

The council report pointed up labor's belief that "a cohesive attack on poverty must be national in scope" and federal policy direction is needed to assure that funds earmarked for programs to help the poor are used properly.

It expressed concern that the federal share of funds of community action programs is decreasing "at a time when local and state revenues are dropping."

Report Shows Central Body Affiliations Up

San Francisco — Affiliations of local unions with state and city central bodies continued to increase since the last convention.

While the increased affiliation is "highly significant," the Executive Council said, "the need for improvement remains."

Since mid-1973, the number of locals affiliated with AFL-CIO state central bodies rose 1,751 to 26,418 and the number of members affiliated increased 803,668 to 8,014,390.

During the same period, the number of local central bodies increased from 739 to 748 and total affiliations were also up.

"In this period of high unemployment, the need for strong and effective central labor councils becomes more urgent than ever," the council said.

It noted that central bodies have been assigned key roles in pushing the AFL-CIO's Action Program to Put America Back to Work, in furthering both national and state legislation, in implementing manpower programs and in speeding delivery of social services to the unemployed.

With the average affiliation rate throughout the country still under 60 percent, the council stressed the importance of additional affiliation in increasing the effectiveness and resources of the central bodies.

Illinois Wage Law Expands Coverage

Springfield, Ill.—While delegates to the Illinois State AFL-CIO convention looked on, Gov. Daniel Walker signed a bill requiring payment of prevailing wages rates to state blue-collar workers who previously had been excluded.

NEW SECRETARY-TREASURER of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., Joseph F. Maloney, right, of the Iron Workers, is congratulated by BCTD President Robert A. Georgine. Georgine was elected to a new two-year term.

HEW Urged to Rescind Harsh Rule on Welfare

An attempt by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to force states to deny welfare assistance to needy children whose fathers are on strike "makes no sense," AFL-CIO President George Meany told the government department.

Meany's formal letter of protest followed up an earlier telegram calling on HEW Sec. F. David Mathews to withdraw the punitive anti-striker welfare regulation that has been initiated by his predecessor, Caspar Weinberger.

A federal court, recently sustained by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, threw out HEW's regulation that left it up to the states to decide whether or not to disqualify a striker's family from the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program.

The court decisions appear to lend support to labor's contention that neither a state nor a federal agency may ignore the intent of Congress to provide welfare assistance solely on the basis of need. But a new round of litigation would presumably be needed if HEW went ahead with its even harsher proposed new regulations which it drew up after the state option plan failed its initial court test.

Under the new proposal, where a father's unemployment was the result of a labor dispute, his children could receive benefits only if the state law allowed unemployment compensation under such circumstances.

Since only New York and Rhode Island allow jobless payments to strikers—and then only after a two-month waiting period—the effect is to penalize children because their fathers won't cross a picket line.

"Need is the fundamental basis of the entire public welfare program," Meany said. "Workers are taxed to pay the cost of welfare. When they and their families are in need, for whatever reason, they should have the same rights as all other citizens to obtain welfare assistance." He added:

"The regulations will affect very few strikers but would seriously hurt the needy. Because of waiting periods, income and asset tests, few strikers will ever be eligible for such assistance. Those that are eligible will be in dire need and it is their families who would suffer.

"Discrimination against strikers who would otherwise be eligible for benefits would punish workers' children for the action of their parents—actions, by the way, which are entirely lawful. Families of convicted persons receive welfare if they are in need, as is right and just. Denying welfare to the eligible families of strikers exercising a legal right to strike would mean better treatment for families of persons who break the law than for families of persons engaged in lawful actions. Such an action by HEW would be patently vicious.

"This kind of discrimination against needy strikers places the government on the side of the employer. In contrast, the government does not deny to employers engaged in strikes federal subsidies, contracts and other types of aid."

Congress and the Presidency:

1976 Elections Seen Crucial Political Test

San Francisco—Labor's political arm had its best year ever in 1974 and that makes it tough for 1976.

Protecting the gains of 1974 will be the No. 1 priority for 1976, aside from the presidential election, the Executive Council reported to the convention.

"Virtually every newcomer will be vulnerable in 1976 because many of the elements that converged to help make their election possible in 1974 will be missing, principally the voter turnoff that resulted from Watergate," the council said.

Those elements—plus added sophistication in labor's own political activities—came together to give the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education a 70 percent winning record on 321 victories in 455 endorsements in 1974, the council reported.

That's the best year COPE has ever had, surpassing the overall 67.8 percent winning mark in races for the Senate, House and governor in 1964. And the 1974 record was consistent, as labor-endorsed candidates won 69 percent of 380 House races, 75 percent of 33 Senate races and 78 percent of 33 governors' races.

"Obviously, circumstances played a major role in the 1974 elections," the council said, including "widespread citizen disgust over Watergate, deep anxiety over jobs, inflation and the health of economy."

But the council said it's also true that "never before did the COPE operation work so effectively among our own members and voting-age members of their families in every phase of the program—funding, special manpower, volunteers, registration and get-out-the-vote, communications, materials and the involvement of Executive Council members and allied organizations."

Much of the success was built on turnout, the council noted, citing surveys of districts in Indiana, Colorado, Connecticut, Oregon and Utah where union members turned out in percentages far higher than the national figure of 38 percent among all voters. In the New Jersey district where Rep. Charles Sandman was defeated, 69 percent of eligible union members and their families voted.

But the labor-endorsed candidates who won in normally conservative districts will be vulnerable in 1976, the council said. As an example, 1974 brought the defeat of four congressmen in Indiana who had a combined 40 "right" and 292 "wrong" votes on labor's scorecard.

Specifically, the council reported that the COPE computer now has nearly 11 million names of union members in 36 states, up dramatically from 7.7 million members recorded in 23 states in 1972. This capability, together with COPE's critical path method of matching activities to deadlines, meant that more than 30 million printouts were run by the computer in 1974.

Funding also set a record, the council said, with COPE spending $3.3 million for all programs, including direct contributions to candidates, exceeding the $2.7 million of 1972.

And more than 110,000 volunteers turned in millions of hours, the council noted. Allied groups like the Women's Activity Departments, the A. Philip Randolph Institute, Frontlash, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement and Concerned Seniors for Better Government also reached high-water marks in participation.

In a separate report, the council noted that in the widespread election law changes of the last two years, the new federal law left labor's activities intact. But the 38 new state laws included some "punitive legislation that attempted to unjustly restrict or destroy organized labor's role in the political process."

Nixon-Ford Tight Money Policies Still Clamping Down on Housing

San Francisco—Housing and mortgage credit policies initiated by the Nixon Administration and espoused by President Ford continue to plague residential construction, the Executive Council said in its report to the convention.

As a result, home building during the past 33 months went through the worst decline in three decades.

The impact was felt throughout the economy, the council noted, in increased unemployment, a greater shortage of available housing and higher home prices and rents.

New housing starts declined from 2.4 million in 1972 to 2.1 million in 1973 and to 1.35 million in 1974. Based on the first six months of 1975, the council said that housing starts are likely to drop to 1.1 million for all of 1975.

The drastic reduction in residential construction is largely the result of tight money and high interest rate policies of the Federal Reserve Board and the Administration's deliberate phaseout of low- and moderate-income housing programs.

Accompanying the decreased levels of construction has been soaring joblessness among building trades craftsmen, climbing to 21.8 percent nationwide in May. The rippling effect of unemployment also hit workers in the production, distribution and transportation of building materials.

Mortgage interest rates climbed close to 10 percent last year, and continue to remain near 9 percent, with the median price tag on new homes at about $40,000.

The council noted that the unsold inventory of new homes of about 380,000 discourages builders from new housing starts.

Subsidized construction of low- and moderate-income housing has been deliberately cut back since a moritorium was placed on new approvals in January 1973, the council reported.

It said that Dept. of Housing & Urban Development programs for homeownership and rental housing assistance have not been reactivated to meet the nation's housing needs. The result is that total subsidized housing starts, which had exceeded 425,000 in 1970-71, dropped to 329,000 in 1972, 180,000 in 1973 and to 119,000 last year. A further decline is expected this year.

Despite congressional prodding, the Administration has refused to use available authorized funds for homeownership assistance and conventional public housing. It also has ignored the intent of Congress to use other available funds for senior citizens housing projects.

The council termed the HUD program under the Housing & Community Development Act of 1974 inadequate. Through mid-1975, fund reservations under the program had been made for assistance of 96,000 units, including only 35,000 for new starts.

President Ford vetoed an emergency housing bill Congress passed earlier this year, the council noted.

The vetoed bill would have provided assistance for 400,000 home purchases at reduced mortgage rates or incentive payments. It also would have spurred construction of 75,000 public housing units and protected 100,000 unemployed homeowners against foreclosure.

Ford subsequently signed a weaker housing bill that provides a limited program for home purchases and mortgage foreclosure protection.

AFL-CIO Program Pressed:

Major Legislative Battles Center on Recession, Jobs

San Francisco—The biggest legislative battles over the past two years have been fought over job-related economic issues.

A 96-page section of the AFL-CIO Executive Council report gives a detailed account of the second session of the 93rd Congress in 1974 and the progress to date of the 94th Congress that took office last January.

During this period, the recession that the last AFL-CIO convention had warned of became a grim reality, and labor put its highest priority on a legislative program to put America back to work and stimulate the economy into recovery.

A start was made in late 1974 with a $2.5 billion emergency public service jobs bill and the temporary extension of unemployment compensation benefits to workers not eligible under state programs.

Early in the new Congress, with unemployment over 7 percent and rising, the AFL-CIO General Board drew up labor's Action Program and the Executive Council report gives a detailed account of how it has fared in the 94th Congress.

Perhaps the clearest congressional response, the Executive Council report indicates, came to the Action Program's call for an immediate tax cut, "primarily for low-and middle-income taxpayers, to stimulate the economy through added purchasing power."

The final version of the tax bill enacted last March was substantially closer to the AFL-CIO's detailed proposals than to President Ford's plan which the federation charged "would not stimulate the economy, because it gives the bulk of its benefits to those income groups who don't need it." The tax cut enacted pumped $22.8 billion into the depressed economy.

The AFL-CIO also urged Congress "to promptly begin work on closing the loopholes of special tax privilege for the wealthy and corporations"—an area in which the House Ways & Means Committee is currently starting to move. Last spring's tax bill included a repeal of the oil depletion allowance for major oil companies.

Labor's call for "immediate government measures to reduce America's dependence on imported oil" and an "equitable system of allocation and rationing" remains unanswered.

The Executive Council report recites in detail the still unsuccessful effort by Congress to reach agreement on an energy program, vetoes and veto threats by President Ford, and the battle over price controls on domestic oil.

On lowered interest rates and housing, the council recounts passage by Congress of legislation that pointed significantly—although not completely—in the direction of the AFL-CIO program. But as in many other areas, a presidential veto that couldn't be overridden was followed by passage of compromise legislation that was less than needed.

Likewise, the council report notes, the major job-creating bill that Congress passed this year was killed by a presidential veto. Again, the substitute measures enacted after the veto were far short of the need and did not significantly diminish the unemployment rolls.

As for labor's call for quotas on imported industrial goods where needed "to protect existing jobs from unfair foreign competition," the Executive Council report was blunt:

". . . Despite the declining U.S. position in world trade and ever-expanding deficits in the balance of payments, no significant action has been taken by the Executive or Legislative branches."

There was more action on the AFL-CIO demand for "immediate government assistance to the unemployed," although not to the extent that labor had urged. Legislation was enacted in late June that will continue the emergency program of up to 65 weeks of unemployment compensation until 1977, if the jobless rate stays high. And persons whose previous jobs had not been covered by state programs became entitled to up to 39 weeks of federal benefits — up from 26 weeks. But Congress has not yet acted on a needed permanent improvement of the unemployment compensation system.

A Senate-passed bill for quicker food stamp eligibility is pending in the House, but the council noted that the issue of health insurance coverage for the unemployed "has become the victim of a four-way jurisdictional battle" among congressional committees.

Another section of the legislative report expressed concern that budget targets established by congressional resolutions are "far short of the funding levels necessary to stimulate a strong economic recovery."

There is an account of the landmark 1974 legislation setting federal standards for funding and vesting of private pension plans. Two other important labor bills were enacted in that final year of the 93rd Congress. One extended collective bargaining rights under the National Labor Relations Act to workers in non-profit hospitals and nursing homes. The other made it legal for unions and management to negotiate prepaid group legal services plans.

The council report takes note of the enactment in April 1974 of a minimum wage bill identical to the one that then-President Nixon had vetoed in 1973. The council noted also that the delay cost America's lowest-paid workers about $250 each.

Extension of the Voting Rights Act is cited as a major accomplishment of the present Congress; the enactment of campaign financing reform with public financing of presidential campaigns was a landmark of the 1974 Congress.

The effort to strengthen enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act and combat employer efforts to weaken the law and exempt small firms occupied the AFL-CIO's attention in both the 1974 and 1975 sessions.

Other portions of the Executive Council report on national legislation deal with bills of interest to railroad workers, construction workers, public employes, maritime workers and many other groups of union members.

There are discussions of consumer bills, mass transit funds, strip mining controls, social security benefits, health legislation, aid to education and other issues reflecting the broad concerns of the American labor movement in its congressional role as the people's lobby.

Gains for Labor Cited In State Legislatures

San Francisco—Substantial gains in enactment of state legislation benefiting workers and their families have been chalked up in the past two years, the Executive Council reported to the AFL-CIO convention here.

High on the list of priorities of state labor councils was legislation to improve jobless benefit levels and coverage to ease the plight of the large numbers of unemployed. The council cited these other developments:

- Minimum wage boosts in several states indicated a trend toward gradual matching of federal minimum wage levels.
- Workers' compensation improvements in nearly every state legislature were reported by state bodies in the past two years.
- Efforts continued to get the necessary number of states to ratify the labor-backed Equal Rights Amendment. Three more states ratified the ERA in 1974. North Dakota joined the list this year.
- So-called "right-to-work" legislation was defeated in all instances where it was proposed.
- A number of states enacted laws regulating campaign practices. Many of these new laws, labeled "campaign reform" legislation, are "overly restrictive or discriminate against unions," the council noted.

"In practically every state, hard lobbying was needed to head off proposals that would have curtailed labor's right to participate in political activities," the council observed.

- Efforts by state bodies to defeat so-called ban-the-can or ban-the-bottle bills continue because of the adverse effect of such legislation on employment.
- Four more states — Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota and Pennsylvania — passed effective no-fault auto insurance laws in 1975 and another — North Dakota—enacted similar legislation this year, bringing the total number of states with effective no-fault laws to 16.
- A clear trend toward postcard voter registration, with five states enacting legislation in 1974 and at least six additional states anticipating enactment of some form of postcard registration later this year.

In other areas, the council noted that practically every state body was involved during the 1974-75 period in efforts to obtain collective bargaining laws for public employes.

Regarding the new collective bargaining law giving California's farm workers the right to pick the union of their choice, the council said it may be some time before a clear picture emerges as to the degree of unionization of the state's 250,000 agricultural workers.

Membership up 659,000 Over Two-Year Period

San Francisco—Membership of AFL-CIO unions increased 659,000 in the two years since the federation's last convention, the Executive Council reported.

A two-year average of per capita payments to the federation showed a total membership in the United States of 14,066,000. For unions currently affiliated, it is the highest total since the formation of the AFL-CIO in 1955. Affiliates do not pay per capita tax to the AFL-CIO on Canadian membership and they are not included in the membership tally.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland reported that income over the two-year period totaled $35,274,034 as against expenses of $33,892,464.

The federation's net worth—the excess of assets over liabilities—was $15,202,646 as of June 30, 1975. This was a gain of $1,381,570 over the 1973 figure.

The financial report completes the accounting of payments to the United Farm Workers Defense Fund from a special three-month assessment voted by the Executive Council in May 1973. The total collected and used to assist the striking farm workers was $1,662,421.

Kirkland reported also that contributions from AFL-CIO affiliates in support of Histadrut, the labor federation of Israel, totaled $584,640. That amount, plus a $50,000 contribution from the AFL-CIO Special Purposes Fund, was sent to Histadrut for humanitarian purposes in the aftermath of the 1973 Mideast war.

Tilt to Anti-Unionism Seen in Nixon Court

San Francisco—Labor's fears of a Supreme Court transformed by former President Nixon's four conservative appointments have been borne out by the experience of the past two years, the AFL-CIO Executive Council concluded.

The tilt toward hostility to unions, to the point of disregarding past court decisions and the clear intent of Congress, was predicted by the council in its report to the last AFL-CIO convention.

"This prediction has proved painfully accurate," the council concluded in its current convention report on Labor and the Law. "The last two years have produced few important decisions favorable to the labor movement and many whose effect will be seriously detrimental."

Thus, the council report examines in detail a 5-4 Supreme Court decision holding that a local of the Plumbers had violated the antitrust laws by picketing a general contractor in order to obtain an agreement that the plumbing subcontract at the job site would not be given to a subcontractor who did not employ union craftsmen.

Both a federal district court and the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had ruled against the contractor's antitrust suit, in accord with what appeared to be the clear language of the National Labor Relations Act allowing "an agreement between a labor organization and an employer in the construction industry relating to the contracting or subcontracting of work. . . ."

Further, the council report notes, legislative history provides "abundant evidence" that Congress did not intend that the antitrust laws be used against unions in any such circumstances.

"Between every line" of the decision written by Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., the council asserted, "is the unspoken premise that it is a judicial obligation to assure that unions are subjected to the antitrust laws to the maximum extent possible."

Other cases discussed in the report lend further credence to that view of the anti-labor bias of the Supreme Court today. Some anti-labor decisions "so clearly required an opposite result," the council said, that they can be explained only by the court's "unprincipled hostility" to unions.

In general, a solid court majority of both old and new justices has leaned in support of individual rights — in most cases with constructive results but in some instances treading on thin legal ground.

One important case, in which the union position was upheld, rejected the assertion that a group of minority group store employes were entitled, without risking disciplinary action, to picket their employer charging racial discrimination.

Justice Thurgood Marshall wrote the decision warning that the principle of exclusive representation, which lies at the root of U.S. labor law, would be endangered if one group of workers could ignore a non-discriminatory grievance procedure to apply economic pressure on their own.

Repudiation of that principle would weaken the ability of minority employes to secure economic justice, according to the opinion by Marshall, a noted civil rights attorney before he was appointed to the court.

"This reminder that unions can be and are, a positive force for the betterment of all their members may be the most positive note struck by the court in the past two years," the Executive Council suggested.

But on balance, the Executive Council concluded that the Supreme Court, except in the fair employment area, "is not the place to look for vindication of the rights of employes and of unions."

It expressed concern also that the Supreme Court's decisions will have a chilling effect on the lower courts since "judges and administrators do not relish, whatever their personal predilections, being overruled time and again in the Supreme Court."

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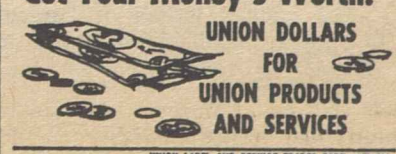
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UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES are welcomed to Cleveland by President Mel Witt of the City AFL-CIO, which is sponsoring two families who fled the Communist takeover of the country. The Vietnamese families are headed by two former Vietnamese trade unionists, Ru V. Nguyen, who served as a press aide with the Vietnamese Confederation of Labor, and Phung N. Nguyen, formerly treasurer of the Dock Workers Union in Saigon.

Solution to Energy Crisis Keyed To Conservation, New Resources

San Francisco—The United States still has an energy crisis even though the long lines at the gasoline pumps are gone, the AFL-CIO Executive Council warned.

The Arab oil embargo, launched during the AFL-CIO's last convention with the avowed aim of changing America's Mideast policy, brought hardships and inconveniences as well as touching off a price rise that was a major factor in the recession.

"Too many people view the energy crisis as a thing of the past," the council report said. But until the United States can develop reliable energy sources "free from the blackmail threat of a renewed Arab oil embargo," the crisis is not over.

The council expressed labor's disagreement with the Ford Administration view that the way to cut down on oil imports is to allow prices to rise and its hope that reduced consumption will then bring about a reduction in prices.

"The oil cartel, despite enormous oil surpluses, continues raising prices," the council noted.

Its report warned also of the "extraordinarily harsh" inflationary impact of the Administration's proposal to deregulate the price of natural gas.

Congress also came in for its share of criticism in the council's assessment of government response to the energy crisis. The legislative branch has "floundered" without enacting any significant program.

"The President and the Congress have placed partisan political considerations above the national interest," the Executive Council charged. "Almost two years after the Arab oil embargo, this nation still has no energy policy."

Meanwhile, it noted, "America is more dependent on Arab oil than ever before" and imports substantially more oil from Arab countries than it did in the months preceding the embargo.

The council noted also that the coal mining industry used the energy crisis as an excuse to attack "reasonable legislation to protect the land from being ravaged by strip mining operators." The bill passed by Congress this spring "unfortunately" was vetoed by the President.

"This nation can have environmental protection and economic growth at the same time," the council affirmed. It saw the triple need as "conservation; substitution of plentiful energy materials for scarce energy materials, and increasing energy supplies."

The council termed it "urgent that tough mandatory measures be enacted to reduce energy consumption."

It warned that the apparent sufficiency of oil and gas supplies is to a large extent due to reduced consumption resulting from the recession.

"Should the economy start moving upward, the nation may well experience energy shortages which would halt or slow down the upturn. When that time comes, it may well be too late to institute the kind of conservation measures needed now," the council warned.

Oil and gas fueled power plants should be converted as much as possible to other fuels, the report suggested. It urged "every effort to accelerate the development of nuclear energy." And while acknowledging "legitimate concern" regarding the hazards of nuclear energy, the report said "the record to this point has been good" and should continue to be so with continued utilization of the safest methods for handling nuclear energy.

The Executive Council reaffirmed labor's belief that "America can and must have a clean environment and jobs, too."

It said that environmental problems can be solved without sacrificing economic growth or the goal of full employment. And it rejected the position of "no-growth advocates who want to clean up every form of pollution except the human pollution of unemployment."

Low Priority Cited:

Funds, Enforcement Limit Job Safety Act

San Francisco—A strong commitment is needed from the Ford Administration if the full potential of the federal job safety and health law is to be achieved, the Executive Council said.

Although some progress has been made since the law was enacted in 1970, the council noted that it has been a frustrating five years in labor's crusade for a safe and healthful workplace for all American workers.

During the Nixon presidency, the council observed, the effectiveness of the law was weakened by starvation budgets, low priorities, the unloading of enforcement on states and political fund trade-offs for campaign contributions.

When Nixon signed the law he had pledged to give higher priority to its implementation. Instead, he held down its budget. And even during the waning days of his Administration, Nixon undercut the law to protect workers by ordering economic impact statements on occupational safety and health standards.

The council said it was "the final bow to those who had supported him and made crystal clear the priorities of his discredited Administration: dollars first; human lives last."

In reviewing a council report issued earlier this year on the first four years of OSHA, the council described Ford's Fiscal 1976 budget for OSHA as grossly inadequate since it merely allows for inflation costs but does not provide for expansion or strenghtening of programs.

OSHA budgets must be greatly increased and the indefensible policy for funding state programs should cease, the council declared.

It noted that during 1975 state plans were withdrawn by New York, New Jersey and Illinois and that the Wisconsin and Colorado legislatures refused to appropriate funds for their state plans.

Among the 20 remaining state programs only three key industrial state are included, Michigan, California and Indiana.

Thirteen other state plans that have been under a long review by the Secretary of Labor are being opposed by organized labor and are unlikely to get approval.

The council also cited a severe shortage in the number of compliance officers for the federal enforcement program. In April 1975 there were only 869 field inspectors, one for every 67,900 workers covered by the law.

But even with increased appropriations for 1976, and the reprogramming of funds from abandoned state plans, the number would be raised to an inadequate 1,495 inspectors and industrial hygienists, the council said.

The council commended Congress for rejecting President Ford's attempts to impound funds appropriated for the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health.

NIOSH needs even more funds to carry out its responsibilities for research, development of health standards, hazards evaluation and training, the report stressed.

It noted that NIOSH lags far behind on developing standards for hazardous substances that workers are exposed to on the job. No standards presently exist for 1,300 known cancer-causing chemicals.

Weak federal enforcement continues as a major problem for workers, the council said, as OSHA is slow to respond to complaints.

Even though one of every four workplaces are found to be in compliance with the law, only about one-tenth of 1 percent of the employers are cited for serious violations.

Although the recommended fines for inspection violations have been averaging less than $71, the OSHA Review Commission has modified citations in the favor of employers in 90 percent of the contested cases.

It charged that the commission has built "an astounding pro-industry record" and is torn by dissent because of a chairman who was hostile to the act.

Further attempts by the Office of Management & Budget to impose "inflationary impact" statements impedes the development of effective standards, he council said.

"Dollar costs to employers are given greater importance than saving lives and preventing injuries and illness on the job," the council charged.

Little has been done to assist small employers to comply with safety and health standards, the report noted. This failure has added fuel to attacks on OSHA and has seriously threatened the program.

Social Insurance Programs Termed Still Far Short of Meeting Needs

San Francisco—The Executive Council renewed its call for correction of glaring deficiencies in the nation's unemployment insurance and workers' compensation programs.

Outmoded and fragmented, the jobless insurance program falls far short of meeting the country's need—a fact never more apparent than in the economic recession, the council said in a report to the AFL-CIO convention here.

At the height of the downturn, with 8 million workers out of jobs, half of the jobless received no benefits from the basic unemployment insurance system, the council said. And for those who do get benefits, an average of only 40 percent of lost wages are replaced under unemployment insurance.

The Emergency Jobs & Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974 provided for a one-year, federally-financed stop-gap coverage for some 12 million workers who were excluded from unemployment insurance protection, but only for benefits up to 26 weeks, the council noted.

A series of emergency measures temporarily extended the maximum duration for regularly covered workers, most recently to 65 weeks, "but these too are just stop-gap measures." Further, new entrants and re-entrants into the labor force are entirely unprotected.

The council said benefits of at least two-thirds of former weekly wages are essential for jobless workers to meet essential nondeferrable expenses, but most workers do not get even 50 percent of their previous earnings.

"Unemployment insurance benefits are so low in most states that the maximum weekly benefit payable in 39 states is below the poverty level," the council reported.

Furthermore, qualifying requirements are so restrictive that many jobless workers are denied any benefits, the council added. Extended benefits under the system have been so restrictive that Congress has had to tinker with this part of the program more than 10 times in the past five years.

"The nation can no longer tolerate the piecemeal, inadequate state-by-state efforts to modernize unemployment insurance of the past 37 years," the council said.

"AFL-CIO state bodies have labored tirelessly to improve the state laws, but only effective and vigorous federal action will make unemployment insurance what it was meant to be—the nation's first line of defense against poverty and recession."

Benefits and coverage under the various state workers' compensation programs are no better than those of jobless insurance, the council noted. A majority of states have maximum weekly benefits below poverty levels for a worker with a family.

Other serious defects in state workers' compensation laws are:

- 5 lack compulsory coverage for wage and salary workers.
- 15 exempt small employers.
- 35 do not cover farm workers to the same extent as other workers.
- 5 fail to provide full coverage of occupational diseases.
- 8 do not require full medical care.
- 25 lack an adequate time limit for filing occupational disease claims.
- 24 do not provide death benefits to widows for the full period of widowhood.
- 14 fail to provide benefits to permanently and totally disabled workers for the full duration of their disability.

"Favorable prospects for federal legislation have enabled a number of states to improve their laws to a greater degree than in the past because many carriers and employers, fearing federal legislation, have lessened their opposition to improvements in state laws," it said.

"But the AFL-CIO will not be deterred in its efforts to secure federal standards by exaggerated claims regarding the progress states are making."

TV Residuals Top $200 Million Mark

Hollywood—Residual payments collected by the Screen Actors Guild for television productions, motion pictures released for TV and foreign telecasts topped the $200 million mark in August, SAG reported.

The fund, which is paid out to participating SAG members, totaled $208 million. The Guild began the collections in 1953.

Worst in 40 Years:

Decisive Measures Pressed To Solve Economic 'Mess'

San Francisco—The national economy is in "the most dangerous mess in 40 years," and unless the government adopts decisive measures to create jobs, high levels of unemployment will persist for the rest of this decade, the Executive Council declared at the AFL-CIO's 11th biennial convention here.

"In the face of the dangerous economic deterioration of 1969-1975, the deepest recessionary decline since the 1930s and an unemployment rate of close to 9 percent in 1975, a series of large-scale job-creating and income-generating programs is required to move the economy rapidly to full employment and strengthen the fabric of American society," the council said.

Because of the Ford Administration's adamant opposition to programs that would put the country back to work, America faces an "anemic" recovery accompanied by persistent high joblessness, idle plants and machines, sluggish productivity and continuing, large deficits in the federal budget, the council charged in its report to the delegates.

The council attacked Ford and his economic advisers for opposing measures to generate a vigorous economic pickup with full employment, and it did not spare its criticism of Congress for going along with the Administration.

"The anemic economic pickup from the 1973-75 recession, officially presented by the Administration and implied in the budget ceiling adopted by Congress in the spring of 1975, means more than a painfully slow reduction of unemployment," the council said.

"It means persistent idle productive capacity as well as productivity increases and levels of business investment considerably lower than they would be if the economy moved rapidly to full employment.

"It also means that the American economy will remain particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of domestic or international events, such as another OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil-price rise or international monetary disarray," the council noted.

Since mid-1975, the council observed, several factors have emerged that raise the possibility of an aborted recovery from the recession that has left 8 million workers still officially unemployed today.

The Federal Reserve Board, under chairman Arthur Burns, has moved to counteract the stimulus of the emergency tax cut adopted earlier this year by shrinking bank reserves and raising interest rates.

The Arab-dominated oil cartel announced that it would raise crude-oil prices, and at home the Administration plans to decontrol prices of "old" oil and natural gas. Large sales of grain to the Russians boosted farm-product prices immediately and threaten to drive up food prices even more in the months ahead.

In addition, almost all of the emergency tax cuts are scheduled to end at the end of 1975, resulting in an automatic tax increase on Jan. 1, 1976, if the tax cuts are not extended.

"The combination of such events, or a major part of them, could reverse any upward momentum that may have developed by the end of 1975," the council warned.

Even in the absence of such events, current Administration policies mean that unemployment — expected to average 8.7 percent this year — will be reduced only with painful slowness in the years ahead, the council pointed out.

Besides continuing hardships for many workers and their families, persistent high unemployment will result in large budget deficits, the council said, noting:

"The accumulated budget deficit of the six years from fiscal year 1970 through 1975 — $109.4 billion — was almost twice as great as the accumulated net deficit of the previous 23 years, from 1947 through 1969. The major reason was the two back-to-back recessions of those six years, with huge losses of potential federal revenue and increased unemployment and welfare benefits."

A rapid economic upturn to achieve full employment simply is not the Administration's objective, nor has it been the goal of the majority of the members in the current session of Congress, the council charged.

The Administration's mid-year budget review, published last May 30, forecast about 8 million jobless workers for 1975. The council said that would mean depression-level unemployment among teenagers, construction workers, blacks in general and black teenagers in particular, 20-to-24-year-old men and factory workers.

"Moreover, on the basis of the Labor Dept.'s reports on the population's work-experience in previous years, an average of 8 million jobless workers for each of the year's 12 months means that about 20 million workers will be unemployed at some time during 1975.

"It means about 12 million will be jobless for five or more weeks in the course of the year and approximately 8 million workers will be unemployed for 15 weeks or more during 1975. That is one dimension of the human aspect of a monthly average of 8 million unemployed," the council observed.

The economic situation in the second quarter of 1975—the latest quarter for which complete figures are available—showed the number of unemployed at 8.2 million, or 8.9 percent of the labor force, in sharp contrast to the 2.7 million, or 3.4 percent jobless rate, in the first six months of 1969 when the Nixon-Burns policies were installed.

In addition, some 1.2 million workers were so discouraged by the employment outlook in the April-June period they gave up looking for jobs. Another 3.7 million were on part-time schedules because full-time work was not available.

Thus there were, in effect, 13.1 million unemployed and underemployed workers in the second quarter of the year, the council observed.

Depression-level jobless rates struck major groups of workers. Unemployment rates were 20.5 percent among teenagers, 20.7 percent among construction workers, 14.3 percent among blacks and 12.2 percent among factory workers. Black teenagers had an unemployment rate 37.8 percent.

While some slight degree of improvement in consumer confidence occurred in the spring as a result of a reduced inflation rate, most key parts of the economy—auto, steel and home-building — remained weak or declining, the council noted.

Instead of acting to establish job-creating programs, the Administration tried to focus the attention of the country and the Congress on the size of the budget deficit which resulted from the recession, the council said. Meanwhile unemployment continued to climb.

"The historical record shows that it takes many job-creating and income-generating programs to reduce unemployment, after unemployment and idle production are permitted to rise," the council observed. It called for adoption by the government of the AFL-CIO's Action Program to Put America Back to Work, a set of economic recommendations drawn up by the General Board last January.

CONTINUED COOPERATION is pledged by President Harold C. Crotty, left, of the Maintenance of Way Employes with the United Transportation Union after UTU convention delegates re-elected Al H. Chesser to a second four-term as president.

Civil Rights Progress Linked to Job Gains

San Francisco—"Full employment is as essential to fulfillment of civil rights as it is to a healthy economy," the Executive Council declared in its report on civil rights to the convention.

An economy in which blacks are 14.6 percent unemployed makes it impossible for minority groups to enjoy the rights guaranteed by law, the council said.

"There can be no denial that some slippage has occurred in civil rights," the council said. "A number of important social programs enacted during the Kennedy-Johnson years were dismantled by the Nixon Administration through callous vetoes and heartless impoundments of congressional appropriations."

While widespread discrimination is hopefully now "a relic of America's past," the council said today's problems have little to do with racial attitudes and prejudices. All races are against crime; unemployment cuts across racial lines and the exodus of the affluent to suburbia means that everyone left behind is equally shortchanged.

The Administration's attitude toward these problems is typified by the veto of adequate public service employment, the report said.

One action such as that veto can undercut years of federation work on apprenticeship and manpower programs, it was noted, since a shrinking job market hits hardest at the low-paid workers who have suffered past discrimination — like blacks and women.

The poor quality and non-union tradition of the jobs women hold has left this major segment of the workforce highly unorganized, the report noted. There are about 4.4 million women union members.

Noting that women still earn only 60 percent of the average salary of their male counterparts, the council said a major cause was the lack of enforcement of the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the 1972 amendments to the Civil Rights Act.

Despite years of attempts at cooperation, labor is still frustrated in trying to get the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to give proper notice to the federation and its affiliates of charges filed against local unions. Cooperative efforts to achieve voluntary compliance could greatly reduce the EEOC caseload, the council pointed out.

The work of the federation's civil rights staff, the report noted, is augmented by the A. Philip Randolph Institute's local chapters of black trade unionists, which now total 150 in 35 states, and the Labor Council for Latin American advancement.

Opportunity for Higher Education Held Endangered by Cost Rises

San Francisco—The principle of free or low-tuition higher education is endangered by the combination of inflation and recession, the Executive Council warned.

Labor's alarm stems from an overall 12 percent rise in college tuition costs in the last year, the council said. And some states have actually been considering charging tuition for students in public vocational high schools—the most basic free education needed to guarantee equality of opportunity, the council said.

"An educated citizenry is a national asset and the costs of that education should be paid by society rather than by the student and his family," the council said in restating labor's position as the staunchest defender of free public education.

"The AFL-CIO has argued over the years that low or free tuition is the best form of student aid," the council stressed.

And labor won't buy the suggestions of such groups as the Carnegie Foundation to hike up tuition payments to meet costs, then trying to ease the burden with aid for low-income students.

The Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1964 provided the impetus for quality education, the council noted, but the Nixon Administration attempts to dismantle that progress are being continued.

One aspect is the attempt to "consolidate" all federal education funds into a bloc grant to the states and local school boards, the council said, emphasizing that it was state and local failure that necessitated a federal response in the first place. The council expressed relief that Congress shows little interest in reviving this Nixon idea.

The nation could be achieving real breakthroughs in quality education because of the drop in the birth rate from the accelerated pace after World War II, the council noted. This could mean more facilities for fewer school-aged children and better education for everyone, the council said.

But instead of seizing the opportunity, school boards use that population trend as an excuse to take hard stances in bargaining that leave teachers without jobs and classrooms without quality.

The council said labor's stake is most critical in vocational education, where problems are compounded by the new "career" approaches that disquise attempts to turn the schools into low-cost training grounds for industry.

The council expressed concern over the tendency of local vocational education councils to include business but exclude union representatives and the inclination of federal departments to abandon child labor and minimum wage protections for teenagers.

The labor-supported growth of community colleges offers a unique opportunity for labor-oriented classes and improved adult education, the council noted. It said the federation's Labor Studies Center expresses its concern for education as a life-long exercise.

The Labor Studies Center has now conducted 90 programs for 2,000 full-time union staff and elected officials in its one year at its new 47-acre campus.

NLRB Publishes Procedure Manual

The first section of a new three-part case-handling manual prepared by the National Labor Relations Board has been completed and released to the public, the board announced.

Part I contains operational guidelines on unfair labor practice proeeedings issued by NLRB's general counsel for regional office staffs in processing cases.

Parts II and III, covering representation election proceedings and the handling of issues concerning compliance with NLRB orders and settlement agreements, will be ready by late fall.

Titled the National Labor Relations Board Case Handling Manual, it will be sold by the Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

A UNIQUE DONATION to the Veterans Hospital at Woods, Wis., was made by the Milwaukee Brewery Workers Local 9, a direct affiliate of the AFL-CIO. The union sponsored a scholarship for Donald Schaning, right, a physical therapy student at the university of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, to help in the care of spinal cord patients, amputees, and stroke victims. He is shown assisting Charlie Thomas, a physical therapy patient.

Veto Threat, Fund Cuts Block Health Progress

San Francisco—Opposition by the Nixon and Ford Administrations has been a major barrier to comprehensive health care for all Americans, the Executive Council declared.

Existing health care programs would be even worse off, the council said, had not Congress at the urging of the AFL-CIO resisted Administration efforts to cripple them through presidential vetoes, budget cuts and impoundment of appropriated funds.

When the Administration failed in its attempt in the 93rd Congress to abolish many government health services, it resorted to the 1975-76 budget to drastically cut back funds for health care, the council noted in its convention report.

Even the Health Maintenance Organization Act that the Administration supported with rhetoric received only $19 million for HMO development in the fiscal '76 budget—about half the amount obligated the year before, the council said.

Both institutional and non-institutional care for the elderly, the handicapped and those with long-term illness are woefully inadequate, the council said.

A program to provide long-term institutional care in intermediate and skilled nursing homes for the incapacitated would be one approach, the council observed. But for the handicapped who don't need or want institutional care, the council said that comprehensive home care would be a less expensive alternative.

The best approach to meeting America's needs is National Health Security, the council stressed, which has the support of organized labor and other concerned groups.

The alternative proposal supported by the American Medical Association and the Health Insurance Association provides no effective cost or quality controls while relying on large deductibles and coinsurance payments, council observed. It termed the improved Kennedy-Corman Health Security bill which calls for a program based on social insurance the best proposal before Congress.

Although President Ford has endorsed the AMA-insurance industry proposal, the council noted that he has threatened to veto any national health insurance legislation in 1975 as too costly.

A major problem confronting health care services is the skyrocketing premiums of medical malpractice insurance for physicians and hospitals. In recent years the rates have climbed as much as 1000 percent.

Even so, claimants receive less than 20 percent of the premium dollar in settlements, the council observed. More than 80 percent covers court costs, lawyers' fees, and the administrative cost of selling the insurance. Furthermore, the insurance cost is passed on to patients in higher doctors' fees and hospital charges.

Earlier this year, the council called on Congress to correct the injustices by enacting a federal program to provide impartial arbitration of malpractice claims combined with no-fault awards.

The convention report also explored problems dealing with collective bargaining of unions on health plans, health insurance for the unemployed and employment of the handicapped.

Council Asks 3-Cent Rise In Per Capita

San Francisco—A constitutional amendment to raise the per capita tax to the AFL-CIO from the current 10 cents per member a month to 13 cents will be proposed to the federation's convention.

It carries the unanimous endorsement of the AFL-CIO Executive Council. The amount was based on the recommendation of a subcommittee which reviewed income and expenses over the past five years and compared the data with a five-years projection that had been made in 1969.

While an anticipated fourth-year deficit didn't occur because of the federation's membership gain, the council said expenses will start to outrun income this year and the deficit will grow unless the convention acts.

If approved by the delegates, the new rate would be effective Nov. 1, 1975.

The subcommittee making the study was composed of Vice Presidents I. W. Abel, Al H. Chesser, John H. Lyons and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

More Living Cost Escalators:

Collective Bargaining Gains Achieved Despite Recession

San Francisco — Collective bargaining enabled workers and their unions to make substantial advances since the last AFL-CIO convention despite the economic downturn, the Executive Council reported.

In addition to improvements in wages and traditional fringe benefits, the council noted, unions negotiated significant gains in cost-of-living protection, supplementary unemployment benefits and job security provisions.

Wage increases in major collective bargaining pacts negotiated in 1974 increased markedly over the previous year when bargaining took place under rigid controls imposed by the Nixon Administration.

The average first-year increase negotiated in 1974 under the contracts covering 1,000 or more workers was 9.8 percent, up from 5.8 percent in 1973. Over the life of the contract, the average wage increase was 7.3 percent a year, up from 5.1 percent in 1973.

Early trends for 1975 saw first-year wage rates increasing by 12.5 percent, slightly faster than the rate of inflation. Over the life of the contract, wage rates increased at a 7.7 percent rate.

"Despite these gains, inflation and the economic downturn continued to squeeze working families," the council observed.

"Workers and their families need catch-up wage and salary increases to maintain and improve their real incomes. The national economy needs increased workers' buying power to maintain the expansion in consumer spending necessary for balanced economic growth and stability."

The council reported an increased use of escalator clauses since the last convention as workers tried to protect their buying power in the face of soaring, double-digit inflation.

Escalator clauses provide workers a partial catch-up with the rise in living costs after it has occurred. Other trends in collective bargaining:

● Pension plan improvements are resulting in increased and earlier retirement benefits, reduced service requirements and more coverage for survivors.

"A major breakthrough helping retirees keep pace with inflation was achieved in several contracts through the provision of cost-of-living adjustments for those already retired," the council noted.

● Strengthened job security provisions have been negotiated in many contracts in response to massive increases in unemployment in 1974 and 1975.

● Supplementary unemployment benefit plans were increased in number and benefits.

● Large-scale layoffs resulted in some discussion of forced worksharing. A council statement last May termed this "nothing more than poverty sharing" which would violate the principle that "the longer-service employe has priority in job allocation," and "inevitably would tear apart the solidarity necessary to achieve real economic gains for all workers."

● Improvements in health plans in the last two years continued to respond to soaring medical costs. From 1967 to 1974, for example, the cost of a semi-private hospital room more than doubled.

● Employes of private, nonprofit hospitals and nursing homes finally achieved first-class citizenship in 1974, with enactment of legislation bringing them under the National Labor Relations Act.

In a concluding note, the council observed that union workers have achieved higher living standards, better working conditions and more job and income security than non-union workers.

"Collective bargaining remains as it has been from its beginning—a flexible and adaptable system of union-employer relations that is an integral part of this free society," the council said.

Internal Disputes Plan Assisted by Mediation

San Francisco—Mediation has continued to be an effective means of settling disputes between AFL-CIO affiliates, the Executive Council reported.

Mediation is the first step in the federation's machinery for resolving disputes, and the panel of mediators available to help achieve a voluntary settlement is made up of officers of international unions.

Since the dispute plan's inception in 1962, 906 of the 1,616 complaints filed have been settled through mediation, with 29 cases pending as of the close of the reporting period last June.

Cases not resolved in mediation go to one of the two impartial umpires for the program, David L. Cole and Howard W. Kleeb.

In determinations issued through June 30, violations were found in 409 complaints and not found in 249.

Appeals from an umpire's decision are considered by a rotating three-member subcommittee of the Executive Council. The cumulative total is 154 umpire determinations upheld, 33 appeals withdrawn and 19 sent to the full Executive Council for decision. In three cases to date, the umpire's determination has either been set aside or modified.

On complaints of non-compliance heard by council subcommittees since the program started, compliance was achieved in 58 cases and non-compliance was found in 20 cases. Twenty-one complaints were withdrawn and 12 were pending as of July.

From Jan. 1, 1962 to June 30, 1975, 12 affiliates were found to have failed to comply with decisions of the impartial umpire or of council subcommittees.

In most cases, compliance was later achieved. The council said the following unions are currently in non-compliance and remain under sanctions required by the AFL-CIO Constitution: the Air Line Pilots Association and the International Typographical Union.

Federal Aid Essential To City, State Budgets

San Francisco—The pressing problems of America are national in scope and consequently the federal government must expand its role in helping the nation's hard-pressed state and local governments, the Executive Council said in its report to the convention.

The council's report on state and local government reiterated labor's longstanding support of public investment programs and said "much that is needed can and should be administered and financed at the state and local level."

"But we remain firm in our conviction that the federal government —which represents all of the American people and all the nation's resources—must substantially expand its role," the council said.

The urgency was revealed in statistics on the financial crisis of state and local governments which the council traced directly to the recession of 1974-75 and the reduced tax revenues from high unemployment and production cutbacks.

The council noted that to hold down budget costs, the federal government had also cut back its assistance—at exactly the wrong time. Federal assistance made up 25.2 percent of state and local expenditures in 1973, but that dropped to 23.6 percent in 1974 and is estimated at 22.2 percent for 1975, it was pointed out.

Consequently, state and local governments are cutting back vital services and conducting layoffs that take a severe toll of public employes.

But they're also increasing taxes at an accelerated rate — and the council said that contradicted what the federal government was trying to do with its tax cuts for 1975.

In sum, the local governments have taken $7.5 to $8 billion out of the economy, about $4 billion of it in capital improvements projects that were cancelled.

The council pointed out that "significantly, cutbacks in employment, services, new facilities, construction and planned increases in taxes were concentrated in areas where unemployment was highest." This managed only to heap more jobless on an already bleak employment picture.

"America's most pressing problems—unemployment, housing, energy conservation and development, poverty, pollution, health care, education, public transportation and the like—are nationwide in scope and impact," the council said. "They require national leadership, federal programs and federal financial support."

Textile Workers Win Essex Blanket Vote

Belton, S.C.—Workers at Essex International's blanket division here have chosen the Textile Workers Union of America as their bargaining representative in a National Labor Relations Board election.

The tally was 148 for TWUA, 126 for no union.

Economic Woes Top Convention Issues

Executive Council Report Scores Administration's Policy Failures

(Continued from Page 1)

of the free labor movement to play a "vital role" as the country plots its course. He called on the convention to "vigorously pursue our role as the workers' advocate . . . our members and their fellow countrymen are looking for leadership . . . and they will not find it wanting in the labor movement."

The federation president reported that the labor movement is in good shape, citing increased political education programs, the leadership in the fight for social legislation and the protection union contracts provide workers during recession and inflation.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland presented a detailed financial report that showed an increase of $1,381,570 in the federation's net worth and a rise in average per capita membership over the past two years of nearly 660,000 to 14,066,000 — the largest increase in membership since 1967.

He noted that since 1973 the AFL-CIO has completed construction of the expansion of the headquarters building and expanded the facilities at the Labor Studies Center.

On developments in the labor movement the report notes two mergers of affiliates since the last convention and the chartering of the Public Employee Dept. as well as three changes on the council. The reorganization of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services is detailed including the net gain of 803,688 new affiliations with state and local central bodies and developments in cooperative organizing programs and boycott activities, including the Farm Workers.

The report notes that the department has set up a clearinghouse operation to oversee the operations of the National Labor Relations Board both in Washington and the field and to help bring about necessary changes in the law.

On Watergate the council said that as a result of the pardon of former President Richard M. Nixon "the American people were denied the final truth—the conviction or admission of guilt. But they had already made their decision. The evidence was in, and Richard Nixon was guilty." Watergate has left the nation scarred "but hopefully a better nation" in view of the exposure of political corruption, illegality and immorality at the highest levels of government.

The report presented a detailed analysis of the economic situation and concluded it constituted the "most dangerous mess in 40 years." The report warned that Administration policies would result in an "anemic pickup, resulting in persistent unemployment, large amounts of idle plants and machines, a sluggish pace of productivity improvements and continuing, large deficits in the federal budget."

The economic analysis was sharply critical of Congress also for failing "to adopt a decisively expansionary budget policy or to override President Ford's vetoes of job-creating measures to supplement the tax cut and extended unemployment benefits that had been enacted."

The council noted that collective bargaining continues to be a major force for improving wages, living standards and working conditions despite the economic mess. It pointed out the need to overhaul the tax system "overloaded with inequities" that limits the government's ability to provide vital services.

The report noted the continuing problem of protecting consumers by fair dealing in the marketplace and in a new section on energy and the environment emphasized that that the country can have "environmental protection and economic growth at the same time."

It charged that two years after the Arab oil boycott the country still has no energy policy and said the President's program was "based on a prayer and a hope."

The report reviews developments in world affairs and international relations noting that the "world balance of power has significantly changed" since the last convention as democracy has come under increasing attack. The policy of detente has weakened the alliance of the free world and is creating a new isolationism, the council stressed.

The council decried the fraternization of democratic labor centers in Western Europe with Communist labor fronts and said "the American labor movement must not compromise its organizational freedom by paying homage to the so-called labor movements of totalitarian regimes through programs of exchange and cooperation."

On social security, the report noted that the beneficiaries were running a losing race with inflation and that rising unemployment was bringing new discrimination against older workers. It strongly assailed phony welfare reforms of a system that is "grossly inadequate."

It noted also the inadequacy of the unemployment compensation system and the lag in workers' compensation standards and payments, stressed the continuing need for national health insurance and called for vigilance in the administration of the new pension law.

A review of the recession-stricken housing industry and the Administration's failures in the area, the activities of the AFL-CIO Mortgage Investment Trust and the Human Resources Development Institute mark the section on urban affairs and housing.

The report calls for expanded cooperation with HRDI and stepped-up participation by state and local central bodies on local manpower councils. The council called also for broad changes in national policy in fulfilling the country's obligations to its veterans.

The Administration views on expenditure for education came under council attack as did the frustrations of the occupational health and safety law. The broad range of community service activities in a period of unemployment is stressed.

The slippage in civil rights progress is pointed up in the report in terms of the recession, the dismantling of social programs through vetoes and impoundments and discriminatory allocation of revenue-sharing funds.

The problems of women workers are singled out in this section and the need stressed to eliminate discrimination based on sex.

In a section on labor and the law, the council said "the last two years have produced few important decisions favorable to the labor movement and many whose effect will be seriously detrimental." It said the four Nixon appointees are "judicial activists dedicated to establishing their own views of desirable policy" despite the clear meaning of statutes and prior decisions.

A comprehensive report on the legislative activities of the AFL-CIO includes an extensive analysis of congressional action on the program adopted in 1975 by the AFL-CIO General Board. There is a review also of state legislative developments.

On political activities the council reported that 1976 will present a challenge to retain the scores of seats won in the 1974 elections by friendly representatives from traditionally conservative districts. The council said the 1974 effort was more effective than any previous election effort and called for bettering that record next year.

This section carried also explanations of federal and state campaign reform efforts, noting that the AFL-CIO will support honest and legitimate campaign reform measures but will oppose regressive legislation that seeks to restrict vital political activities.

The council report includes also sections on the activities of headquarters departments and the trade and industrial union departments of the federation.

Caught in the Whirlpool

Report Notes Completion of Two Mergers

San Francisco—Two mergers of AFL-CIO affiliates were consummated since the federation's last convention and a new AFL-CIO department was formed.

The Executive Council report noted the merger of the Cigar Makers into the Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union last year, and the merger of the Window Glass Cutters into the Glass Bottle Blowers two months ago.

The Cigar Makers brought to the RWDSU a 110-year trade union tradition. Its early members included Samuel Gompers, the first president of the American Federation of Labor.

Last November, the Executive Council reported, the Public Employee Dept. of the AFL-CIO was chartered with an initial membership of 29 unions with approximately 2.5 million members in the public service.

The 1973 convention had referred to the Executive Council a resolution calling for the formation of such a department and subsequent meetings found broad-based support for the concept.

Transport Workers Ratify Pan Am Pact

Members of the Transport Workers at Pan American World Airways have overwhelmingly ratified new contracts providing gains in wages and benefits for nearly 20,000 employes.

TWU President Matthew Guinan said the two-year contracts, approved in a mail ballot, cover maintenance, ground service, commissary, port stewards, flight dispatchers and flight service employes.

They provide a four-step, 15-percent compounded pay increase, improved pensions, health and welfare benefits and improved working conditions, the union said. In addition, maintenance, ground service, port stewards and commissary employes receive two cost-of-living adjustments. The contract takes effect Nov. 1.

Social Security's Deficit Termed 'Manageable'

San Francisco—Rapid inflation has caused some legitimate concern over the financing formula for social security, but the problem isn't nearly as grave as some alarmist critics picture it, the AFL-CIO Executive Council reported.

Social security's financial problems are "manageable," the council said. "They do not jeopardize the fundamental soundness of the system or its ability to pay benefits when due."

The council report expressed concern over "a tidal wave of groundless charges in the media that the social security system is in danger of collapse."

These "distorted and alarmist charges," the council suggested, "may be part of a campaign to discredit the program in order to prevent essential improvements and to forestall enactment of Health Security, which is based on social insurance principles."

The council noted that five former Secretaries of Health, Education & Welfare and all three surviving former Commissioners of the Social Security Administration joined in branding these attacks on the system a "disservice to the nation."

The council report expressed concern at the added burdens on Medicare patients of higher premiums and deductible amounts, continued exclusion of important health services and charges by some doctors of fees in excess of the amount payable under Medicare.

While Medicare "does substantially reduce the cost burden of medical care for older people," the council report noted that the elderly also have been hard hit by the higher premiums and deductibles and by the rise in the cost of uncovered health services and prescription drugs.

Even though Congress has refused to go along with Administration proposals to cut back yet further on Medicare services, the Executive Council noted that the program now covers "less than half the health cost burden on the older population."

The council report includes a description of the pension reform law enacted last year, which included requirements for vesting of pension rights and insurance that earned benefits will not be lost if an employer goes out of business.

Another section of the report discussed the problems of aging and of living on greatly reduced incomes.

High unemployment has been a particular burden on workers too young to retire but too old to compete efficiently in a "youth-oriented business world," the council said.

While the "real solution" is full employment, the nation's social insurance programs must be improved to more effectively cope with "this growing social problem," the report declared.

Local Unions Affiliate With Internationals

San Francisco—Thirty union locals directly affiliated with the AFL-CIO chose to join national and international unions in the two years since the last convention.

As of June 30, there were 144 directly affiliated locals with a membership of 51,821.

Over the past two years, nine locals with a combined membership of 407 disbanded, one local disaffiliated and two locals merged. But 29 new charters were issued to locals that had been affiliated with the Brewery Workers before the parent union merged with the Teamsters and lost its AFL-CIO affiliation.

Under action taken by the Executive Council on July 30, 1975, the minimum membership dues for directly affiliated local unions was set at $6 a month.

The total membership in directly affiliated locals was down 3,140 over the two years and more than 10,000 below four years ago. The council report noted that "the desire of the local union membership for active participation in the affairs of a national or international union having activities and industry jurisdiction similar to theirs" was the motivation for the shift in affiliation.

Currently there are 50 state central bodies, one commonwealth central body and 749 local central bodies. The number of local AFL-CIO councils was 14 higher than two years ago.

Meany Scores Ford's Policy Failures

Warns U.S. Economic Weakness Poses 'Prescription for Disaster'

(Continued from Page 1)
of the Federal Reserve Board.

Citing Burns's present proposals at the University of Georgia that would wipe out the unemployment insurance system and put people to work at below minimum wage levels, Meany charged that he "wants to destroy all the social gains of the past 40 years" to move the country back to the days of McKinley.

Given Burns's approach and the policies of the Administration, Meany said "there is no indication that Mr. Ford will take any action designed to put America back to work—real work—real production that could mean recovery."

Meany noted that in two months the AFL-CIO will "reach the end of its 20th year" and said that American labor has played a major role in the progress the nation has made over those decades.

He stressed to the applauding delegates that "everything in this world that affects the life, liberty and happiness is the business of the American trade union movement," and that the "AFL-CIO will continue to be heard speaking for the ordinary, everyday American on all matters that directly or indirectly affect the character and quality of American life."

The federation president pointed out that the "world in which we live has changed drastically in the last 20 years," with the emergence of new independent countries who unfortunately in too many cases have come under the control of petty dictators and assorted strongmen who have "turned their backs on the democratic process—on the democratic values they had proclaimed in their struggle for independence."

Chairmen Listed for 11th Convention

San Francisco — The following is a list of committee chairmen for the AFL-CIO's 11th convention here:

Credentials — Vice President Frederick O'Neal, Actors & Artistes.

Rules — Vice President Richard F. Walsh, Stage Employes.

Resolutions — Vice President I. W. Abel, Steelworkers.

Constitution — Vice President Al H. Chesser, United Transportation Union.

Executive Council Report — Vice President S. Frank Raftery, Painters.

Education—Vice President Martin J. Ward, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters.

Labels — Vice President Joseph D. Keenan, IBEW.

State & Local Bodies—Vice President Lee W. Minton, Glass Bottle Blowers.

Appeals—Walter J. Burke, Steelworkers.

But the major problem in the world is the rise of the military power of the Communist world, so that it is no longer possible to speak confidently of the United States as the "world's strongest military power."

"I would feel a lot safer," Meany declared, "if we were number one—and not the Soviet Union. American military weakness does not make any contribution to peace," he said.

The shift in the balance of power to the Soviets stems from the Nixon-Ford policy of detente, Meany stressed, spelling out in detail the "fruits of detente" in North Vietnam, Cambodia, Egypt and Syria, the Arab States, Portugal, India, North Korea, Thailand and the United Nations, all areas in which the Soviets have increased their control and neither honored nor even recognized their agreement with the United States in 1972 on detente.

The fruits of detente "have been so bitter" Meany said, that a growing number of Americans are beginning to wonder "whether we have been on the right track. More and more of our citizens are raising questions about the efficacy of a foreign policy based on unilateral concessions to the Soviet Union."

Meany opened his address recalling that two years ago the AFL-CIO convened during the constitutional crisis that culminated in the resignation of President Nixon and that during the convention the AFL-CIO called on Nixon to resign or be impeached.

No one at that convention relished the idea of forcing an American President to leave office by impeachment or resignation, Meany said, but the AFL-CIO accepted the responsibility in face of the need to remove a President "who had betrayed the nation's trust."

On Ford, he said "it is not enough to have a nice guy in the White House. It is not enough to get a new leading man—if the play is no good. You have got to write a new script—and you have to get a whole new cast of characters."

And dealing with the economic policies of the Administration and the claim that the economy is coming out of the recession, Meany said: "Well, maybe recovery is on the way for the corporations and the banks—but it is certainly not on the way for the millions of unemployed. You know, there is something cockeyed about this whole picture. They are telling the workers of this nation that they must tolerate high unemployment for the next five years in order to fight inflation and—at the same time—they are proposing actions that will undoubtedly raise prices even higher than they are today.

"Practically everything the Administration does—in the name of fighting inflation — makes inflation worse. Then, they turn around and use inflation as an argument in favor of continuing high unemployment."

CONVENTION OF Union Label & Service Trades Dept. marked the retirement of Edward P. Murphy, left, as the department's secretary-treasurer. Earl D. McDavid succeeds him.

Drive Pushed to Block Cutoff of Food Stamps

The AFL-CIO called on its state and local leaders to help counter a "concerted, coordinated attack" being waged against the food stamp program by a number of Ford Administration officials and congressional conservatives.

"The attack uses half-truths and outright lies to picture food stamps as a runaway program replete with abuses and cheating," AFL-CIO President George Meany warned in a letter to the heads of state and city AFL-CIO central labor bodies.

"This campaign's real target is to cut unemployed, striking and low-wage workers from food stamp benefits," he said.

A bill introduced by New York's conservative Sen. James L. Buckley would cut at least half of the present food stamp recipients from the program, Meany said.

"Workers who went on strike, quit a job without good cause or refused to scab when sent to a struck plant would be ineligible for food stamps and so would their families. Many unemployed or retired workers would have to dispose of their homes and cars before they could qualify. The value of their furniture and their families' clothing would be assessed and some of these belongings might have to be sold," Meany said.

He termed the attack on food stamps "part and parcel of the campaign which the Ford Administration and other rightwingers are waging against workers. First, they prevent the enactment of job-creation legislation. Second, they promote policies which sharply increase food and energy costs. Third, they seek to starve the jobless and the working poor by knocking them off food stamps."

Meany urged letters to congressmen and senators in opposition to the Buckley bill and similar bills in the House. And he asked expressions of support for H.R. 7887, a bill reported by the House Agriculture Committee, which would prevent "the long delays for food stamp certification to which unemployed workers in many areas are forced to endure."

Consumer Safeguards Remain Short of Needs

San Francisco—Some progress toward protecting American consumers and improving their position in the market place has been made in recent years, but much remains to be done, the AFL-CIO Executive Council reported to the federation's 11th convention.

"With worker purchasing power severely cut back by high unemployment and large-scale price inflation, the need for fair dealing in the market place is more acute than ever," the council declared.

"Workers' families cannot afford the costs associated with such practices as non-competitive pricing, inadequate labeling, unsafe or defective products, credit gouging, fraudulent or deceptive sales tactics and exorbitant insurance charges."

The insurance industry collects more than $100 billion in premiums annually, the council noted, and has a major impact on consumers; yet it is not regulated by the federal government and state regulation has proved totally inadequate.

Since the last convention, progress has been made in the areas of product warranties and credit, the council observed. It cited the Moss-Magnuson law that provides minimum federal standards on consumer product warranties and strengthens the powers of the Federal Trade Commission in consumer protection.

The Federal Depository Institutions Act amendments of 1974 set up rules for fair billing practices and established new rights for credit-card holders. The amendments also prohibit credit discrimination on the basis of marital status or sex.

The council drew attention to areas where special consumer problems exist: computerized checkout stands at supermarkets and the removal of price labels from consumer products; so-called fair trade laws in states that allow manufacturers to set minimum prices for resale of brand-name products.

Senate Cuts Coverage Under Job Safety Law

(Continued from Page 1)
25 was the target sought by the employer groups. The Senate has refused to go along, and no curtailment ever became law.

This year, the House voted decisively against weakening enforcement in establishments with 25 or fewer workers, and pro-employer senators did not even try for the higher exemption.

Their first move, proposed by Sen. Carl Curtis (R-Neb.) was to exclude establishments with five or fewer workers. This motion, which would have affected an estimated 6.5 million workers, lost in a 44-44 tie vote.

Curtis picked up his needed votes when he dropped the exclusion to three or fewer workers, denying protection to about 4 million persons. **(Rollcall on Page 5)**

Another Senate-added amendment that the AFL-CIO is seeking to defeat in the final version of the bill would place a $50 limit on fines that could be levied on an employer if, on a first visit, an inspector finds safety violations that do not pose a risk of death or serious injury.

Price controls on about two-thirds of oil produced in the United States were temporarily reinstated under a truce worked out between Congress and the White House. A bill passed by one-sided votes of both the House and Senate and signed by President Ford reinstates controls until Nov. 15. The intent is to allow more time for Congress and the President to seek agreement on long-range energy policy.

5% Ceiling Imposed on Federal Pay

(Continued from Page 1)

The House voted 278-123 not to take up a resolution disapproving the 5 percent curb. Earlier, the Senate had refused by a 53-39 vote to block Ford's pay-cutting action.

A major factor in the votes was the action of Congress earlier this year in tying its own pay raises to the federal employee formula. A member of Congress voting to give federal employes their full raise was in effect taking the political risk of also voting himself a larger pay raise.

In an effort to overcome this political handicap, the American Federation of Government Employees urged that the House first be allowed to vote on a bill that would hold congressional and judicial pay raises to the 5 percent limit without prejudicing the increases for rank-and-file federal workers. But the bill failed to get out of the House Post Office & Civil Service Committee, and Ford's pay raise ceiling prevailed.

Federal Tax Services Rated Best in Poll

The federal government provides the more services for the tax dollar than state and local governments, according to a public opinion survey conducted last May for the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

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Convention Maps Program For New, 'Viable' America

AFL-CIO News

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THREE OF THE FOUR new vice presidents elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council meet with Federation President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. From left, are Kirkland, President Hal C. Davis of the Musicians, Meany, President Clyde M. Webber of the Government Employees and President Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers. The fourth, President Edward T. Hanley of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees, was not present because of a leg injury.

Attacks Job Crisis, Weakness Abroad

By Saul Miller

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO has turned its full energy and resources to the job of "recreating a viable, progressive America" based on new policies and leadership.

The federation's 11th convention here looked back briefly at the 20 years of the existence of the AFL-CIO and plunged into the task of working out solutions to the immediate problems facing the nation and the world.

The nearly 900 delegates spelled out the programs and policies in adopting 133 resolutions, making clear their positive reactions to a handful of speeches sharply critical of the Ford Administration, re-electing the federation's leaders, adding four new vice presidents, and strengthening its financial base.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, elected to his 11th term and hailed in a special resolution for his forceful and courageous leadership, told the delegates that the labor movement will play a major role in putting "this specter of unemployment behind us and that once again we will be producing for the benefit of all America and that by producing, by recreating a viable, progressive America, we will again play our part as a leading nation of the free world."

Meany said "I would be less than human if I did not look back after 20 years of merger . . . with some little degree of satisfaction." There were difficult times and difficult decisions to make but all the decisions were "based on the sound, solid trade union philosophy that we would do what we thought was best for the great mass of American workers that we represent."

From the opening keynote address by Meany assailing Ford as a "nice guy" who is "still playing by the old Nixon script" that has brought America to the brink of disaster at home and weakness abroad, the convention's four days were filled with attacks on Administration policies in scores of resolutions, by floor speakers and by four Democratic senators.

Most of the resolutions reaffirmed AFL-CIO policies designed to create full employment, improve the standard of living of American workers, initiate new and badly needed programs for health care, safety, welfare, child care and social services and to protect workers from unemployment and as consumers and citizens. They reaffirmed also the federation's concern with freedom in the world and the fate of workers and free unions in the face of rising totalitarianism and a decline in democratic governments.

In all, the delegates disposed of a total of 266 resolutions plus additional supplemental reports from the Executive Council. In addition to the 133 resolutions adopted, they referred 41 to the new Executive Council for further consideration, nonconcurred in four, took no action on one and covered 87 in the ones adopted.

The convention gave special emphasis to immediate problems of a fair deal for farm workers, renewing the AFL-CIO commitment to the UFW and pledging whatever assistance is necessary to enable the union to regain its role as bargaining agent for the nation's agricultural workers.

It spelled out its concern for an end to all discrimination against women in the work place and stressed the need for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, moving also to strengthen AFL-CIO

(Continued on Page 3)

Teamsters Role Condemned:

All Possible Support Sought For Cause of Farm Workers

By James M. Shevis

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO renewed its commitment to the United Farm Workers, pledging whatever assistance is necessary to enable the UFW to regain its rightful place as bargaining agent for the nation's agricultural workers.

In a special resolution adopted at the federation's 11th convention here, the AFL-CIO held up the Farm Workers' struggle as a priority concern of the entire labor movement and urged its affiliates to lend all possible aid to the union in the current phase of its fight for survival.

"I ask that everybody do everything they possibly can to assist the Farm Workers in this struggle," President George Meany said.

"The fight that the Farm Workers are engaged in is a fight against the organized financial structure that is backed by the agricultural industry in this state—the very wealthiest, perhaps, in the nation—combined with the organization that calls itself a union, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters."

Approved unanimously by the 900 convention delegates, the resolution pointedly called upon state officials to live up to their legal and moral obligations to assure that the intent of California's new representation elections law "is honored in fact and in practice."

The law, which took effect Aug. 28, is the first of its kind in the nation. It spells out the rights of California's 250,000 agricultural workers to bargain collectively through a union of their choice.

UFW President Cesar Chavez, appearing before the convention, accused the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board of lax and questionable actions that have served to frustrate the law's purpose. The CALRB administers the law and supervises the elections now being held throughout the state.

The UFW had great expectations about the new farm labor law, Chavez noted, "but in recent days things have gone not so well." He charged that CALRB General Counsel Walter Kintz has been unwilling to move against a conspiracy of the growers and the Teamsters to thwart the statute's intent.

"There has been a lot of incompetence on the part of the staff of that board," Chavez declared.

(Continued on Page 16)

Major Areas Swamped With High Joblessness

By John R. Oravec

Ninety percent of the nation's 150 major job centers were swamped last month by jobless rates ranging from 6 percent to more than 21 percent, the highest area count of "substantial" joblessness since the Labor Dept. began collecting such data in 1955.

The addition of Washington, D.C., and Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Portsmouth, Va., increased the list of key labor areas with "substantial" unemployment to 135. There were only 51 major areas on the list in September 1974.

The Labor Dept. figures showed 57 major areas with unemployment rates of 10 percent or higher, and nine others with jobless rates exceeding 15 percent.

There also were 906 smaller areas affected by either "substantial" or "persistent" unemployment last month for a total of 1,041 on the list of hard-hit job centers.

Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. reported that the nation's overall jobless rate edged down in September one-tenth of 1 percent to 8.3 percent, although the number of workers with jobs and the number of

(Continued on Page 16)

Full Union Rights Asked For All Public Employes

By David L. Perlman

San Francisco—Public employes should have the same collective bargaining rights as all other workers, including the right to strike, the AFL-CIO said.

The convention unanimously backed legislation sponsored by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) to extend the protections of the National Labor Relations Act to public employes.

It also specifically affirmed the right of all workers to strike—in the public as in the private sector.

Delegates rejected by a big margin an amendment that sought to substitute "binding arbitration for public safety personnel" as an alternative to giving fire fighters and police the right to strike.

The amendment, proposed by President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees, led to the sharpest debate of the convention. Other unions—including the Fire Fighters, who would be most directly affected—vigorously objected. They warned against putting the AFL-CIO on record as advocating compulsory arbitration for

(Continued on Page 13)

WORN-OUT POLICIES of the Nixon Administration that President Ford continues to espouse are assailed by AFL-CIO President George Meany in his keynote address to the federation's 11th biennial convention in San Francisco.

Delegates Re-Elect Top Officers, Name Four New Vice Presidents

San Francisco—Four new members were elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council to replace vice presidents who retired. The 11th convention also unanimously re-elected AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and 27 council members to new two-year terms.

The four new members of the council are Sol C. Chaikin, president of the Ladies' Garment Workers; Hal C. Davis, president of the Musicians; Edward T. Hanley, president of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees; Clyde M. Webber, president of the Government Employees.

Leaving the council were Richard F. Walsh of the Stage Employes, Lee W. Minton of the Glass Bottle Blowers, Louis Stulberg of the ILGWU and Alexander J. Rohan of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union. They were all presidents emeritus of their unions.

Chaikin, 57, born in New York City, succeeded Stulberg as president of the ILGWU earlier this year. He joined the union as an organizer in 1940 after graduating from law school and served in New England, Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. In 1959 he became associate director of the Northeast Dept., was elected a vice president in 1965 and secretary-treasurer of the union in 1973.

Davis, 61, was born in Pittsburgh and began his professional career there in 1930 as a percussionist and staff musician on KDKA, the nation's first radio station. He served for 22 years as president of the Pittsburgh AFM local and seven years on the international executive board. He was elected president of the AFM in 1970. He serves also as president of the Inter-American Federation of Entertainment Workers and vice president of the AFL-CIO Council of Professional Employees.

Hanley, 43, is a native of Chicago who became a professional bartender in 1955 and an officer of Local 278 in 1961 and president of the Chicago Joint Executive Board. He was elected a vice president of the international union in 1968 and in 1973 succeeded Ed S. Miller as president of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees. In 1974 he was named co-chairman of the International Union of Food Services.

Webber, 56, a native of Odgen, Utah, was elected a national vice president of the Government Employees while working for the U.S. Dept. of Labor in the western district and was named executive vice president in 1966 serving fulltime in Washington. He succeeded John Griner as president in 1972 and was elected to a full two-year term in 1974. Webber serves on the Federal Pay Council and the Prevailing Wage Advisory Committee.

Re-elected to the council as vice presidents of the AFL-CIO were Joseph D. Keenan, Paul Hall, I. W. Abel, Hunter P. Wharton, Paul Jennings, Max Greenberg, John H. Lyons, A. F. Grospiron, Matthew Guinan, C. L. Dennis, Peter Bommarito, Peter Fosco, Thomas W. Gleason, Frederick O'Neal, Floyd E. Smith, Jerry Wurf, S. Frank Raftery, James T. Housewright, George Hardy, Al H. Chesser, Martin J. Ward, William Sidell, Murray H. Finley, Joseph P. Tonelli, Albert Shanker, Sol Stetin, C. L. Dellums, Francis S. Filbey, Glenn E. Watts.

Vice Presidents elected for their first full terms are Dellums, Filbey and Watts.

The convention referred to the incoming Executive Council two resolutions dealing with racial and sex composition of the council. One of the resolutions called for appointment of minority groups and women representatives. The resolutions committee report recommending referral said it believes that all members of the council represent all members of federation affiliates and that no single member or group of members represents any minority or class of members, but that the issues raised by the resolutions deserve careful consideration and review by the council.

Labor Opposes Plan To Dismantle GI Bill

San Francisco—The nation's obligations to its veterans must be fulfilled, the AFL-CIO declared as it called on Congress to enact programs "to help veterans help themselves and to assist those who cannot."

The federation's convention stressed its opposition to proposals for the termination of the GI Bill as a readjustment program for veterans. Such proposals began to blossom with the end of the Vietnam war.

"The readjustment format may be no longer viable with the implementation of the all-volunteer military service," the AFL-CIO resolution noted, "but we are hesitant to endorse the perfunctory dismantling of this, the longest standing and one of the nation's most successful, federal aid to education programs.

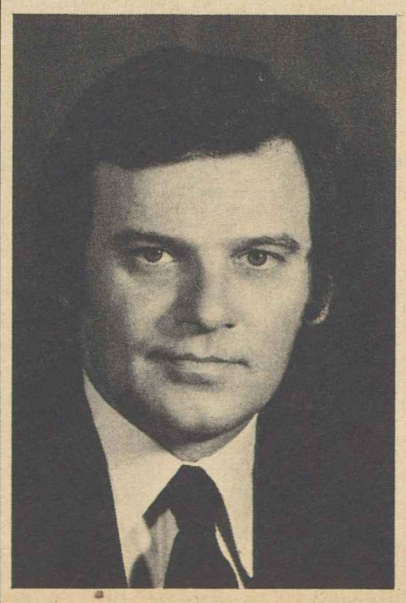
"To do this would be to summarily disregard the vast social benefits achieved as a result of this landmark educational effort."

The resolution recommended a congressionally-authorized study by the Office of Education to examine current veterans programs in light of today's realities.

To reverse the "unconscionable" high jobless rate among Vietnam era veterans, the AFL-CIO will seek enactment by Congress of job-creating legislation and full funding of all federal manpower programs, the resolution said.

The federation also pledged to seek improvements in educational benefits for veterans, including a system of variable tuition assistance to end the geographical discrimination against veterans in states with high-cost educational systems.

In addition, the AFL-CIO urged Congress to increase the medical care budget of the Veterans Administration so as to adequately assure the best health care for all veterans.



EDWARD T. HANLEY

ERA Support Cited:

New Efforts Pledged For Women's Rights

By Rex Hardesty

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO convention pledged a continued fight for women's rights in the workplace, including passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and an end to wage differentials based on sex.

The convention adopted a six-part program calling for full participation of women in union activity, equal opportunity in the workplace, and fully adequate child care legislation in addition to passage of ERA and further bargaining gains.

Besides abolition of wage differentials, the bargaining section also called for continued emphasis on sickness and accident benefits for pregnancy and maternity leave paid on the same basis as any other disability; job posting and upgrading and expansion to include men under state laws that now protect only women.

In other actions related to women's rights, the convention amended the AFL-CIO constitution to make clear that women's rights fall within the jurisdiction of the Dept. of Civil Rights in the federation.

It declined formal endorsement of the Coalition of Labor Union Women because of its large number of members from non-affiliated unions and referred to the Executive Council the question of making ratification of ERA a condition for any states considered as sites of future AFL-CIO conventions.

The constitutional change came on a committee recommendation that the change was "to make explicit in the constitution what is now implicit." Thus it added the phrase "because of race, creed, color, sex, national origin or ancestry" to the end of the section outlining the responsibilities of the AFL-CIO Committee on Civil Rights.

The action came in response to a proposal that the AFL-CIO institute a separate standing committee on women's affairs. "It would represent duplication to establish a separate committee on women," the report said.

But in keeping women's rights within civil rights structurally, the committee recommended "that the President of the AFL-CIO expand the Civil Rights Committee by adding persons who are knowledgeable about the problems of women workers."

It also recommended that efforts be continued to encourage full and active participation by women and minorities at all levels of union activities.

The constitution committee recommendation on a stepped-up women's rights program was supported by Vice President Glenn E. Watts, president of the Communications Workers, which sponsored the original resolution on a separate women's department.

Watts told the convention that a moral force for the advancement of women should be added to the structural force and that appeal could more properly be directed to affiliated unions than to the federation itself.

"I think perhaps one ought to be speaking to the individual international unions such as my own rather than to the AFL-CIO itself in this regard," Watts said. "When I say 'us,' I'm talking about those of us who are men in this convention because, to some extent, it is a sad commentary on us that only 22 or 23 delegates to this great convention are women."

Delegate Myra Wolfgang, a vice president of Hotel & Restaurant Employees, termed the convention action a "half a loaf," and pledged that women will continue to be heard from in organizing and other efforts. She urged full participation in the Coalition of Labor Union Women's convention to be held in Detroit Dec. 6-7.

Vice President Frederick O'Neal, chairman of the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee, called on the convention delegates to take full advantage of expanded staff planned for the Dept. of Civil Rights and urged them "to bring us your problems."

The decision to non-concur in formal endorsement of the Coalition of Labor Union Women "in no way should be construed as critical of CLUW," the committee recommendation said, and noted that "CLUW is clearly in the trade union tradition that people with common problems and common goals should work together in a common organization."

At all levels, the AFL-CIO and its affiliates will continue to cooperate with CLUW, the committee said, but noted that CLUW itself had not sought endorsement because it includes many members of non-affiliated organizations, like the Auto Workers.

The convention resolution on women workers cited their continuing growth and influence in the workplace and said "a good union contract is not only the most effective guarantee against economic exploitation, but is also the basis upon which true equality can be built."

The convention recommended ideas for pursuing women's rights, including stepped-up publicity of the AFL-CIO position on the ERA to help gain ratification in the four states still needed for the required total of 38.

Role of Unions Cited in Shift To Metric Rule

San Francisco—Full labor participation is going to be needed to protect workers' rights on the various boards overseeing conversion to the metric system, the AFL-CIO convention pointed out.

A resolution on metrics described as imminent legislation that would set up conversion under a U.S. Metric Board, and it urged labor cooperation with the board at all levels.

The convention noted that the recommendation "to let costs lie where they fall," which labor considers unfair to workers who would have to provide their own tools, has been removed in the new legislation. And the process of conversion would have a timetable only on the research and recommendations of the board, not on fixed deadlines for complete U.S. conversion to the metric system.

Consequently, the resolution said, it is doubly important that labor stay in touch with the various federal and state agencies so that apprenticeship programs and similar work-related groups have a full voice and are amply protected in the transition period.

Convention Tackles Critical U.S. Needs

Asks New Policies, Leadership To Restore Progress to Nation

(Continued from Page 1)

machinery to give it new emphasis for combating discrimination based on sex.

It remembered and paid homage to the man who helped make community services an integral part of the labor movement by presenting the Murray-Green Award to the late Joseph A. Beirne who chaired the federation's Community Services Committee for many years and was the first trade union leader to head the United Way.

Five members of the Administration addressed the convention: Defense Sec. James Schlesinger, Labor Sec. John Dunlop, UN Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan, Chairman Betty Southard Murphy of the National Labor Relations Board and Mediation Director W. J. Usery. They dealt with the various problems of their agencies—Schlesinger on the need for a fully funded national defense program; Dunlop on the need to preserve free collective bargaining; Moynihan on the decline of democracy around the world; Murphy on speeding NLRB procedures and Usery on the critical role of mediation in settling disputes.

Three fraternal delegates led by Shirley G. E. Carr of the Canadian Labor Congress brought reports from the trade union movements in Canada and Great Britain, with Mrs. Carr stressing the need for international free trade union cooperation in terms of the growth and spread of multinational corporations.

The multinational and international trade problems received detailed attention from the convention with a warning that the job loss due to trade policies that have occurred in manufacturing and maritime industries is now spreading to service industries as well. It pointed out as well the inroads that the multinationals are making in taking over American firms.

The problems of the maritime and construction industries were dealt with in a series of specific resolutions along with policies developed to deal with the railroads and public employes.

The convention strongly supported full collective bargaining rights for public employes, including the right to strike.

The delegates expressed their concern with the need for a comprehensive energy program based on elimination of American dependence on imported oil and conservation and conversion of domestic resources and adopted a policy statement on the need to assure a reliable supply of raw materials to prevent possible future embargoes of other nations.

In the political field, the convention called for an all-out effort to hold the gains of 1974 and to help build a COPE organization in every local union to help achieve the needed change in policies and leadership.

To strengthen and improve the federation's operations, the delegates unanimously voted to increase per capita payments from 10 to 13 cents per member per month effective Nov. 1, 1975, gave a high priority to increasing local union affiliation with state and local bodies, and backed the concept of a voluntary uniform union label to provide easy recognition of union-made goods and services.

The convention reaffirmed labor's dedication to the "compelling task" of organizing the unorganized and the necessity of dealing with the problems of operating under the National Labor Relations Act as currently constituted. It called for changes in the NLRA to prevent the frustration of the legitimate rights of workers by hardcore anti-union firms such as J. P. Stevens. And it pledged full support of Stevens workers in their fight for a first contract in Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

The convention singled out for attention the use of the Landrum-Griffin Act to harass unions and called for congressional overhaul of the law to prevent unnecessary intrusion into democratic union elections and internal union affairs.

In terms of a recently fought issue, the convention called on Congress to take away the President's power to reduce or delay comparability salary increases for federal workers.

It renewed the AFL-CIO determination to wipe out all forms of discrimination, praised the extension of the voting rights act and warned that seniority is a basic right that should be waived or set aside only on a voluntary basis and with the consent of the workers involved.

The delegates reaffirmed also the nation's obligation to its veterans and opposed proposals to dismantle the GI Bill. It renewed its call for a militarily strong America and, while opposing waste, warned of attempts to cut military spending without reference to the adequacy of the forces needed to meet the real threats to peace.

Labor's special interest in vocational and community college education was underscored in a series of resolutions as was its determination to stand by the AFL-CIO's position on busing to help improve educational opportunity for children as one of a number of methods of achieving that objective.

In a series of resolutions on international affairs the convention assailed the false policy of detente which serves as an inspiration for continued aggression and terrorism. The resolutions singled out troubled spots such as Portugal, the Middle East, India, Chile, Indochina and South Africa and Ireland.

Continued American aid to Israel is critical if the truce between Israel and Egypt is to be meaningful, the convention noted. It urged free elections among all the Irish to resolve the conflict in that country, with British withdrawal before the elections are held.

885 Delegates Set Convention Policies

San Francisco—The decisions of the AFL-CIO's 11th convention were made by 885 delegates representing 105 national and international unions, seven departments, 43 state central bodies, 196 city bodies and 11 directly affiliated local unions.

A large number of alternates attended the sessions along with 173 foreign trade union representatives and visitors from foreign countries. Three fraternal delegates addressed the convention.

The proceedings were covered by 410 representatives of the general and labor press, radio and television, including nine TV crews who filmed and taped the sessions. Reporters filed over 35,000 words as well as phoning or recording stories for radio broadcasts.

ACTION PROPOSALS to the AFL-CIO convention are reviewed by Resolutions Committee Chairman I. W. Abel, left, and Secretary John H. Lyons.

Massive COPE Effort Spurred for '76 Election

San Francisco—Every time labor does well in an election, it puts on more pressure to hold those gains in the next election, the AFL-CIO convention declared in calling for an all-out political effort for 1976.

The convention urged creation of a COPE committee in every local, a minimum goal of at least $2 from every member and immediate enactment of the mail registration law in order to have the maximum number of voters registered for the 1976 election.

"The successes in 1974 elections created problems," the convention said in a resolution on political activities. "Chief among them is the need to retain the many congressional districts that switched from conservative to progressive in the last election."

It was reported to the convention that labor-endorsed candidates had the highest winning percentage ever in the 1974 elections, with 321 victories out of 455 endorsements. That's a 70 percent overall mark, surpassing labor's previous high of 67.8 percent in 1964.

But it was also noted that the conditions of 1974 were extraordinary—"widespread citizen disgust over Watergate, deep anxiety over jobs, inflation and the health of the economy."

Without all those factors future elections will be tougher, the convention warned, and it urged further refinement in labor's political efforts, including cooperation with the voter registration efforts of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

A separate resolution on those allied groups had high praise for their efforts and credited them with a major role in the 1974 election successes.

"The result of their activity was evident the day after the 1974 elections when labor's endorsed candidates enjoyed a high percentage of victories at the polls," the resolution said. "Truly, civil rights can best be fulfilled through the ballot box and the union card."

Similarly, the resolution on mail registration pointed out that in the last presidential election in 1972, fully 37 percent of eligible Americans did not vote.

Voter participation would be greatly increased by a system where those qualified to vote could register by filling out a simple form and mailing it in, the convention said.

It termed U.S. voter turnouts "shocking" compared with other western democracies and pointed out that those who did not vote in previous elections are numerous enough to provide the margin of victory in any election.

UN Measures Asked to Solve Irish Conflict

San Francisco—Final resolution of the conflict in Northern Ireland should come through free elections among all the Irish, not just the six northern counties, the AFL-CIO convention said.

Before those elections are held, the British ought to get out, delegates said, and afterward the United Nations ought to conduct a constitutional convention to provide for laws assuring the civil and religious liberty of all the people of the nation.

That's presuming the Irish would vote for an independent republic again, as they did in 1918, it was noted.

The convention resolution noted seven years of tragic warfare in the north of Ireland and continued infringement of civil liberties while British troops are present.

"The presence of British troops in Northern Ireland has not only failed to secure the peace but has widened the areas of bloodshed," the resolution said in calling for their replacement by a UN peacekeeping force.

Delegates Vote 3¢ Hike In AFL-CIO Per Capita

San Francisco—An increase in the per capita tax paid by unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO from 10 to 13 cents per member per month was adopted unanimously by the 11th convention.

The convention acted on the recommendation of the Executive Council and a report by the Committee on Constitution. The committee pointed out the council's projection that the federation will run a deficit of the last six months of 1975 and that the deficit will increase in succeeding years because of higher operating costs and repayment of funds used for construction.

The new per capita will become effective Nov. 1, 1975.

The council's recommendation was based on a detailed review of the federation's finances by a committee of Vice Presidents I. W. Abel, Al H. Chesser, John L. Lyons and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

The convention also adopted unanimously a committee recommendation to correct an inequity in vested pension protection for the federation's executive officers. The two officers, alone among those in an elected or staff position are without such protection, the committee said in suggesting a change in the language in the first sentence of Article V Section 9 to read:

"The president and secretary-treasurer of the federation or either of them may retire after having served five years as an executive officer of the federation, and either having rached age 65 or having served a total of 20 years."

Job Protection, Funds Urged for Handicapped

San Francisco — Full protection of the physically handicapped in both getting a job and holding it was urged by the AFL-CIO convention.

The convention called on all affiliates to include protection for handicapped workers in their collective bargaining contracts and to continue the fight to get full funding and effectiveness from existing legislation to protect the handicapped.

Federal Weight Law Sought on Big Trucks

San Francisco—A federal law on weight limits for trucks on U.S. highways was called for by the AFL-CIO convention to stop damage to the nation's highways, remove a serious safety hazard and stop the loss of jobs from illegal overloading.

Independent trucking contractors have been overloading oil and gasoline trucks, the resolution said, and the various legal weight limits in the 50 states make it virtually impossible for state police to stop the illegal practice.

Labor's Role In Bicentennial Spelled Out

San Francisco—A program to make the bicentennial year a "memorable one for American workers and their families" was outlined by the AFL-CIO convention.

The convention urged all affiliates and state and local central bodies to participate in bicentennial projects around the country to help tell labor's story during the celebrations.

At the convention, AFL-CIO President George Meany was presented with a replica of the Liberty Bell, cast in the same London foundry as the original and scaled to one-fifth the original size. AFL-CIO Vice President Glenn E. Watts, head of the Communications Workers, made the presentation to Meany, who said the replica will be displayed in the lobby of the AFL-CIO building.

The bicentennial resolution noted that labor's participation began on Labor Day 1975 with a "Salute to Labor" show by performing arts unions in Washington, D.C., and will close in Philadelphia on Labor Day 1976 with a live exhibit of workers' skills.

The live, working displays will also be part of labor's celebration across the country, including a 12-week long show in Washington, D.C., next summer.

Other activities cited by the convention include:

- Promotion of a labor history exhibit depicting the history of American working people by making copies of it available for regional festivals.
- Sponsorship of the American Issues Forum as part of national discussion on a variety of topics.
- Participation in the Bicentennial Youth Debates program built around the same topics as the issues forum.

REPLICA OF THE LIBERTY BELL in Philadelphia is presented to President George Meany in recognition of labor's bicentennial year activities. Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts, an AFL-CIO vice president, made the presentation at the federation's convention in San Francisco. Commissioned by CWA, the bell was cast at London's White Chapel Foundry where the original Liberty Bell was made in 1753.

Changes Pressed to End Labor Law Weaknesses

San Francisco—Organized labor must devote all of its resources to achieving changes in the National Labor Relations Act that protect and advance the right of workers to form and join unions and bargain collectively, the AFL-CIO declared.

In a convention resolution the federation charged that today both the NLRA and its administration frustrate the legitimate rights of workers.

"Some employers, exemplified particularly by companies like J. P. Stevens and Florida Steel, still engage in massive violations of our labor laws as a matter of company policy and as a way of life," the resolution declared.

"These hard-core employers flout the national labor policy by firing, intimidating, coercing and discriminating against their employes who seek to exercise their rights guaranteed by federal law."

The AFL-CIO charged that excessive delays between the time a complaint is filed and a decision is issued by the National Labor Relations Board constitute one major stumbling block for workers.

"Delay is the basic weapon of the employers who oppose organization by any and every means," the resolution noted. "These employers know that representation delayed is representation denied."

Another major obstacle is that the NLRB's remedies for employer unfair labor practices are "totally inadequate," the resolution charged.

After more than 40 years of purported protection under the NLRA, "there is not presently any effective and timely remedy to counter an employer who discriminatorily discharges an employe to discourage membership in a union, or who engages in an unlawful refusal to bargain," the convention observed.

Noting that legislation is being considered to overcome the problems of delay and broaden remedies, the resolution urged all affiliated unions of the AFL-CIO to provide it with documented information of maladministration of the federal labor law. In turn, it noted, the AFL-CIO would file its report with the House Labor subcommittee headed by Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.) which has announced oversight and legislative hearings.

NLRB Chairman Cites Delays as Key Problem

San Francisco—Speedy resolution of disputes between labor and management continues to be the number one problem of the National Labor Relations Board, its chairman told the 11th convention of the AFL-CIO here.

But Betty Southard Murphy, head of the NLRB since last February, told delegates the board is trying to do something about this "distressful" problem. She said the problem is being attacked from several different directions:

- A high-level committee within the agency is seeking ways to reduce case-handling time without sacrificing due process or quality.

"Due to budget constraints, new jurisdictions and an increase in caseload, the processing time all along the pipeline has increased," she reported.

- A "crash" program to recruit qualified administrative law judges is under way.
- The board is looking at its own rules and regulations to update and streamline them "to keep abreast of the times."

Mrs. Murphy said she will appoint a task force composed of lawyers from labor, management, academia and the public who are experienced in the complexities of collective bargaining and the need for the swift resolution of disputes.

Despite the board's tremendous problems, she said its overall record still is outstanding for a federal agency. Over 80 percent of the unfair labor charges filed in the field are resolved within two months, she noted, and in 1974 the various appeals courts affirmed NLRB decisions in 86 percent of the cases.

Only 1.4 percent of all cases filed with the NLRB ever get to the courts, Mrs. Murphy said.

Noting the board was marking its 40th anniversary, she observed that it has handled more than 840,000 cases of all types during its history.

But, she noted, the legislative base for its operations — the National Labor Relations Act — "will only work if it gets results" and if disputes are resolved reasonably quickly.

BETTY S. MURPHY

Workmen's Circle Saluted on 75th Year

San Francisco — The AFL-CIO convention saluted the Workmen's Circle's 75th anniversary and voted continued support of the mutual aid society.

The resolution cited Workmen's Circle's record since 1900 in standing "consistently with the American labor movement in its social, economic and political efforts."

$20 Billion Potential:

Loopholes Assailed In Tax Justice Plank

San Francisco—A comprehensive program of tax justice would help finance needed government programs and restore fairness to a system that is now rigged against wage earners, the AFL-CIO said.

A convention resolution outlined a loophole-closing program that could raise up to $20 billion a year. It would have an important byproduct, the convention said, by serving to "rebuild public confidence in government and the economy."

The AFL-CIO firmly rejected "the spurious notions being fostered by the Administration . . . that a severe capital shortage is developing and that tax measures should be enacted to reduce personal consumption and increase the funds available for business investment in plants and machines."

Such a "trickle-down" economic theory would "further hamstring the federal government's ability to meet the nation's essential public investment needs," the federation said.

While the AFL-CIO has shown its willingness to support tax incentives for a specific industry based on "a documented demonstration of need," the resolution stressed that there should be no "across-the-board" business investment tax breaks.

The tax justice resolution reiterated the labor movement's program to take the "special privileges" out of the tax system and "help restore the balance needed to permit the nation to recover from the present economic crisis in a suitable fashion."

Its principal features include:

- Taxing profits from sales of stocks or property at the same rate as earned income, instead of the half-rate for capital gains.
- Ending the tax subsidies for the overseas operations of U.S.-based multinational corporations. Specifics include elimination of the tax credit allowed for payments to foreign countries, an end to the deferral privilege which allows multinationals to postpone indefinitely payment of taxes on earnings of foreign subsidiaries, and elimination of the Domestic International Sales Corp. (DISC), which the resolution termed a revenue-losing "gimmick."
- Winding down "as soon as the present emergency situation is over" the investment tax credit for business which currently cuts revenue more than $8 billion a year. The convention also asked repeal of the depreciation speed-up enacted in 1971, which costs about $1.5 billion a year in lost taxes.
- Reforming the federal estate and gift-tax system.
- Dropping all special tax privileges, such as depriciation allowance and intangible drilling costs, for oil, gas and mineral industries.
- Ending the corporate surtax exemption that taxes the first $50,000 of business profits at a low rate.
- **Taxing interest income from state and local bonds in full. By providing a federal subsidy on interest rates, there would be no loss to cities and states. But the extra federal tax revenue would be greater than the cost of the subsidies.**
- Eliminating the maximum tax provision that provides a special benefit to the highest-paid executives.
- Ending the assortment of tax shelters that give wealthy individuals a tax-deductible paper loss to conceal real profits.

Central Body Affiliations Get High Priority

San Francisco — The AFL-CIO convention put a high priority on increasing local union affiliation with the federation's state and local central bodies.

Increasingly, the resolution noted, translating AFL-CIO policy into action depends on the effectiveness of the federation's central bodies. And affiliation with central bodies "remains at far too low a level" despite improvement in recent years.

An AFL-CIO Executive Council subcommittee is giving major attention to this perennial problem, and the convention called on national and international unions to cooperate with that effort.

The resolution noted approvingly that the new structure of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services has enabled regional directors and their staffs to work more closely with state and local central bodies.

A report by the convention's Committee on State & Local Central Bodies, adopted by the delegates, expressed appreciation to the central bodies for both carrying out national policies and "especially noteworthy" accomplishments in the important area of state legislation.

The committee also recommended reactivation of the Advisory Committee on State & Local Central Bodies by the Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

Dangers to Labor Press Cited as Postal Rates Soar

San Francisco—A projected new round of postage increases for non-profit publications threatens the survival of the labor press, the AFL-CIO warned.

The trade union movement needs the labor press to present its views "in undiluted form," the convention affirmed.

It endorsed the concept of a federal public service subsidy as provided in a bill cleared by the House Post Office Committee. But it said the legislation should specify a share of that subsidy to be used to hold down mailing costs for publications of non-profit organizations.

Some trade union publications have already had to curtail operations because of past postage hikes and other cost increases.

Unless Congress acts to relieve the burden on non-profit publications, the convention said, many more will go under.

Convention Spells Out Plan:

New Full Employment Policy Pressed to Revive Economy

San Francisco—A call for a new national full employment policy highlighted an AFL-CIO convention resolution spelling out a wide-ranging set of proposals to get the economy out of "the most dangerous mess in 40 years" and to head off the threat of another recession.

The recession of 1973-75—"the deepest and most prolonged since the 1930s"—has resulted in the highest unemployment in the post-World War II period, the federation noted. The national economy remains weak and vulnerable to adverse effects of events at home and abroad, it added.

A renewed economic decline could occur because of the tight-money, high-interest rate policies of the Federal Reserve Board, continuing inflation caused by rising fuel and food prices, and termination of the emergency cuts in individual income taxes at the end of 1975, the AFL-CIO warned.

"We need legislation which provides that the President and Congress spell out specific programs to create jobs for every American willing and able to work," the federation declared in one of its proposals for economic recovery.

"At long last we must recognize that in our modern society a worker is entitled to a job as a matter of right and the total society, including government, must assume this responsibility and must guarantee its fulfillment."

In other major proposals, the AFL-CIO urged:

- Extension of the individual income tax cuts through 1976 to prevent a sudden tax increase which would have a depressing effect on the economy.
- Expansion of public-service jobs to help solve the problem of joblessness and meet public needs for improved and enlarged services.
- Revision of the entire structure of the Federal Reserve System.
- Congressional pressure on the Fed to lower interest rates on both long-term and short-term loans and to provide an expanded supply of money and credit to encourage balanced economic growth.
- Appropriation of federal funds for a program of restoring railroad track and roadbeds, using American-made materials.
- Federal aid to cities and states that are hard pressed by high unemployment.
- Elimination of loopholes in the federal tax structure which could raise as much as $20 million a year.
- A national policy to reduce dependence on imported oil and to establish U.S. energy independence.
- A federal program to assure continuation of health insurance for the unemployed who lose their coverage when they lose their jobs.
- Long overdue improvements in the nation's outmoded unemployment insurance system.
- Elimination of tax and other incentives to stop the export of American jobs and undermining of the nation's industrial base.

The resolution also called for a full-scale congressional study of the structure of the American economy. Specifically, the AFL-CIO urged Congress to examine closely such economic developments as business mergers, interlocking relationships among the giant corporations and banks, their domination of key parts of the national economy, their effect on prices and America's position in the world economy, and their impact on American communities and democratic institutions.

The current economic situation is the result of two back-to-back recessions, accompanied by inflationary pressures, that resulted largely from the economic policies of former President Richard Nixon and Chairman Arthur Burns of the Federal Reserve Board, the federation charged.

"These policies remained essentially the same after President Gerald Ford took office," it noted in the resolution.

The resulting outlook is for an "anemic" recovery, with continued high unemployment, large amounts of idle plant capacity, a sluggish pace of productivity improvements and continuing deficits in the federal budget unless the measures advocated by the AFL-CIO are adopted, the resolution said.

The Administration's focus on the budget deficit, rather than on the need to create jobs and stimulate the economy, was sharply criticized by the federation. In a discussion of the resolution, President George Meany accused the Administration of putting dollars ahead of the needs of people.

If budget limitation is to be the policy of the Administration and Congress, Meany warned, "then we are going to have a continuation of these vetoes of job-creating legislation . . . However, I am very hopeful that there is going to be a change in the situation over this Congress, and I think that they are going to turn around to the point where they are going to put people ahead of money."

Noting remarks attributed to President Ford that he would not go for an extension of the income tax cut unless Congress made compensating reductions in the federal budget, Meany said his response to Ford would be: 'Thanks for nothing,' because in the final analysis that means nothing.

"Unless he is willing to temporarily accept a higher budget deficit," Meany declared, "we are not going to solve this unemployment problem."

Full Union Rights Sought for Guards

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO urged Congress to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit plant guards and watchmen to join unions affiliated with the federation. They have been prohibited from doing so since enactment of the Taft-Hartley Act in 1947, a convention resolution noted.

The restriction has hampered the organization of guards, weakened the strength of their unions and kept their wages down, the AFL-CIO charged.

The resolution expressed full support for legislation to correct the injustice sponsored by Sen. Walter Mondale (D-Minn.) and Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.).

Uniform Label Concept Backed by Convention

San Francisco—The 11th AFL-CIO convention here pledged to "work actively toward the achievement of a voluntary uniform union label."

Purpose of the single insignia would be to provide "easy recognition and remembering of the stamp of AFL-CIO approval on goods and services."

A uniform union label has been an objective of many AFL-CIO unions for years. Impetus for adoption of the label has come with the increased flow of imports from low-wage countries which has wiped out American jobs.

"The reversal of this imports flood is vital now to the lives of American workers whose jobs vanish under the burden of imports," the resolution noted.

In a related action, the convention approved a resolution urging AFL-CIO unions to write into their contracts provisions under which employers would supply union-label footwear to those union members whose jobs require them to wear safety or work-type shoes.

The convention also renewed its recommendation that all AFL-CIO affiliated unions encourage their locals to make every possible effort to have goods manufactured and services rendered by their members identified by the union label.

Resolutions also were approved urging all affiliates to participate in the Union-Industries Shows in 1976 and 1977, and officially designating the periods of Sept. 6-12, 1976, and Sept. 5-11, 1977, as Union Label Weeks.

ELEVENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION of the AFL-CIO held at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium drew 885 delegates, representing national and international unions, federation departments, state and local central bodies, and directly affiliated locals.

Convention Hails Meany As Strong Labor Voice

San Francisco—"George Meany has been the most consistant and the most forceful voice demanding policies and programs that will make America a better place for all its citizens," the 11th AFL-CIO convention declared in a resolution expressing labor's profound appreciation and support for his leadership.

Meany's name "has become a symbol in every part of the world," the resolution said, "for the basic philosophy and constructive power of America's free trade union movement."

The statement noted that the past two years has been a period that exacted heavy burdens on trade union members and working people generally. "Day by day week by week, the voice of George Meany has been heard in the land, demanding governmental policies that would end unemployment and curb inflation," the resolution stressed.

California Leaders Cite Labor Progress in State

San Francisco—"You've come to a labor town in a labor state and under the leadership of the AFL-CIO you've come in a labor year."

With these words, California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., welcomed the 900 delegates to the 11th biennial convention of the AFL-CIO. The Civic Auditorium rang with applause as Brown, in office only nine months, ticked off a list of labor bills he has signed into law this year.

Just three days before the convention opened, the governor signed a bill that, starting in January, makes it a crime to import strikebreakers into the state to put down a walkout.

"We also got a bill to stop anti-labor injunctions for the first time in the history of California, to allow peaceful picketing," he noted.

Other labor legislation under Brown's administration includes the state's new farm labor relations law, a collective-bargaining statute for teachers, extension of unemployment insurance and tax reform. But more needs to be done, the governor told the convention.

"We need the economic and political muscle of this great labor organization to face up to the challenges of this country," he said. And he stressed, the first task is to get more jobs for the unemployed.

California has a jobless rate of 10.3 percent of its workforce while the nation's rate has been over 8 percent for nine months in a row.

Also welcoming delegates were San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto, Rep. Philip Burton (D-Calif.), Sec.-Treas. John F. Crowley of the San Francisco Labor Council and Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning of the California State AFL-CIO.

"I welcome you to a city that pays its street sweepers $16,000 a year and is damned proud of it." Alioto said. He described San Francisco as a city that "operates on the simple proposition that the prosperity of working men and working women is absolutely indispensable to the prosperity of the full community."

Burton, who represents the San Francisco area in Congress, said that if his colleagues on Capitol Hill paid more attention to the economic policies of the AFL-CIO, "we wouldn't have this incredible deficit that's now confronting the American people."

Burton, who is chairman of the Democratic congressional caucus, stressed the need for the Democratic Party and its 1976 candidates to keep lines of communication open and to consult with the labor movement.

Restoration of Citizen Rights Asked for Debs

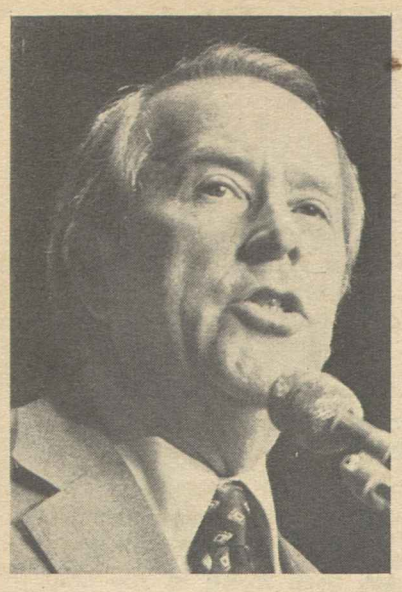
San Francisco—The AFL-CIO alled on Congress to restore full itizenship rights to trade union eader and American Socialist Eugene V. Debs to honor his memory nd the forward-looking principles for which he stood.

Debs, a railway labor leader in the late 19th Century, was convicted of violating a wartime espionage statute during World War I and sentenced to 10 years at hard labor. The resolution adopted by the convention pointed out that at the time there was no suspicion "that he acted for any motive except his belief in our American democracy."

President Harding commuted Debs's sentence after he served almost three years of the term, but did not restore his former rights as a citizen.

The resolution said that Debs employed his "great talents as an organizer and an orator to fight for the eradication of poverty in America, for an end to discrimination, for the eight-hour day and the 40-hour week, for workman's compensation, for social security and for other programs that have since become an essential part of our governmental structure."

Debs has come to symbolize the American tradition "of speaking out for one's beliefs and working to improve our economic and social system so that it will provide equality and justice under law," the resolution said, and therefore urged Congress to honor Debs memory by taking appropriate legislative action to restore full citizenship rights.



SEN. JACKSON

SEN. BAYH

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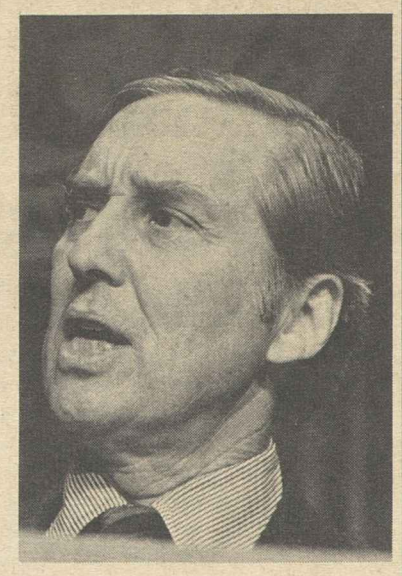

SEN. BENTSEN

Speakers Blister Ford:

4 Senators Link Recovery To Presidential Shift in '76

San Francisco—Only the removal of Gerald Ford from the White House can get America back on the track of economic progress and high employment, four Democratic senators told the AFL-CIO convention.

The four, three of them candidates for the presidency, combined in a blistering attack on the Administration as the father of the faltering economy and the planner of high unemployment.

Two of the senators, Henry M. Jackson of Washington and Lloyd Bentsen of Texas, are announced candidates while Birch Bayh of Indiana is on an "exploratory candidacy."

And the spirited address of the fourth, 1968 Democratic nominee Hubert H. Humphrey, who is on record as "available" to a deadlocked 1976 convention, prompted AFL-CIO President Meany's laughing comment that "it's really too bad that Hubert's not running."

Jackson set the tone for the other three later in the same day when he said officials of the present Administration "don't give a damn about working people. They certainly don't give a damn about the labor movement—they never have."

Jackson said "the twin evils of unemployment and inflation are tearing apart the very fabric of our economic system" and said "we have a do-nothing White House" of government by veto.

He called for a strong program of economic recovery that would provide job creating efforts in housing, developing energy resources, rebuilding the U.S. merchant marine and railroad roadbeds, and making U.S. neighborhoods "safe, clean places to live."

Bentsen said two of the most beguiling lies around today are that America can't have economic growth because it's inflationary or it hurts the environment. "Funny isn't it that people who argue against economic growth are always people who have enough for themselves?" Bensten asked.

Bentsen contrasted GOP attitudes with those of Franklin Roosevelt, who he said "was not wedded to any dogma, but was looking for one thing—programs that worked." He quoted FDR in saying that "men who lack basic necessities are not free men."

He said Ford's veto of the public service employment bill amounted to shortchanging the U.S. Treasury as well as killing 900,000 new jobs. In addition to reinstating that bill, he proposed a program including:

- Extension of the individual income tax cut.
- Investment tax credits, including an employment tax credit to pay employers for creating new jobs.
- Creation of an Educational Savings Plan, through which families could get a tax write-off for investing for their children's education, with the money also available for home mortgages.

Bentsen combined slogans from Samuel Gompers and Lyndon Johnson and said "more—a step up" was what Americans needed.

Bayh attacked the Ford Administration for its negativism and said "we need a President who stops telling us what we can't do, starts telling us what we can do and then provides the leadership." He referred to Vietnam, Watergate, the Nixon pardon and planned recession as sharing a common chord which has produced a spirit of resignation in America.

"Today's loss of confidence does not come from a failure of our political institutions or the weakness of our people—that loss of faith is a direct result of the failure of political leadership," Bayh said.

Mismanagement of the nation in the energy crisis, Bayh said, is typcial of a Ford Administration that must be judged "guilty of being content to merely preside over a nation of nearly 215 million people instead of leading."

Noting that "realistically the days of cheap energy may be gone," Bayh said that was no excuse to accept a policy designed to push energy prices even higher. He proposed a package of energy actions that would counteract the damage done by the Ford Administration.

Humphrey said that under Ford Administration policies, everything that should go up is going down and vice versa. "The problem is President Ford, when he was at Michigan playing football, was a center. And when you play center, you lean over the ball and see the whole world upside down," Humhprey said.

He also tore into Republicans as big defenders of law and order, "yet when they had a grain scandal right under their nose, they couldn't see it." And "they don't see corporate payoffs and the oil company ripoffs," Humphrey said.

To those who say the "old programs don't work anymore" Humphrey countered that "if it weren't for the programs of Roosevelt and Truman, of Kennedy and Johnson, this country would be flat on its back today in a massive depression."

He asserted that not a single Republican voted for social security 40 years ago when the act was passed. "If it wasn't for some of the old stuff like social security, unemployment compensation, aid to dependent children, and yes, even food stamps, some of those stuffed shirts would be out of business today," Humphrey said.

Noting that people call him a "big spender," Humphrey said he is an "investor" who knows better than to let one-third of U.S. industrial capacity lie idle and 8 million Americans remain jobless. He said that's the equivalent of throwing $1.5 trillion in potential tax money down the toilet.

He said there are no longer three branches of government, but four, with the Federal Reserve Board constituting the fourth.

As chairman of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, Humphrey vowed an attempt to remake the board so consumers, labor and small businessmen would be represented instead of having the seven-member board dominated by five bankers.

Broad Programs Pushed To Protect Consumers

San Francisco—A resolution calling for prompt enactment of a bill in Congress to establish an Agency for Consumer Advocacy was approved by delegates to the AFL-CIO convention here.

In addition, Congress was urged to take other steps to protect consumers, including passage of a true no-fault auto insurance measure, repeal of state "fair trade" laws and enactment of a broad range of legislation in the area of consumer credit.

"The sharp erosion in purchasing power and living standards due to recession, unemployment and inflation points directly to the need for substantive action to protect consumers," the AFL-CIO resolution noted.

Because "buyers are largely at the mercy of virtually unregulated insurance companies," the federation urged Congress to remove state prohibitions that inhibit the marketing of group casualty insurance, and it called for a full-scale congressional investigation of the structure of the insurance industry.

The resolution also called for legislation to improve federal powers and procedures to inspect food processing plants and for the establishment of a comprehensive fish inspection program.

The AFL-CIO also declared its support at all levels of government of legislation to require price marking on consumer commodities sold at retail.

"Plans being made to discontinue price marking on individual products, as part of a program for installing computerized checkout stands, threaten serious problems for workers and consumers," the federation observed.

In another resolution approved by the convention, the AFL-CIO called for legislation requiring full disclosure of all types of materials used in the construction of a home, along with a complete itemization of building and construction costs.

The resolution also called for enforcement of building standard codes to the fullest extent "to further insure the consumer of the full value of his investment."

Anti-Union Bias Seen Under Landrum-Griffin

San Francisco—The Landrum-Griffin Act has been used to harass unions, not to protect the legitimate rights of union members, the AFL-CIO charged.

A convention resolution called on Congress "to overhaul the Landrum-Griffin Act in such a way as to prevent unnecessary intrusion into democratic union elections and internal union affairs."

And it demanded a change in the "hostile administration" of the law by the Dept. of Labor.

The members of Congress who wrote such costly and cumbersome requirements for union elections "would never dream" of applying such procedures to their own elections, the resolution noted.

It cited costly mail notification requirements that eat up dues income while other means of informing members of elections would be fully adequate.

But even where the language of the law appears "fair and reasonable," the resolution noted, rigid interpretations by the Labor Dept. have resulted in elections being set aside on "Mickey Mouse grounds, which have no real bearing on whether the election was democratic or not."

National Theater Network Urged

San Francisco — Establishment of a national theater, consisting of a network of theaters across the United States, was called for at the AFL-CIO's 11th convention here.

Besides alleviating the high rate of joblessness in the theatrical unions, creation of a national theater would benefit millions of American working people who have never been to the theater, the federation noted in a resolution.

The U.S. is the only advanced industrial country in the world without a national theater. A recent study noted that the federal government annually contributes 7.5 cents per person to the arts, compared with $2 per person in Austria, $1.40 in Canada, $2.42 in West Germany, $2 in Sweden, $1.34 in Israel and $1.33 in Great Britain.

Unemployment among members of Actors' Equity presently stands at approximately 80 percent—"no less than a national disgrace," the AFL-CIO resolution noted.

Non-Union Printing Hit In Federal Subcontracts

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO condemned the practice of the Government Printing Office in penalizing union printing shops by subcontracting millions of dollars worth of work to non-union plants in violation of the purpose and intent of the Walsh-Healey Act.

The Walsh-Healey Act, like the Davis-Bacon Act and other protective labor laws, was enacted to establish minimum standards for employe wages and hours, as well as certain other working conditions, of private contractors who bid on federal jobs.

In recent years, however, the GPO has been free to ignore the prevailing wage requirements of Walsh-Healey because of a court injunction prohibiting the Secretary of Labor from determining the prevailing rate by relying solely upon union negotiated wages.

The injunction invited the Secretary of Labor to propose other procedures for determining the prevailing rate, but no new formula has been proposed in the 12 years since the order was issued, the AFL-CIO noted.

Meanwhile, the GPO continues to award its contracts exclusively on the basis of the lowest bid, a practice which in effect subsidizes cheap, non-union shops with tax dollars from union members.

Last year the GPO contracted out and purchased over $301 million in typesetting, platemaking, press work and binding. Frequently the work went to non-union plants whose employes are paid far less than the industry's prevailing rates, the resolution noted.

In addition, the resolution provided that the AFL-CIO determine whether remedial legislation is needed or whether the Secretary of Labor should be urged to determine the prevailing rate "by a formula which gives due regard to the wages negotiated by unions in the graphic arts industry."

Severe Pressures Cited:

Federal Aid Sought For Troubled Cities

San Francisco — A broad range of proposals to ease the severe budget pressures on America's cities and states emerged from the AFL-CIO convention.

The solution does not lie in cutting back vital services, laying off needed public workers and canceling scheduled projects, the AFL-CIO stressed.

While states often can do more to share tax revenues with local governments, the resolutions adopted by the convention saw an urgent, immediate need for increased federal assistance. But the Administration is obsessed by the budget deficit and "Congress has shirked its responsibilities," delegates said.

It endorsed the concept of "countercyclical assistance" in which additional federal funds are pumped into state and local programs during periods of high unemployment. The resolution said any labor market with at least 6 percent unemployment should continue to receive such funds, regardless of the national jobless rate.

The convention asked for "substantial increases" in federal grants to states and localities "for specific programs in the nation's interest, such as education, manpower training, health services and facilities, metropolitan transportation, air and water pollution control, urban renewal, public service jobs and energy conservation and development."

Congress was asked to extend the general revenue-sharing program, but to improve it by measures which:

- Assure that funds are targeted to areas with the greatest need for facilities and services, especially the urban centers.
- Encourage states to raise revenue through fairer and more progressive income taxes.
- Provide enforceable federal standards to assure that funds are used for programs that reflect national priorities and comply with federal civil rights and labor standards requirements.

If Congress finds in a review of the program that abuses can't be corrected, the AFL-CIO would then ask that the general revenue-sharing program be abolished and that Congress "redirect an equal amount of funds into appropriate categorical grant-in-aid programs."

Adoption of other measures the AFL-CIO has long advocated, such as full federal payment of welfare and a national health security program would also "relieve the states and localities of a huge financial burden" while meeting urgent public service needs.

One method of increasing state revenue while reforming the tax structure, the convention suggested, would be to allow a federal tax credit for state income tax payments. A tax credit is a subtraction from the amount of federal tax owed—a substantially bigger advantage than the present allowance of a deduction from taxable income.

A pair of resolutions focusing on New York City's grave financial crisis urged the federal government to provide emergency aid to New York and other hard-pressed central cities, and also defended the right of New York's workers to refuse to be the scapegoats and abandon hard-won union gains. Sacrifices must be made by all, and not just public workers, the resolution said.

WARM EMBRACE and the Murray-Green Award for outstanding public service tell Anne Beirne of the AFL-CIO's high regard for her late husband. As president of the Communications Workers and a vice president of the AFL-CIO, Joseph A. Beirne helped make community service an integral part of the labor movement. AFL-CIO Vice President Peter Bommarito, chairman of the federation's Community Service Committee, and AFL-CIO President George Meany present the award.

Murray-Green Award Pays Tribute to Beirne

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO's Murray-Green Award this year honored a trade union leader who helped make community services an integral part of the labor movement and had a big part in expanding the horizons of free trade unionism throughout the world.

When Joseph A. Beirne died on Labor Day of 1974, he was only 63 but he had been president of the Communications Workers and its predecessor union for 31 years.

At the AFL-CIO merger, he was named chairman of the federation's Community Services Committee—a post he had also held in the CIO. He was the first person from the trade union movement to head the United Way.

AFL-CIO President George Meany noted that the Murray-Green Award has honored outstanding Americans for their public service.

With this year's award, Meany told the delegates, labor is honoring "one of our own."

AFL-CIO Vice President Peter Bommarito, chairman of the Community Services Committee, made the formal presentation to Anne Beirne, who was present to accept the honor to her late husband.

Mrs. Beirne, accompanied by her three daughters, spoke movingly of "Joe, as I knew him best," of his love for people and his dedication to "do the most for the people who needed help."

The $5,000 check that goes with the Murray-Green Award, she announced, "will be given to the Joseph Anthony Beirne Memorial Foundation, founded by the CWA for the advancement of education . . . and to develop programs in the fields of humanities, social interest and labor problems."

Bommarito spoke of Beirne's belief in the labor movement as the most effective private institution dedicated "to the best interests of all the American people."

He reminded the delegates of Beirne's close involvement with the workers of Latin America, as secretary-treasurer of the American Institute for Free Labor Development. Beirne's worldwide concept of trade union solidarity was reflected in his service as president of the Postal, Telegraph & Telephone International, and his later assignment as chairman of the AFL-CIO's International Affairs Committee.

Bommarito noted that such people as President Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt, Dr. Jonas Salk and, from the labor movement, A. Philip Randolph, have been Murray-Green award winners in past years.

Beirne, he said, fully belongs in such company. "It is our way of saying thanks to Joe."

Site Picketing Bill Receives Solid Support

San Francisco—The labor movement stood united behind its construction unions in support of a job site picketing bill that has passed the House and may have to overcome a filibuster to win Senate approval.

Robert Georgine, president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., told the convention that the 85-year effort to give construction workers the same picketing rights that industrial unions can exercise had succeeded in the House "through the help of all of the organizations represented in this hall."

The anti-union groups that are trying to drum up opposition to the legislation may seek to enlist senators in a filibuster to prevent a vote, Georgine warned.

AFL-CIO President George Meany called on the federation's affiliates to work actively for passage of the bill, which would allow a union with a dispute with one contractor or subcontractor at a multiemployer construction site to picket the job site.

"We must demonstrate," Meany said, "that this federation is completely united in its effort to assure equal treatment for craft and industrial workers under the law."

The resolution noted that the injustice of the picketing restriction had been recognized by the last five presidents of the United States and urged no further delays.

In another resolution, the convention endorsed the Construction Industry Collective Bargaining legislation now before Congress.

It noted that it represents "a careful and conscientious attempt by individuals who know the construction industry" to develop new procedures that further the institution of free collective bargaining.

Delegates Warn Against Tampering With Seniority Rights of Workers

San Francisco—Seniority is a basic right of workers that should not be tampered with by compulsion, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

Workers must not be forced to accept alternatives to seniority unless the decision is a voluntary one, arrived at through free collective bargaining," the convention said in a resolution on civil rights.

The resolution also praised extension of the voting rights act and outlined both labor's successes with affirmative action programs and its problems in getting cooperation from the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Delegates reaffirmed a "total, emphatic commitment to the support of seniority systems that grant each member of the workforce his or her rightful place." Seniority was called a cornerstone of organized labor and a contractual right, in which workers "must not be compelled by government to surrender a portion of the work to junior employes."

Labor's commitment to seniority includes "unflagging opposition to any effort to dilute the rights of any employe by granting others preferential treatment," the resolution said.

Labor's success with outreach programs has come through three primary vehicles, the convention noted. They are the RTP, founded by the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the Workers Defense League, the LEAP program of the National Urban League and the programs run by the AFL-CIO Human Resource Development Institute.

These programs passed a distinctive milestone in 1974 when women began to be recruited for the skilled construction trades, the resolution noted.

But it warned that "the success of these programs depends largely on the amount of construction work going on in the community," and noted that the recent unemployment rates in excess of 20 percent amounted to "a depression in construction that has adversely affected these work-related programs."

Declaring that "America's twin problems of unemployment and discrimination are not resolved by pitting worker against worker for the right to be unemployed," the convention pledged full support for continuing outreach programs.

"Despite the present gloom, we must think in terms of a healthy economy that will create additional employment opportunities for young people desiring to become skilled in the building trades," the convention declared.

"It is essential, then, that we reaffirm our commitment to provide opportunities for young people to enter the trades, regardless of race or sex."

The resolution both noted past successes and called for continued vigilance in removing discrimination from the workplace.

Labor played a vital role in winning expansion and extension of the 1965 Voting Rights Act for another seven years, with new coverage of the Spanish-speaking, Asian Americans, American Indians and Alaskan natives, the convention noted.

Noting labor's previous contribution in getting the act passed in 1965 and extended in 1970, the resolution called the current extension through August 1982 "another victory for the longstanding alliance between labor and the civil rights movement."

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is missing an opportunity to ease its caseload through voluntary compliance, the convention noted in another resolution.

By supplying unions and the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Dept. with the information needed to develop a speedy procedure for investigation and voluntary compliance, the EEOC could avoid litigation in many cases, the resolution suggested.

But the EEOC continues to "bombard the unions with litigation," a state of affairs which the convention said amounted to "a lack of sensitivity toward unions on the part of the EEOC."

Safeguards Proposed for Davis-Bacon

San Francisco—The Davis-Bacon Act should be strengthened, not weakened, the AFL-CIO declared.

The law, which requires payment of prevailing wages on federally-financed construction, assures that low bids by contractors won't be based on substandard wages and benefits.

A convention resolution endorsed legislation barring the President from suspending Davis-Bacon protections or the comparable safeguards in the Walsh-Healey Act dealing with government purchases.

It also asked that the negotiated rate of wages in an area be the prevailing wage base.

A separate resolution asked that the prevailing wage rates and benefits in effect at the time work is performed be the Davis-Bacon rate.

Such a system, the AFL-CIO noted, would assure that workers on a long-term government construction project wouldn't be tied to an outdated pay scale.

Senior Citizens Cited As Progressive Force

San Francisco—The talent and energy of retired workers is an important force for social progress and programs that benefit Americans of all ages, the convention said.

It praised the work of the National Council of Senior Citizens, and urged AFL-CIO unions and central bodies to sponsor retired member clubs affiliated with the NCSC.

Labor and the Nation

WE ARE NOW LIVING in a perilous time in our nation's history, and while we have a new President who is without doubt a decent and honorable man, we are still in trouble.

Given our present circumstances, it is not enough to have a new President—we need a new philosophy. We need new policies—we need new directions for America.

It is not enough to have a nice guy in the White House. It is not enough to get a new leading man—if the play is no good. You have got to write a new script—and you have got to get a whole new cast of characters.

The sad fact is that, when it comes to economic and foreign policies, President Ford is still playing by the old Nixon script. And, by and large, he has retained the same cast of characters who first set American policies on the wrong track—domestically and internationally—six and a half years ago.

THERE WAS A TIME, not so long ago, when the United States of America did stand for something—not imperialism, as the Communists said. Not monopoly capitalism. Not fascism. We stood for the defense of freedom. We stood for the promotion and extension of human rights. We stood for the protection of democracy through collective security.

Not only did we stand for the containment of communism—but we stood—at least in spirit—with those behind the Iron Curtain who yearned for the day when the yoke of tyranny would be lifted from their backs.

Today—under the Nixon, Ford, Kissinger policy—we have detente. I think the fruits of detente have been so bitter that a growing number of Americans are beginning to wonder whether we have been on the right track. More and more of our citizens are raising questions about the efficacy of a foreign policy based on unilateral concessions to the Soviet Union.

AS THIS RECESSION continues to take its toll in terms of human misery—what is the attitude of the Ford Administration? They tell us that recovery is on the way—everything is going to be A-Okay. Well, maybe recovery is on the way for the corporations and the banks—but it is certainly not on the way for the millions of unemployed.

There is something cockeyed about this whole picture. They are telling the workers of this nation that they must tolerate high unemployment for the next five years in order to fight inflation and at the same time they are proposing actions that will undoubtedly raise prices even higher than they are today.

Up to the present, there is no indication that Mr. Ford will take any action designed to put America back to work—real work—real production that could mean real recovery.

EVERYTHING in this world that affects life, liberty and happiness is the business of the American trade union movement. And, as America faces great difficulties at home and abroad—the AFL-CIO will continue to be heard speaking for the ordinary, everyday American on all matters that directly or indirectly affect the character and quality of American life.

—From the keynote address of AFL-CIO President George Meany to the federation's 11th convention in San Francisco, Oct. 2, 1975.

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'We've Heard That Song Before!'

Special Convention Resolution On Support of Farm Workers

The following is excerpted from a resolution adopted as a special order of business on the opening day of the AFL-CIO Convention, Oct. 2, 1975, at San Francisco:

TEN YEARS AGO last month the now historic grape workers strike began in Delano, Calif. That strike opened a new chapter in the years-long struggle to bring economic justice and a measure of democracy, through collective bargaining, to agricultural workers.

It has been a drama-filled decade of struggle—of strikes and nationwide boycotts, of contracts won and unprecedented gains made. Substantial benefits were obtained in the first contracts between the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Union and California growers. For the first time, farm workers were able to enjoy decent wages, medical benefits, pensions, controls on the use of pesticides, seniority, grievance machinery and hiring halls to eliminate the hated labor contractor system.

As those first contracts were nearing termination, collusion between the Teamsters Union and the growers destroyed established collective bargaining relationships. A flagrant violation of trade union principles, that raid, accompanied by wide-spread violence against farm worker union representatives and members and AFL-CIO staff members, accomplished what the growers, alone, had been unable to do—stop the forward move of farm workers into the mainstream of organized labor; into clean, democratic, militant trade unionism.

With passage earlier this year of the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act, a vehicle for orderly demonstration of workers' bargaining desires was made available. Over 150 collective bargaining elections have already been conducted by the Agricultural Labor Relations Board.

In the short period of time the act has been operative, there has already developed a pattern of grower-Teamster efforts to frustrate the clear and stated purpose of the act. Coercive tactics by growers and Teamsters have disrupted or impaired election procedures, created chaotic conditions surrounding voting, and seriously tainted the election process.

Despite a California State Supreme Court ruling upholding the right of organizers to talk to workers in the field during certain specified times, the sheriff of ranch-rich Tulare County continues to arrest UFW and AFL-CIO organizers for attempting to exercise that right. In this manner the ability of workers to have access to the facts that would enable them to cast an informed vote is impaired.

The United Farm Workers reports that few complaints have been issued by the ALRB despite many unfair labor practice charges filed with the board. The union also reports that bargaining is being delayed by failure of the board to move promptly on frivolous objections filed by growers in obvious moves to obtain further delays.

During this current period, a number of AFL-CIO unions have provided assistance to the UFW; central bodies of California have readily provided specific help requested by the union. AFL-CIO field staff members have been working with UFW representatives in the fields and taking part in all phases of the organizing and voting procedures.

This AFL-CIO convention hereby goes on record in full and complete support of the United Farm Workers in the current phase of their campaign. We appreciate the resolution of thanks to the AFL-CIO Executive Council, adopted by the United Farm Workers convention, which noted our clearcut and continuing identification of the farm workers' struggle as a priority goal for the entire labor movement. We express appreciation to AFL-CIO national and international affiliates and central bodies for their support and we call upon all AFL-CIO affiliates to provide whatever assistance is necessary to enable the Farm Workers Union to regain its rightful place as the bargaining representative of agricultural workers in the United States. We call particularly upon all national and international affiliates with locals and membership in California to urge them to lend all possible assistance to UFW at this time.

Finally, we call upon all appropriate public officials to meet their legal and moral obligation to assure that the intent of the legislation that formalizes collective bargaining for farm workers in California is honored in fact and in practice.

We remain convinced that in truly free elections, farm workers will clearly demonstrate their preference for a union of their own choosing, a union free of employer domination, a union that is honest, democratic and uncorruptible—the United Farm Workers Union, AFL-CIO.

Less Than Two Dozen Left:

Moynihan Sees Growing Peril As Democracies Dwindle at UN

San Francisco—Less than two dozen of the United Nations' 141 member states can still be called democracies, and the number is dwindling at an alarming rate, UN Ambassador Daniel Patrick Moynihan told the AFL-CIO convention.

Moynihan said that preserving an open process in a world body like the UN makes it much easier for totalitarian states to subvert the process, until "all the talk of freedom gets frighteningly close to the Orwellian inversion, war is peace, slavery is liberty, injustice is justice."

He cited the call by Uganda President Amin for destruction of the state of Israel as proof that "despotism will seek whatever opportunities come to hand to destroy that which threatens them most, which is democracy." Moynihan referred to Amin as a "racist murderer, as one of our leading newspapers called him this morning."

Similarly, Moynihan admonished those who say that the U.S. brought on its own troubles with the third world. "We are not assailed because of what is wrong with us but because of what is right about us. We are assailed because we are a democracy," Moynihan said.

And the solution to the threats to freedom around the world, Moynihan said, "is to get for ourselves the agenda which the American labor movement has got at home and abroad, and not least to see the connection between those two things."

In fact, Moynihan said free trade unions have proven more durable than free governments around the world. And just as it is the union structure that comes under attack first in a totalitarian takeover, so have free trade unions been a vital force in preserving democracy.

Moynihan picked the date of 25 years ago in pointing out how free governments have fallen. Then, he said, the change to democracy in such old nations as Japan and the emergence of democracy in the newest nations of Africa and Asia produced a bright picture.

That has changed, he noted, and a recent analysis of UN member nations shows that the median time since the last overthrow of a government is only 11 years. He noted that America has gone 199 years, Belgium 144, France 127 and the like, yet the median comes out 11.

"There is blood in the water and the sharks grow frenzied," Moynihan said in recounting the latest attack on Israel in the UN in which he said Amin's attempt to translate Zionism into racism fits the mold of the Orwellian inversion. He said Amin's attack came only days after more stable heads "broke the gathering force of the movement to suspend Israel from the General Assembly."

Moynihan said he would not agree with AFL-CIO President George Meany on all the world events to be regarded as defeats, but would see "some indeed as victories, some as standoffs and some as opening rather than concluding events." But he said he agreed on more of the list than he disagreed with and noted particularly that Meany was right to include India among the free governments falling recently. Moynihan was U.S. ambassador to India before his UN appointment.

In confronting threats to democracy, Moynihan said the United States should not react out of either guilt or fear. "We are prosperous because we are, or were, an energetic and productive people who have lived under a system which has encouraged the development of our productive capacities and energies," he said. "We also consider that we have been reasonably helpful and generous in our dealings with other countries."

And the reason not to react out of fear, is that "we do not believe that the countries of the third and fourth world have the power to damage, let alone destroy the United States," he noted.

"OPEC to the contrary, 'poor power' is a romantic illusion," Moynihan said. He also said schemes to increase the flow of wealth "must insist that it be channeled into the pockets of individuals and not into Swiss bank accounts, and we will insist the necessary precautions be taken in that respect."

The United States, he continued, must also insist on one other point: "We will insist on broadening the definition of welfare to include not only the economic condition of the individual, but his political condition as well.

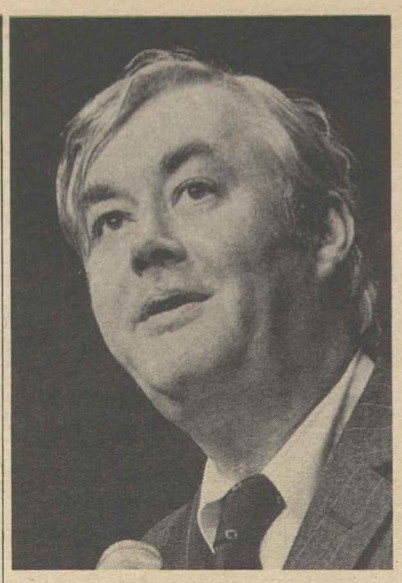
"There is no country so poor that it cannot afford free speech."

Moynihan said he also saw it as a sign of strength that the U.S. did not immediately retaliate for the Arab oil boycott. "When America and its allies speak about respecting the territorial integrity and independence of other countries we mean it," Moynihan said.

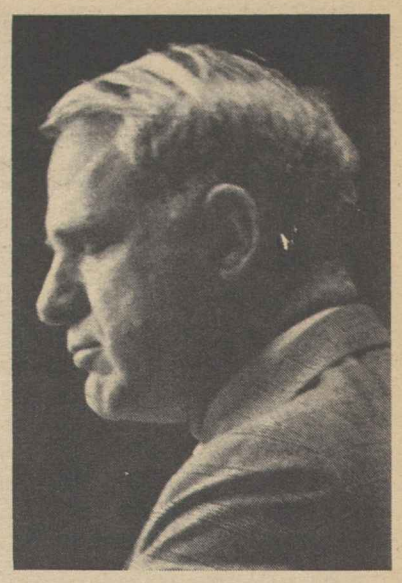
Tracing the retreat on how much employment is "acceptable" in the United States from Kennedy's Administration to the present, Moynihan said the biggest problem was a crisis in confidence. "No one wants to do anything about it because no one is confident that what would be done would make things any better."

The situation is similar in foreign affairs, he said, where those who erroneously "believe that our assailants are motivated by what is wrong with us" contribute to "the trouble we have in trusting ourselves" on a proper foreign policy response.

The AFL-CIO and Meany have no such problem, Moynihan said, and the stability and endurance of trade unions around the world are models governments would do well to emulate.



DANIEL P. MOYNIHAN



JAMES R. SCHLESINGER

Schlesinger Praises Stand on U.S. Defense

San Francisco—The United States is "inescapably" the leader of the free world, Defense Sec. James R. Schlesinger said in a sober warning of the dangers of military weakness.

"In a world that is dominated by two superpowers," he told the convention delegates, "if the United States were to drop that torch, there is no one else to pick it up."

Schlesinger had warm words of thanks for the resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO convention a day earlier opposing attempts to cut military spending without regard to the adequacy of the nation's defense.

"Organized labor well knows from its experiences with bargaining power in collective bargaining relationships how important the balance of power is," he observed. "Weakness does not serve as a prelude to success."

Schlesinger expressed grave concern that Congress may be about to inflict deep and dangerous cuts in the President's defense budget request—in the mistaken belief that this is what the public wants.

But by big majorities, Schlesinger contended, the American public rejects "the novel doctrine that a position of weakness for the United States will somehow substitute for all that was found wrong in a position of strength."

He told the convention that there has been a steady erosion of U.S. military power in recent years, with cuts continuing despite the "lip service" given to the need for a strong defense.

While the Soviet Union has, "in the spirit of detente, as in the spirit of Camp David, the spirit of Glassboro, the spirit of Geneva," continued to expand its military power each year, the United States is spending about 20 percent less in real dollars and has about 700,000 fewer men in uniform than it did prior to Vietnam.

Not since the Great Depression, Schlesinger said, has so small a portion of public spending gone to defense.

Schlesinger expressed hope that the AFL-CIO's resolution on defense will have an impact on members of Congress who have enjoyed labor's political support.

And he expressed confidence that the labor movement "will continue to state unequivocally that the security of the free world should not depend upon the good will, the generosity, the forebearance of the Soviet Union. Rather should it depend upon the maintenance of an equilibrium of power that continues to deter aggression."

Dunlop Reaffirms Need For Free Bargaining

San Francisco—A firm commitment to free collective bargaining without controls or forms of compulsory arbitration was pledged to the AFL-CIO convention by Sec. of Labor John T. Dunlop.

Dunlop told the delegates "we need a renewed dedication to collective bargaining" because there are many people, some in high places, who "do not admire the process" and would seek to restrict it, impose controls or "impose a form of compulsory arbitration."

Dunlop said that anyone who would advocate such a position was playing with fire, because "unless free men and women have the opportunity to say something about the conditions under which they labor, they will not work well, they will be in revolt and the processes of restraint imposed from the outside will not operate."

Dunlop, a Harvard economics professor and a specialist in industrial relations, became secretary in March 1975. He told the convention that he would seek an era of "real, two-way communications" as long as he is secretary.

To that end, he said he brought experts from various Dept. of Labor offices to be available to convention delegates "to learn a good deal more than we now know of your specific and practical concerns which it is our duty to try to serve." Labor Dept. technicians were available for the duration of the convention on such topics as OSHA, pension, Landrum-Griffin, trade adjustments, equal employment opportunity and other issues, Dunlop said.

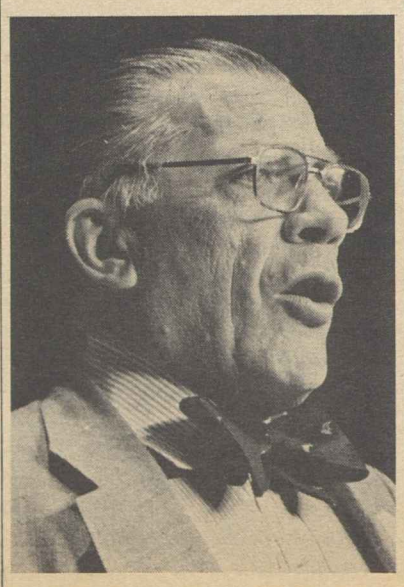
Dunlop said his department would also recognize that labor-management relations include such diverse industries as maritime, public service, steel and construction and "is always interested in trying to bring labor and management people together to work on their special problems."

He told the delegates that it was no accident that free trade unions were the first to be attacked when democracy is under challenge around the world. Consequently American labor has a responsibility to serve as "the conscience of the continuation of this democratic process," Dunlop said.

In the mutual defense of collective bargaining, Dunlop said its value has never been expressed any better than in 1955 in a Fortune magazine article by AFL-CIO President George Meany which said that philosophically, collective bargaining was a means of assuring justice and fair treatment.

"In the economic realm, it is a means of prodding management to increase efficiency and output, and of placing trade unions under great responsibility to limit their demands to practical realities," the article said.

Dunlop said that is still "one of the best and most suitable" definitions of what collective bargaining is and why it should be defended.



JOHN T. DUNLOP

Delegates Honor Slain IAM Striker

San Francisco—Delegates to the AFL-CIO convention honored the memory of Jesse Miller, a 58-year-old Machinist, who died last month in labor's cause.

Miller was killed Sept. 17 when a tractor-trailer driven by a strike breaker careened through the plant gate at Fisher Scientific Co. in Indiana, Pa., hitting and crushing him to death.

The driver has since been charged with criminal homicide.

A resolution saluting Miller's memory and expressing sympathy to his widow and son was adopted at the convention.

A maintenance machinist, Miller was a 10-year member of IAM Local 1582 whose 260 members have been on strike against Fisher since Aug. 6. Fisher manufactures laboratory equipment.

The resolution noted Miller wasn't even on picket duty the morning he was killed. He had stopped at the main gate of the plant to talk to three pickets who were on duty.

U.S. Military Strength Termed Vital to Peace

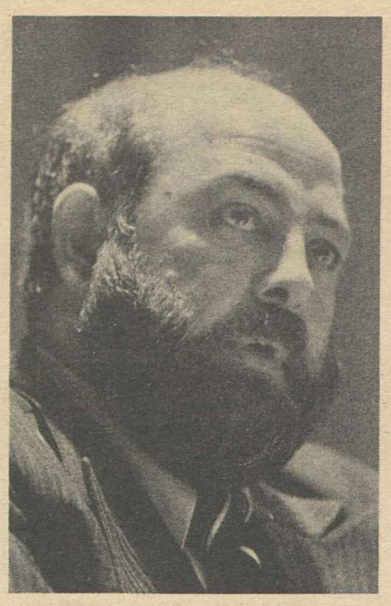
San Francisco—America must remain militarily strong, the AFL-CIO declared in a convention resolution. It warned that a shift in the military balance of power to the Soviet Union would endanger the cause of world peace and weaken democratic values throughout the world.

It opposed attempts to cut military spending by fixed dollar or percentage amounts "without reference to the adequacy of our military forces to meet the real threats to peace."

Labor opposes "waste" in any government operation, but the convention urged that charges of waste be carefully examined by Congress lest vital programs be weakened "by false claims of waste."

It said the United States and its allies must have the military means "not only to deter aggressive Soviet adventures, but to sustain the credibility of American leadership in the pursuit of world peace."

SHIRLEY G. E. CARR



MARTIN REDMOND

DANIEL McGARVEY

Unity of Free World Unions Urged by Fraternal Delegates

San Francisco—Fraternal delegates from Canada and Great Britain to the AFL-CIO's 11th convention stressed the need for unity on the part of the world's free labor organizations, noting their problems are much the same.

"A divided labor movement, whether it be regionally, nationally or internationally, has always worked in favor of labor's enemies," observed Shirley G. E. Carr, executive vice president of the Canadian Labor Congress.

International unions in Canada have come under criticism lately, Mrs. Carr noted. But the critics of international unions forget that there are sound historical reasons behind their growth, she said.

International corporations demand an international union structure—just as multinational corporations now demand a multinational union structure, she declared. "The one necessarily calls for the other."

Noting that the trade-union movements of Canada and the United States pioneered international unionism, Mrs. Carr said "the challenge for the future is for us now to go forward and to pioneer in the field of multinational trade unionism together."

"It is not the time for either of us to retreat into a narrow and parochial nationalism which, in the end, will spell the doom of our past efforts at cooperation," she added.

Daniel McGarvey and Martin Redmond, the two representatives from the British Trades Union Congress, noted the threat of the growing number of multinational corporations requires even greater cooperation of all the world's free trade unions.

McGarvey noted the TUC's General Council has tried to make a contribution to international understanding through bilateral contacts with labor movements in other countries.

"We have been ready to talk to workers' representatives from any country and have established contact with trade-union centers in many countries with different outlooks," he said. He noted the council has tried to alleviate the suffering of trade unionists who have been oppressed in Chile, Spain, Ethiopia and in other nations where basic trade-union freedoms are denied.

Redmond noted that Britons, like their American brothers, have learned from bitter experience the role and power of the giant multinational firms that dominate almost every facet of economic, political and social life.

Mrs. Carr, outlining the common problems which face Canada and the U.S., stressed unemployment, inflation, lack of housing and the influence of multinational firms on their respective economies.

"The solutions to these shared problems must not be of the kind that will destroy another feature which we also share in common—international unionism," she said, adding that economic interdependence of the two countries is just as great today as it was decades ago.

Because of this close interdependence, she urged the trade union movements—not only of the U.S. and Canada but also those throughout the free world—to mobilize their collective strength to protect the jobs of their members.

U.S. Manpower Policy Keyed to Job Creation

San Francisco—Full employment is the basic prerequisite for an effective and comprehensive national manpower policy, the AFL-CIO affirmed in a convention resolution.

Job creation is an essential part of that policy, the resolution observed, calling for large-scale housing and public works programs, aid to the cities and railroad trackbed repair.

If the private sector of the economy is unable to provide enough jobs for the expanding labor force, the federal government should step in with a massive public-service employment program, the resolution noted.

"At least one million public service jobs are needed for Americans who cannot find jobs," the resolution observed.

Workers hired under the public-service employment program should be accorded the same general employment conditions as regular state and local government employes, the convention declared.

"The AFL-CIO insists on adequate wages and working standards in all manpower programs in both the private and public sectors," the resolution said, "Wages under these programs should be at least at the level of the federal minimum wage or the prevailing rate of pay for the occupation, whichever is higher."

The resolution also said that national manpower policy must assure continued support for labor union-sponsored programs such as the AFL-CIO's Human Resources Development Institute, Apprenticeship Outreach and on-the-job training.

Continuing labor representation and labor participation in manpower planning at the state and local levels also was stressed.

Action Urged to Ban Airline Strike Pact

San Francisco—Prompt passage of legislation to ban the airline industry's anti-union Mutual Aid Pact and restore equity to members of airline labor organizations was called for at the AFL-CIO's 11th convention here.

MAP is an agreement among the nation's major airlines under which they move enormous cash payments to a struck airline from the first day of a union walkout.

The airline unions argue that the agreement destroys management incentive to negotiate and has served to prolong strikes.

"MAP is adverse to the public interest," the AFL-CIO declared, in a resolution. "The airline industry is the first that has implemented such a plan on a national level and if the airline industry succeeds others will follow."

To Fulfill Promise:

Convention Pushes Safety Act Reforms

San Francisco—Administrative delays and lack of funds must no longer be allowed to jeopardize workers' lives and health on the job, the convention declared.

The AFL-CIO called for fulfillment of the Occupational Safety & Health Act's goal of a safe and healthy workplace for every American worker with a 12-point program of needed reforms.

In a separate resolution, delegates urged congressional enactment of a toxic substance control act to stop employers from using workers as guinea pigs in testing new substances.

A complete federal takeover of the promulgation of standards was called for in the OSHA resolution, along with more inspectors with more authority, transfer of the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) out of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, and an appeal procedure on inspections that gives workers the same rights as employers.

The resolution commended Sec. of Labor John T. Dunlop for undertaking an OSHA review and expressed hope "this review will result in constructive policy and program changes fully responsive to the goals of the act."

In departmental convention appearances earlier, Dunlop had said his first contribution to OSHA enforcement was to replace all of the top officers in that division of the Labor Dept.

Labor's long-standing complaints about enforcement of OSHA were reiterated in the call for a compliance force of 2,500 federal inspectors and industrial hygienists as an interim goal by the end of the fiscal year 1977.

In addition to transferring NIOSH to the Dept. of Labor, the convention said the research arm "must have adequate funds to recruit qualified personnel, extend its scientific research, construct a modern laboratory" and step up its programs.

The Executive Council's report to the convention conveyed the shortcomings of NIOSH by noting that nearly 100,000 chemicals have some kind of health effect, yet NIOSH has listed only 13,000, recommended standards on only 46 and promulgated standards on only three.

Getting the states out of the promulgation of standards and turning it all over to the federal government is particularly urgent, the AFL-CIO said because it was the sorry record of the states that made the federal OSHA law necessary in the first place.

The report noted that industry's sway over federal standards was bad enough, citing the attempt to use OSHA to line up business support for Nixon's reelection, and its control over state actions was even more complete.

AFL-CIO also called for:

- Coverage under OSHA of all workers, including those employed by state, county and municipal governments.
- Authority for compliance officers to issue on-the-spot citations stopping employers from illegal acts.
- No loss of pay for workers' representatives accompanying the inspectors on their tour.
- Enactment of a single mine safety law which empowers one agency to cover all miners.
- A stimulation of educational programs on job safety for both business and labor.
- Steps to bring railroad workers' safety enforcement under the Dept. of Labor.
- Enactment of the Toxic Substances Control Act with the amendments proposed by labor.
- Continued oversight of the enforcement of OSHA by both the House and Senate labor committees "with particularly close scrutiny to be given the Occupational Safety & Health Review Commission."

The resolution on toxic substances added calls for closer coordination between OSHA and the Environmental Protection Agency, an expanded NIOSH research program and continued labor participation in decisions made under the proposed new toxic substances act.

Overhaul of Maritime Laws Sought To Upgrade U.S. Merchant Fleet

San Francisco—U.S. maritime policies amount to sending a bunch of rust buckets to compete with modern merchant fleets, the AFL-CIO convention said in a series of resolutions calling for a wholesale overhaul of maritime laws.

The convention also condemned "predatory and competition-destroying" intrusions by the Communist states, especially Russia and Poland. Allowing such ships into U.S. ports makes no sense, the convention said, since their rates are "unknown and irrelevant in the western, private enterprise sense."

Consequently, the convention called on Congress and the Federal Maritime Commission to act to combat the rate-cutting of "these modern-day commerce raiders."

Instead of tax laws that encourage U.S.-owned multinationals to use foreign flag vessels, it was urged that federal action be taken for cargo preference or bilateral cargo reservation arrangements with our trading nations.

This is particularly necessary in the case of oil, the convention pointed out, because of the precarious U.S. position of depending on foreign energy sources.

And end was also urged to the World War II emergency measure which encouraged "effective control" of foreign flag vessels. Still on the books 30 years later, that measure is now being used to allow U.S. oil companies and other multinationals to dodge U.S. taxes and union wages by using foreign flag ships.

U.S. maritime unions make no apology for the higher standard of living their members enjoy, the convention said, and the industry welcomes competition—but under a system that enables it to compete fairly, with treatment from its government similar to that enjoyed by other nations.

The convention also called for a government subsidy, if necessary, to revive U.S. shipbuilding, in which the U.S. now ranks 11th.

And it was urged that the Navy Dept. be blocked from spending U.S. tax money to have shipbuilding and repair done in foreign ports.

The AFL-CIO called for:

- Development of a national cargo policy that will assure the U.S. fleet "a substantial share" of U.S. cargoes.
- Repeal of all tax laws that allow U.S. firms to benefit from using foreign flag vessels.
- Consolidation of maritime affairs under one federal agency.
- Parity between U.S. and foreign flag fleets.
- Placing the Virgin Islands under the requirements of the Jones Act, which reserves intra-U.S. trade to U.S. vessels.
- Stopping the U.S. military from "its wasteful and non-military vessel construction program."

Unilateral Concessions Opposed:

Illusion of Detente Assailed As Undermining Freedom

San Francisco—The United States is pursuing a false policy of detente that is inspiring totalitarian powers to continue aggression and terrorism, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

The convention said it put "more trust in the balance and stability of the American people than in the poor leadership this country has endured" in recent years. "We reject the notion that a supine America will appease a Brezhnev or an Arafat," the convention declared.

In reiterating the trade union movement's commitment to freedom around the world, a series of resolutions singled out such troubled spots as Portugal, the Middle East, India, Chile, Indochina and South Africa.

But the call to stop this undermining of freedom falls on deaf ears because of the illusion of detente, it was noted.

"The AFL-CIO convention expresses its opposition to continuing unilateral concessions to the Soviet Union in the name of detente," a resolution said. "We stand prepared to support any policies that will lead to genuine detente, sharing with the rest of mankind the fear of nuclear war, but the cause of peace cannot be realized by strengthening the Soviet Union at the expense of the West."

In the name of detente, the convention said, the United States has made a growing list of mistakes in foreign policy:

- Confused the American public's attitude on the need for a strong defense posture.
- Created uncertainty among our allies as to our commitment to their defense.
- Sown illusions about the intentions and character of totalitarian regimes.
- Helped save the Soviet leaders from the consequences of the USSR's reactionary economic system through the transfer of American technology, the sale of grain and the provision of low-interest loans to the Soviet Union through the Export-Import Bank.

In short, the convention noted, the present policy is anything but the relaxing of tensions and the two-way street of true detente.

Among the results of this policy is that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is threatened with becoming a "paper bureaucracy or Maginot Line." To rescue it requires "greater U.S. and other member contributions to its forces and leadership" so that NATO can fulfill its role as a protector that has made possible the economic and social resurrection of its member nations from the devastation of World War II.

In addition to bolstering NATO, the United States has some fence-mending to do in its own defenses, the convention declared in calling for "the United States to provide for the common defense of this nation and its allies—which means not only sufficient to deter aggressive Soviet adventures, but to sustain the credibility of American leadership in the pursuit of world peace."

The convention pointed out that thanks to detente, the Soviet Union is fishing aggressively and fruitfully in political trouble spots around the world—the Middle East, Portugal, India and Indochina.

In Portugal, the convention condemned Soviet intervention and called on both the United States and NATO to aid and encourage the democratic majority.

U.S. assistance to India should be reviewed in the wake of "the grab for autocratic power in the most populous democracy in the world," the convention noted.

As for Indochina, the convention said it "rejects any policy of isolationism emerging from the defeat of U.S. forces." Instead, delegates pledged to the people of Asia "the determination of the workers of the United States to cooperate in every way for the preservation and strengthening of human freedom, economic development and free trade unionism throughout the Asian region."

In other convention resolutions, the federation decried the undermining of the tripartite tradition of the International Labor Organization by admission of the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization which it said was neither government, business nor labor.

"We call upon our government to reassess United States membership in the ILO and to take action consistent with our national interests and principles," the convention said in the wake of the undermining of the ILO by its acceptance of the double standard inherent in granting observer status to the PLO.

"Under the pressure of its Communist members and the Arab bloc, which employs oil blackmail against the Third World countries, the ILO has been transformed from a technical assistance organization into a political-ideological playground," the convention said.

An out-of-frying-pan-into-the-fire syndrome was observed in Chile—where the leftist dictatorship of Salvatore Allende has been replaced by an equally oppressive fascist regime. The convention saw some hope in developing human rights in South Africa, but restated the AFL-CIO opposition on principle to racist oppression of any minority group.

In sum, the convention said the labor movement of this country "must lead the effort lest our freedoms and those of free labor everywhere perish beneath dictators' boots." And that means commitment from every branch of government and domestic institution in the United States "to seek the leadership and the policies requisite for human progress at home and abroad."

U.S. Aid to Israel Called Critical to Mideast Peace

San Francisco—The truce between Israel and Egypt may be the road to peace, the AFL-CIO said in a convention resolution, but the strength Israel needs to bargain a final peace can't be assured without continued aid from the United States.

Consequently, the convention called on the United States to continue the economic and military aid Israel needs to negotiate "face to face" with her enemies, with both sides realizing "no peace can be guaranteed by outside forces."

The resolution condemned one of those forces, the Soviet Union, as a "straw party" which has kept the Middle East in turmoil to serve its own ends.

A report to the convention cited the riches peace could bring to the Middle East if the material wealth could be married to the technology and moral force evident in Israel's determined fight to survive as the only true democracy in that troubled part of the world.

But instead, the report noted, "a corrosive and debilitating war is being pursued for the obvious objectives of the USSR."

"No free trade union movement anywhere in the world, either in terms of self-interest or morality, should do any less than reassert, not reassess, the commitment to democracy in the Middle East," it stated.

Moves Opposed to Cut Food Stamp Program

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO renewed its support of the food-stamp program and pledged to oppose any attempts by the Administration or Congress to weaken it.

In a resolution adopted at its 11th biennial convention here, the federation branded the campaign of the Ford Administration "and other right-wingers" against alleged food-stamp "chiselers and rip-off artists" as a smokescreen for the real purpose of waging economic warfare against American workers.

"The charges that the program abounds with cheating are answered by U.S. Dept. of Agriculture statistics showing fraud to have been committed by only eight-tenths of 1 percent of participating households," the resolution noted.

If a reduction in the cost of the food-stamp program is the Administration's goal, the AFL-CIO said this could be done by creating jobs and cutting food prices.

"But with its vetos of job-creation bills and other actions, the Ford Administration has opted for high unemployment and high food prices," the federation charged. "It seeks to reduce food-stamp costs by preventing jobless workers from using the program to feed their families."

In discussion on the convention floor, Mary Ellen Riordan of the Teachers noted that in her home city of Detroit, where joblessness is among the highest in the nation, denial of food stamps means hunger, suffering and, for children especially, the lasting effects of malnutrition.

In a related resolution, delegates called upon the Ford Administration and Congress to enlarge the federal stamp program to include U.S.-made clothing at discount prices to help alleviate the hardship of the jobless and the working poor.

"Clothing is also a major necessity of life," the resolution observed.

Funds Asked to Spur Waste Recovery Plants

San Francisco — Maximum resource recovery and energy conservation offer the only meaningful solutions to the nation's solid waste disposal problem, the AFL-CIO declared at its convention here.

It urged Congress to adopt legislation promoting the construction and use of resource recovery and energy conservation systems that preserve and enhance the quality of air, water and land resources.

In addition, the AFL-CIO called for federal financial assistance to state, local and interstate agencies in planning such systems. It also urged Congress to enact legislation promoting a national research and development program.

Fight Pledged Against Care Cut And for National Health Security

San Francisco—"Early enactment of the Health Security bill would largely take care of America's health problems," the AFL-CIO convention declared, "but until Health Security is enacted, the AFL-CIO will oppose all efforts to abolish or curtail necessary existing health programs."

Similarly, it was urged that collective bargaining continue to be used "to expand health and welfare coverages until a comprehensive Health Security program is enacted."

Wherever possible, contracts should give workers an option of prepaid group practices health plans, the convention said.

And the federation vowed to continue the quest for emergency health insurance for the unemployed, to be financed from federal general revenues.

Also, it was noted that further amendments are needed in the Health Maintenance Organizations Act to make the law more workable.

"The hope that the HMO Act of 1973 would provide the needed leverage to reform the fee-for-service health care system is hampered by defects in the law and inadequate funding," the convention charged.

The budget slashing actions of the Ford Administration threaten to cut some vital links in the nation's present health care system, the convention said in urging full funding and adequate administration of health service programs for the poor.

"Additionally, we will actively support legislation to provide long-term care for the elderly as well as for handicapped persons no longer able to work," the delegates declared.

Ancillary federal programs also needed until Health Security can be enacted were listed as:

- Improved medical manpower, to bring about a better geographic and specialty distribution of physicians.
- Higher quality health care services through a more rational organization of medical care services.
- Effective controls on the cost of medical care with the cost distributed more equitably through the entire population.

All of those objectives are the same as the goals of Health Security, which the convention termed the only proposed national health insurance program "which is based on social insurance principles and provides comprehensive care for all Americans."

Health Security played a major role in the 1974 elections, it was noted, with a majority of the members of Congress promising their constituents they would seek early action on it. "We expect they will keep their pledge," the resolution said.

National 'Day' Proposed To Honor Fire Fighters

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO convention went on record as supporting establishment of Oct. 9 as National Fire Fighters Day.

Delegates voted for a resolution citing the dangers fire fighters face in safeguarding lives and property and said a day for them should take place alongside such national "days" as those for mothers, secretaries, fathers and police officers.

No-Fault Plan Endorsed For Malpractice Claims

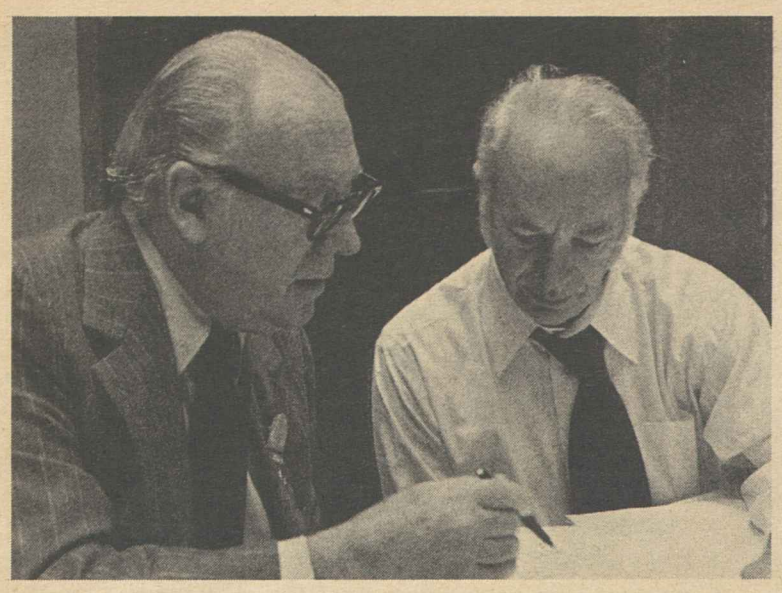
San Francisco—The crisis in medical malpractice insurance costs can be cured by applying arbitration under a no-fault system, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

Delegates voted support of two Senate bills, sponsored by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) and by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.). One provides for a federal-state system of arbitration of malpractice claims—a system previously left to the states—and the other applying the no-fault concept to get a decision without costly litigation.

The convention resolution pointed out that consumers lose both ways under the present system, paying for the increased cost of the malpractice insurance premiums while patients receive only 16 to 17 percent of malpractice awards; "the rest goes for court costs, legal fees and administrative costs associated with selling malpractice insurance."

The resolution also noted that the malpractice insurance crisis could not occur under a comprehensive program of national health insurance. The arbitration and no-fault systems would thus be a stop-gap measure until national health insurance is adopted, it was noted.

Under the expedited arbitration system, patients who did not like the award would still have access to the courts.



BIENNIAL REPORT of the AFL-CIO Executive Council draws the attention of Committee Chairman S. Frank Raftery, left, and Secretary Paul Jennings of the convention committee on the council's report.

Bargaining Gains Laid To Improved Mediation

San Francisco—Continued improvement in mediation methods will help collective bargaining substantially, even if it doesn't show for a long time, the nation's top federal mediator told the convention.

W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, said the agency is trying to move on from the major postal and railroad disputes to "the school boards, supermarkets, small factories and local construction disputes that, by comparison, affect only a small number of employes."

But that develops slowly, Usery said, and in the meantime mediators are still like fire fighters dealing in crisis situations. He said his agency is making every effort "not only to increase the number of mediators and to upgrade our facilities but also to improve the quality of mediation services we offer by developing a cadre of truly professional mediators."

What has improved, Usery said, is the climate of collective bargaining, because with the exception of "a handful of die-hard managements" the benefits of union contracts are now widely recognized.

"Most enlightened industrial leaders of today realize that dealing in good faith with a good union isn't just good law and good morals—it's also good business," he noted.

Usery said he always tells management audiences that there is a rock bottom price that any labor force deserves.

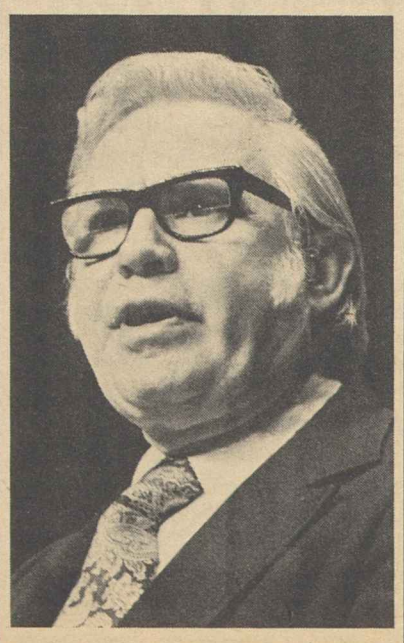
"That includes a good living wage, protected against inflation; the best job security provisions within the power of the enterprise; insurance against illness and accident and an adequate pension when one grows old," he said.

And from the union side, Usery said, is acknowledgment "that a fair day's pay has an obligation to do a fair day's work to earn it."

Usery said he understood the inclination to "stick it to the boss" on the job, but that America could no longer afford such an attitude any more than it could afford to go on dumping raw sewage into rivers.

Usery, a former officer of the Machinists, noted that the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. has recently been quite blunt about this obligation. Usery said it involves some "rules and practices that may have had an understandable basis when started, but are simply irrelevant in this new and changing technological world."

In return for these changes, Usery said, labor should expect a growing recognition from management that "a well-administered union contract, with terms clearly spelled out, and with grievance procedures and arbitration to settle disputes, is the easiest and best way ever devised for labor and management to live together and avoid personnel problems."



W. J. USERY, JR.

Tighter Laws Asked to Curb Illegal Aliens

San Francisco—New laws and better enforcement of old ones are needed to curb the loss of jobs to aliens who are illegally in the country, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

Delegates backed proposals for criminal penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants and to stop foreign companies operating in this country from bringing in "temporary" aliens, often under the guise of training programs.

Employers exploit both the alien and the U.S. craftsman who is denied a job, the convention declared.

Tighter enforcement, including enough funding to patrol U.S. borders, was called for from the Immigration & Naturalization Service as well as the Departments of State and Labor.

The resolution called for remedial legislation "to limit the discretion" of federal agencies on such topics as the phony training programs.

The resolution stressed that America is a nation of immigrants, and called for the curbing of illegals to free them of blackmail and exploitation under which they now live.

Other Nations Do More:

'Far-Reaching Reforms' Sought For Social Security Programs

San Francisco—The United States should be a world leader in social insurance protection for its people, the AFL-CIO said in a resolution proposing "far reaching reforms" to bring that about.

While the convention affirmed labor's confidence in the soundness of the social security system, it also noted that some "less affluent" nations do relatively more for their aged, sick and poor.

Major AFL-CIO proposals included:

• A quicker-reacting cost-of-living escalator. It should be adjusted at six-month intervals when the index has risen by 3 percent or more. And a special index should be devised to more accurately measure the price changes in goods and services most used by the elderly.

• An end to all sex differences in benefits paid under the Social Security Act, "thereby improving the benefit protection for married women who work and the treatment of couples where both work."

• Changes to ease the problem of older workers who are forced out of the labor market before the normal retirement age or who have a partial disability.

One of the proposals was that workers who are unemployed for two full years after age 55 should be entitled to social security benefits "as if they had reached the minimum age of eligibility for retirement benefits."

• A temporary total disability provision that would pay benefits after one month, rather than the present six months, and without regard to the anticipated duration. Under present law, the expectation must be that the disability will either last at least one year or result in death. The one-month change, the resolution said, should also "apply equally to working women who must cease work temporarily before and after pregnancy."

• Significant improvements in Medicare protection "pending enactment of National Health Security."

On financing, the convention asked that future improvements in social security benefits be paid for by increases in the ceiling on earnings that are subject to the payroll tax and by a gradually increasing contribution from general revenue.

While workers get "an economic bargain" in terms of benefits received for contributions paid, the tax rate should not go any higher. It should, however, be applied to the total payroll of employers, the resolution urged.

It called for improvements in the supplemental security income (SSI) program and urged that the Social Security Administration be made an independent agency with its trust fund separate from the government's unified budget.

Another resolution welcomed the recent improvements in the Railroad Retirement Act and urged Congress to act on proposals for updating the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

In another convention action, the AFL-CIO urged that the Labor Dept. and the Treasury Dept. administer the pension reform law "with flexibility in order not to disrupt legitimate, collectively-bargained pension arrangements . . . to the detriment of participants."

The convention also asked Congress to extend pension protection to workers in the public sector.

Concern that state and county institutions that serve the mentally ill and retarded are being replaced by inferior profit-making facilities was expressed in another resolution. To help curb abuses, it asked that social security, medicare and medicaid laws be amended to allow funding for care and services at public psychiatric and retardation facilities.

Financing Plan Pressed To Spur Home Building

San Francisco—An emergency home financing program carrying a below-market 6 percent interest rate was proposed by the AFL-CIO as a key ingredient of a program to reverse a prolonged decline in housing and community development.

As outlined in the convention resolution, the mortgage financing program would continue "until housing starts reach a seasonally adjusted rate of at least two million units for three consecutive months."

Further, the convention said, Congress should require allocation of credit to housing "when tight money and high interest rate conditions are developing."

The resolution also called for measures to expand housing for low-income families and senior citizens.

Funds for needed housing assistance programs have been authorized, the resolution noted, and the Administration should make use of its authority.

It asked also that Congress appropriate the full amount of funds authorized for the Community Development program.

The resolution expressed strong support for a mortgage loan disclosure law intended to combat "redlining"—a practice followed by some lending institutions to deny credit for home purchases in supposedly undesirable neighborhoods.

This denies many moderate-income families an opportunity to buy homes at prices they can afford, the resolution said.

The convention also called on the AFL-CIO to expand its technical information services and to assist affiliates and central bodies on programs aimed at providing "affordable homes and rental housing in locations near employment."

Union Family Survey Buttresses Labor's Fight for Better Housing

San Francisco—A housing survey that stemmed from a resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO's 10th convention two years ago has helped shape a strategy to better meet America's housing needs.

The survey, developed by the AFL-CIO Housing Committee and the federation's Dept. of Urban Affairs, produced as a byproduct a useful profile of union households.

It found that nearly everyone would prefer home ownership to renting, and that union households—aided by incomes higher than the national average— are more likely to have achieved this goal.

But the survey found a big gulf between union members who had bought their homes some years back and a mostly younger group of members who would like to become homeowners but aren't likely to have the opportunity unless new federal programs are developed and funded.

The renters are already paying a higher percentage of their incomes for less adequate housing than are homeowners. And about 35 percent of homeowner households have already paid off their mortgages, assuring relatively low housing costs in retirement years.

But, the survey analysis notes, large numbers of younger union members will be less likely than an earlier generation to purchase homes, "given the current high level of mortgage interest rates, a short supply of moderate-priced homes and unavoidable high energy costs." Further, as they approach the retirement period of reduced income, they will be forced to earmark a still bigger percentage of their assets for housing.

The survey pinpointed other problems, such as the impact of higher gasoline prices on families that have to drive long distances to work.

To a large extent, the recommendations of the survey analysis were incorporated into the housing resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO convention.

The report, completed in time for the 1975 convention, called for expanded federal programs to help both low- and middle-income families become homeowners. It urged also federally-assisted rental housing, citing "a particularly urgent need for assisted rental housing for the elderly." And it pressed for more mass transit facilities as well as community development that would enable more people to live closer to where they work.

The survey found that the median income of the AFL-CIO households in 1974 was $14,552, compared with $11,101 for all U.S. households.

"This difference reflects the benefits of union organization and bargaining," the report noted.

The survey itself was carried out under professional sampling techniques, based on a random selection from 48 cooperating unions with more than 10 million members.

The mail survey was returned by more than 7,600 of 21,581 persons selected in the sample—an unusually high percentage.

Thompson Bill Endorsed:

Strike Right Backed For Public Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

any group of workers.

Wurf and other members of the AFSCME delegation countered that the political realities dictated that Congress would never pass a collective bargaining law that would legalize police and fire fighter strikes.

Therefore, he contended, to insist that public safety officers have the right to strike "is in effect saying we don't want a federal collective bargaining law."

But delegates from the Postal Workers, the Teachers, the Service Employees as well as private-sector unions, warned against opening the door to compulsory arbitration.

Fire Fighters President William McClennan said his union certainly didn't want its hands tied by a resolution that mayors could use to justify drastic efforts to break a strike.

"We must always have the right to strike," Service Employees President George Hardy said. Looking around the convention hall at the delegations from the various unions, he asked: "Will all of you accept compulsory arbitration? Will you, you, you?"

John F. Henning of the California AFL-CIO told the convention that a multi-million dollar lawsuit was pending against the Fire Fighters in San Mateo County because of a labor-supported strike. He said a no-strike resolution, despite the "fine philosophic distinctions" of its sponsor, would be viewed as "a stab in the back."

Postal Workers President Francis S. Filbey said his members have lost out at the bargaining table because they do not have the right to strike.

AFSCME Vice President Gilbert Strickert retorted that if postal workers can't get Congress to give them the right to strike, how can a right-to-strike bill covering police and fire fighters be passed?

AFL-CIO President George Meany voiced his view at the close of the debate, telling the delegates: "I hope I never see the day that the AFL-CIO, sitting in convention, will ask Congress to impose compulsory arbitration on anybody anywhere at any time."

Another convention resolution noted—and protested—the growing attempt by local and state governments to make their employes the scapegoats for budget problems. Some public officials have sought to discredit public workers as a prelude to cutbacks of service and unilateral contract violations, the resolution charged.

It rejected the concept that public employes should subsidize government, condemned public officials seeking to shift responsibility to workers, and strongly affirmed "the right of public employes to enforce their bilateral agreements without interference or intimidation."

In a separate action, the convention protested layoffs of public employes, stressing that it is both "counterproductive" to the national effort to combat unemployment and forcing retrenchment of services when the need for public services is rising.

The convention pledged the AFL-CIO to continue to fight such layoffs, to continue efforts to wipe out hiring and promotion bias in public employment, and "to press for an infusion of money that will protect both the current level of public service and the jobs of recently-hired women and minorities."

By a decisive vote, the convention upheld the action of its Resolutions Committee in deleting from the resolution two paragraphs dealing with layoff procedures that it felt could be interpreted as undermining basic trade union seniority principles. Sec.-Treas. William Lucy of AFSCME had sought to restore the paragraphs.

A convention resolution asked that the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, which helps train public sector managers in fields that include contract negotiation and administration, be given additional financing so that grants can be made to public sector unions for labor relations training courses parallel to those given on the management side.

DELEGATES ASSEMBLED for the AFL-CIO 11th biennial convention in San Francisco's Civic Auditorium hear Federation President George Meany deliver his opening remarks.

Worker, Community Needs Cited In Call for Full Education Funds

San Francisco—Organized labor drew attention to its special interest in vocational and community college education in a series of AFL-CIO convention resolutions reiterating a call for the full funding needed for quality education.

The convention pledged "to press for adequate federal, state and local funds to insure a healthy system in American education." And it called attention to the threats posed by a raid on funds for vocational education and the constant increase in college tuition.

The convention reaffirmed the AFL-CIO position that busing is one of a number of approaches to the goal of quality, integrated education, and rejected a resolution calling for re-evaluation of that position. It referred to the Executive Council part of another resolution dealing with bilingual education.

Other resolutions called for state and local labor bodies to work in their legislatures for the creation of labor colleges in their state universities, where feasible, and to stay in touch with state and local school boards to continue to fight for fair treatment of organized labor in textbooks.

On vocational education, the convention expressed concern that some of the advocates of "career education" are attempting to turn the program into a cheap training school for unscrupulous employers. And it pledged to oppose any attempt to "consolidate" education funds into block grants.

The community college concept offers not only more education for more workers' families, it was noted, but also gives the trade unionists a chance to introduce labor topics into the curriculum and serve as instructors.

On busing, the convention reiterated the AFL-CIO position that "we wholeheartedly support busing of children when it will improve the educational opportunities of the children; we deplore the actions of those individuals or groups who are creating a divisive political issue out of America's vital need for quality, integrated education; and we will oppose the constitutional amendment approach because it will do a disservice to the quality integrated education which we support."

That position, adopted by the Executive Council in 1972 and reiterated by the 1973 convention, also noted that "the AFL-CIO has consistently supported both quality education and integrated education. We have just as staunchly supported mass investment of federal funds to improve substandard schools. We have fought for legislation to achieve open housing as the most effective way to achieve integrated education."

AFL-CIO President George Meany read the 1973 text to the convention after floor debate on a resolution from the Kentucky AFL-CIO proposing that the federation "re-evaluate its position on busing where it does not improve educational opportunities or quality education." The convention's education committee recommended non-concurrence because the proposal did not alter existing federation policy.

Leonard S. Smith, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky AFL-CIO, spoke against the committee position and described conditions in Louisville since school opened this fall. The committee position was upheld by Frederick O'Neal, chairman of the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee and president of the Actors & Artistes; Detroit AFL-CIO President Tom Turner, and Edward L. McMahan of the Glass Bottle Blowers in Mississippi.

After Meany read the 1973 text, delegates voted to uphold the committee recommendation of non-concurrence with the Kentucky resolution.

The convention call for full funding of education said the dismantling and underfunding proposed by Presidents Nixon and Ford threatened to undermine the progress since enactment of the Elementary & Secondary Education Act in 1964.

The convention urged the nation to seize the opportunity to provide better education for fewer students now that the declining U.S. birth rate is showing up in reduced school enrollment.

The convention also said that lower tuition cost was a better guarantee of equal access to higher education than aid to individuals and called for expansion of adult education programs.

Federal Pay Cutbacks Draw Vigorous Protest

San Francisco—Congress should take away the President's power to reduce or delay comparability salary increases for federal employes, the AFL-CIO said.

It protested repeated presidential attempts to thwart the intent of the law linking federal pay raises to rates for comparable jobs in private industry. The most recent presidential action resulted in cutting back an 8.66 percent raise that was due Oct. 1 to 5 percent.

The resolution also proposed that in case of a disagreement over the translation of the Bureau of Labor Statistics salary survey into a formula for a salary increase, the impasse should be resolved by an advisory committee of recognized arbitrators and pay authorities. Their determination would stand "unless set aside by Congress."

The convention also reiterated the AFL-CIO's support for a collective bargaining law for federal workers, whose bargaining rights now rest on an inadequate framework of presidential executive orders.

Another resolution noted that federal workers have fallen behind both the private sector and the semi-autonomous postal service in many areas of fringe benefits.

It expressed the AFL-CIO's support for a list of needed improvements through legislation or collective bargaining. The list included full employer payment of life insurance and health insurance premiums.

The convention backed legislation that would ensure federal workers the right to take their vacations at a time of their choice, not for the convenience of the agency. The resolution noted that some naval establishments have required workers to take leave during the Christmas season.

It also called for compensation to employes who are required to travel outside of normal working hours to report at a temporary duty station.

Delegates Call for Boost In Minimum Wage to $3

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO called for legislation to raise the federal minimum wage to $3 an hour and to require payment of double-time rates after eight hours in any day and after 40 hours in a week.

Under the current timetable of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the minimum wage will rise to $2.30 for most workers next January but some recently-covered groups aren't scheduled to reach that level until 1978.

The overtime requirement of the FLSA has been time and one-half after 40 hours a week since the wage-hour law was enacted in the New Deal era.

Inflation has made the present minimum wage schedule "obsolete," the convention resolution noted. And even though the $2.30 level hasn't yet been reached, "the annual income provided by this wage is already about $500 a year below the U.S. poverty level."

A minimum wage increase of the extent contemplated by the legislation would stimulate the economy and create "badly-needed" additional jobs for unemployed workers.

The convention's call for imposing a double-time pay requirement also would tend to create more jobs by reinforcing the intent of the Fair Labor Standards Act to discourage employers from requiring overtime work.

Another convention resolution reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's position in favor of "a decrease in hours worked, whether on a daily, weekly or annual basis, with no reduction in wages or benefits."

It endorsed "the principle of a 35-hour workweek achievable in the shortest possible time."

Lifting of Hatch Act Restrictions Urged

San Francisco—Hatch Act restrictions on the political rights of federal employes should be lifted, the AFL-CIO urged.

It endorsed a bill before Congress that includes a number of recommendations for changes in the law that were made by a bipartisan commission in 1966.

The convention also urged repeal of similar restrictions on public employes that have been imposed by some states and cities.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE considered a total of 266 resolutions during the convention. Of this number, the convention delegates passed 133. Forty-one were referred to the Executive Council for further study. Most of the remaining resolutions were covered by those that were adopted. President I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers chaired the committee, which was composed of four subcommittees.

Broad Program Urged to Curb Destruction of Jobs from Imports

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO spelled out immediate actions the federal government should take to relieve U.S. workers already hurt by massive imports—and additional measures necessary for a long-range cure that removes the cause.

The convention noted that what was once a job loss primarily in maritime and manufacturing is now increasingly affecting other U.S. service trades as well. Foreign-based and multinational companies in such services as airline travel enjoy tremendous advantages over their U.S. counterparts, the convention observed.

Perhaps worst of all, delegates judged the Trade Act of 1974 as likely to "cause more unemployment and more production losses." More than a million jobs have already been lost, it was noted, "and remedial action by Congress in the form of new trade legislation is necessary to revive the badly stricken American standard of living."

Trade patterns were bad enough before the onslaught of recent events led by the massive unemployment at home, the convention noted. The emergency measures are necessitated by "the rising tide of restrictions abroad, the ever-increasing impact of the multinational corporations, and the staggering balance of payments deficits," the resolution said.

"The AFL-CIO supports, strong, vigorous, fair international trade," the convention said, but trade is anything but fair when the U.S. tax laws make it more advantageous for the U.S.-based firms to export jobs overseas.

The emergency measures which the convention called for just to relieve the short-term damage included:

- Presidential action to curb imports under the new trade act.
- Special restrictions against countries whose trade practices place unfair burdens on U.S. commerce.
- Enforcement of anti-dumping rules and imposition of a special tariff called a countervailing duty, both provided for under present law.
- A limiting of exports of the raw materials, technology and products which affect the national interest.
- A presidential reassessment of foreign economic policy in terms of the U.S. economy.
- No new concessions that allow increased imports from Communist countries while U.S. joblessness is so high.
- Implementation by Congress of its new authority to oversee trade agreements.

And all that, the convention declared, would only minimize the damage that U.S. workers and America's industrial base are suffering, while doing nothing to reverse the oppressive economic impact foreign trade has been having on America.

For the long haul, the convention urged nine other measures, several of them related to tax advantages for multinational companies which the AFL-CIO has long opposed.

In addition, the convention called for a permanent mechanism to regulate imports, the reporting of all international flows of trade and restrictions on the export of capital and technology.

The convention also called on the President "to exercise his authority to establish effective means of regulating the export of agricultural products, particularly to state-controlled economies."

That resolution came as a new pact with the Russians was awaited under the agreement labor made with President Ford in suspending the Longshoremen's boycott of loading grain to Russia.

Pending new legislation by Congress on foreign trade, the convention noted that vigorous participation by import-injured unions can help laid-off workers obtain benefits under the present law.

Welfare Reform Keyed To Jobs, 'Decent Life'

San Francisco—America's unions called for genuine welfare reform keyed to providing jobs at adequate wages for persons who cannot find work and the "right to a decent life" for "those who cannot or should not be expected to work."

The convention expressed the AFL-CIO's opposition to a "phony reform" proposed by congressional conservatives that would cut federal welfare assistance and compel persons on welfare to "earn" their payments "at make-work jobs paying substandard wages."

The resolution advocated a permanent public service employment policy. It said an improved unemployment insurance system, "including new entrants as well as workers reentering the workforce," should be an alternative to welfare.

Just as the federal government now has assumed responsibility for payments to the needy, elderly, blind and disabled, it should become the prime provider for "all the rest of the needy," the convention said.

The resolution called for a national minimum payment, not less than the poverty level and containing cost-of-living protection. It also asked job safeguards for employes of state and local welfare agencies affected by federal takeovers.

The convention went on record opposing rigid restrictions on the use of federal funds by states for social services to those who need them.

The working poor and near-poor should not be penalized because they are not on welfare, the AFL-CIO said.

It said there should continue to be an agency within the Executive Branch to monitor proverty programs and bring the problems of the poor before other government agencies.

The AFL-CIO sees "no need" to shift the Office of Economic Opportunity from independent agency status to an arm of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. But if the President submits such a reorganization plan, the federation will examine it closely to determine if it will in any way weaken the effort to eliminate poverty.

A resolution on child care reiterated the AFL-CIO's call "for a massive federal commitment" to provide comprehensive child day care services for all children who need them with a gradually rising federal level of funding as the program gets under way.

It included a detailed list of safeguards and requirements that should be part of such a program.

The convention also backed the AFL-CIO's strong protest against a proposed Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare regulation that would deny aid to needy children of fathers unemployed because of a strike.

It called on the HEW to withdraw the regulation and said strikers and their families should have "the same right as all other Americans" for welfare aid based solely on need.

Comprehensive Program:

Energy Plan Based On Self-Sufficiency

San Francisco—A comprehensive energy program based on elimination of American dependence on imported oil, conservation and conversion to substitute fuels was adopted by the AFL-CIO at its 11th convention here.

The federation also reaffirmed its commitment to protecting, restoring and improving the nation's environment. At the same time, it reiterated its conviction that "environmental policies and programs can and must be reconciled with energy needs and economic progress."

In a resolution on the environment, the AFL-CIO urged federal legislation to deal with the problem of suits for injunctions to halt construction projects after they've begun.

"The delays and uncertainties caused by such suits, many of which are frivolous, are among the factors contributing to intolerable unemployment"—over 20 percent—in the construction industry, the resolution observed.

The heart of the federation's energy program lies in the nation's current reliance on foreign oil. A resolution on the energy program warned:

"So long as the United States is dependent on the importation of oil, shipped in foreign vessels from insecure sources, the energy crisis will haunt this country."

To eliminate that dependence, the resolution called for taking the importation of oil out of private hands and putting it in the hands of government. It also called for enactment of a quota on oil imports, establishing a fair and equitable system of allocation and rationing, and economic sanctions against any country that would impose a ban against the U.S.

The resolution also called for energy conservation measures, including enforcement of the national 55-mile speed limit, higher tax rates on energy-wasting equipment, developing and expanding mass-transit systems, subsidizing low fares and requiring all new and existing structures to conform to energy efficiency standards.

In addition, the AFL-CIO called for a concerted drive to convert oil and gas-fueled plants to coal and nuclear energy. Government should act to promote the public acceptance of nuclear power, it said.

A massive program to increase domestic energy supplies is needed, the federation declared. It noted that despite enormous coal reserves in the United States significant moves have not been taken to make more effective use of them.

Among its recommendations, the AFL-CIO urged that a five-year, $20-billion government-funded crash program be launched to mobilize the country's scientific and technological resources to develop alternative sources of energy, increase the efficiency of consumption and expand existing sources.

It also called for intensified production from U.S. military reserves and revocation of the lease of any oil or natural gas producer who refused to pump supplies on land leased from the U.S. government.

In other resolutions on energy, the convention approved a recommendation of President Ford's Labor - Management Committee to establish a labor-management task force to help speed completion of electric power plants.

Another resolution called upon Congress to "begin, once and for all, the serious task of legislating the restructuring of the American oil industry" to break the monopoly hold of big oil corporations on the public.

Union Role Sought In Promotion Funds

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO called on Congress to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit labor to become a co-trustee with management on all industry and promotion funds.

A convention resolution noted that in recent years such funds have grown tremendously and "are being solely used by employers for their purposes without the voice of labor whose efforts are responsible for the contributions to the funds."

Takeover Bid Spotlights Multinationals' Abuses

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO reiterated its concern at the job-destroying role of U.S.-based multinational corporations—and spotlighted a newly-recognized threat of similar job losses when a foreign-based multinational takes over a thriving American firm.

Federation Vice President I. W. Abel, head of the Steelworkers, told the delegates of the attempt of a French-based conglomerate, Imetal, to acquire control of the Copperweld Corp. "solely to milk away the profits."

The takeover attempt, opposed by the Copperweld management as well as the union, threatens the jobs of most of the 5,000 Copperweld workers in Ohio and Pennsylvania, Abel said. After siphoning off the profits, he warned, the next step would be to "export to other countries the technical know-how and processes of this specialty steel corporation."

The convention resolution condemned "the unregulated takeover of United States firms by foreign interests." It said labor will fight this threat to jobs "in the courts, before administrative agencies, by public information programs and through unstinting support of necessary corrective legislation."

In a separate resolution, the AFL-CIO asked increased cooperation by trade unionists from different countries to combat disregard for workers' interests by multinational corporations. It called also for "an effective international code of fair labor standards" assuring the right to organize and bargain through a union.

It asked an end to preferential tax treatment that encourages U.S. firms to shift production and jobs abroad and called for regulation of the export of American capital and technology.

The resolution asked also for "regulation of imports into the United States economy, to help build American jobs and to assure America's future as an economy with a strong industrial base."

3-Part Program Set:

Organizing Called 'Compelling' Task

San Francisco—"The most compelling task we face" is to organize the unorganized, AFL-CIO convention delegates declared.

The convention voted a three-part program which included coping with problems under the National Labor Relations Act and its administration in addition to a mandate for the AFL-CIO's revamped Dept. of Organization & Field Services to continue its assistance in organizing tasks of all types.

"As trade unionists, we cannot ignore our obligations to help unorganized workers organize," the resolution declared, noting: "If our standards are higher today it is only because others, in turn, have helped us to organize."

The convention action also called on the federation to continue technical assistance, including specialized training programs at the Labor Studies Center.

It was noted that the "intimidation, reprisals, discharges and blacklists" that workers face in trying to form unions, especially in the South, are but one part of a package that includes other obstructions after a representation election has been won.

"If an anti-union employer fails to destroy an organizing effort and the workers do win NLRB recognition, the employer simply falls back on his second line of attack and refuses to agree to a contract," it was pointed out.

It is the federation's role to provide "service as a focal point for addressing problems affecting organizing that arise out of federal and state legislation, principally the National Labor Relations Act and its administration," the resolution said.

And it emphasized that organizing grows more critical as unions are confronted with the need to build mechanisms "capable of dealing on an equal basis with the power corporations."

The resolution noted that recent Bureau of Labor Statistics studies show "that millions of American workers are paid substandard wages and suffer endless injustices from heartless employers" as a result of the gap between union and non-union wages and conditions.

It said the AFL-CIO department "should continue to place emphasis on cooperative organizing programs under AFL-CIO coordination and to pay special attention to those groups of employes for whom collective bargaining is essential for raising above even the minimum standards of decent family living; the whole range of white-collar occupations, professional technical and clerical; and employes in the many service trades."

A report to the convention on organizing noted that multi-union, coordinated organizing efforts have been expanded, with good results. The report noted that several such drives were tried in limited areas, then grew to state-wide efforts and recently have become comprehensive campaigns without geographic limits.

That report also noted that workers are more aware of the necessity of unions in time of economic decline, but such decline also breeds fear which curtails organizing efforts.

FIRST GRADUATE of the AFL-CIO's Labor Studies Center's degree program, conducted in cooperation with Antioch College, receives his Bachelor of Labor Studies degree from Federation President George Meany at the AFL-CIO Convention. He is Donald Olson, business manager of Office & Professional Employees Local 8 in Seattle. In the background is Fred Hoehler, director of the Labor Studies Center.

Support Pledged Drive For J. P. Stevens Pact

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO threw its full weight behind the Textile Workers Union of America's attempt to get a contract at J. P. Stevens & Co., pledging whatever aid may be necessary—including "a massive boycott" of products made by the notoriously anti-union firm.

In a resolution approved at the federation's 11th convention here, J. P. Stevens was accused of flagrant violations of the National Labor Relations Act.

"The entire nation is shocked by the vicious, unremitting coercion with which J. P. Stevens & Co. has opposed the efforts of its employes to organize and build a union of their own," the resolution said.

"Hundreds of pro-union employes have been discharged and the number of acts of coercion and intimidation runs into the thousands."

After 12 years of organizing campaigns, TWU gained representation rights at the company's seven plants in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. But the firm has adamantly refused to bargain in good faith, with the result that for over a year some 3,600 Stevens workers in Roanoke Rapids have been without a contract.

Textile Workers President Sol Stetin, addressing convention delegates, described J. P. Stevens as "a Dracula, sucking the life blood out of its workers—working them for substandard wages, dominating their lives in the plants and in the 89 communities in which they operate."

He further characterized the firm as the leader of an anti-union conspiracy in the South aimed at keeping unions out of that part of the country.

"Let no one be blinded," Stetin said. "This is a conspiracy that is not confined to textiles in the American labor movement. The proof lies in the fact that very few unions are making any significant headway in the South."

Martin Ward, president of the Plumbers & Pipefitters, said that J.P. Stevens and the textile industry really are the key to organizational activities in the South.

"In the building trades, as an example, when we are successful in organizing a non-union building construction contractor, he is automatically taken off the bidding list for the textile industry.

"In other words, once he signs a contract to do his work with the union trades, he is no longer given any work by the textile industry."

Increased Aid Urged as Vital For ConRail

San Francisco — The AFL-CIO convention urged Congress to enact pending legislation creating the proposed Consolidated Railroad Corp. as "a viable and effective" rail carrier.

The United States Railway Association has given Congress its final system plan for a reorganized rail network in the northeastern part of the country, the federation noted in a resolution. But, it said, the plan contains serious deficiencies that can be corrected only by amendments to the Regional Rail Reorganization Act such as those now pending before Congress.

"Absent such amendments and this nation will be stripped of more than 5,000 miles of railroad lines virtually overnight, and the Consolidated Railroad Corp. will not be provided financing sufficient to enable it to succeed as a viable rail carrier," the resolution noted.

It called for increased federal financing for ConRail, coupled with approval of the final system plan.

The federation also pressed for legislation that would postpone the abandonment of all lines in the Northeast until local communities can "consider their position with regard to specific lines" and take appropriate action.

Delegates also approved resolutions calling for the transfer of railroad safety enforcement from the Transportation Dept. to the Labor Dept. and the establishment within the Interstate Commerce Commission of a permanent, independent office of public counsel responsible for representing the interests of the public in agency proceedings.

Ford Hit on Bid to Weaken Agency Rules

San Francisco—The Ford Administration's effort to weaken federal regulation of business threatens the health and pocketbooks of workers and their families, the AFL-CIO charged.

The convention demanded that the Administration "tighten—not loosen—control over industry, especially in the administration of laws which provide public access to information, break up monopolies, prosecute dishonesty and protect health and life."

It urged the need to separate regulatory functions of government from promotion-type activities "as a means of reducing the undue influence of those to be regulated."

While there is some truth in complaints of inefficiency in some regulatory agencies, the AFL-CIO suggested that the solution is to appoint abler administrators with an interest in protecting the public.

Raw Materials Supply Policy Urged on U.S.

San Francisco—A reliable supply of raw materials is essential to the survival and growth of the American economy, the AFL-CIO said.

A convention resolution called on the federal government to "move quickly" to develop a comprehensive policy and program to assure "the steady flow, present and future, of the raw ingredients necessary to the American industrial process."

Such a program, the convention said, should include:

- Stockpiling of raw materials.
- Bilateral commodities agreements between the U.S. and countries that are suppliers of raw materials.
- Development of new domestic sources of such materials and support for research.
- Improved recycling and other conservation methods.
- Strong antitrust supervision of firms that supply the United States with basic raw materials.

The resolution looked to creation of a Commission on Rational Resources as a government corporation "with direct responsibility for the development of materials policy as well as the oversight and management of much of the policy program."

Ban on Strikebreakers Asked on Federal Work

San Francisco—Federal action is needed to stop the use of strikebreakers on government service contracts, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

The convention voted endorsement for a House bill that would amend the Service Contract Act of 1965 to prohibit employers with defense contracts from replacing workers participating in a strike.

The case of scabs crossing Machinist picket lines against Dalmo Victory Company, a division of the Textron Corp. conglomerate, was cited by the convention as an example of the kind of activity the new legislation would stop.

Labor Renews Call to Federalize Jobless Aid, Injury Benefit Systems

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO renewed its call for federalization of workers' compensation and unemployment insurance programs.

Until that goal is achieved, minimum federal standards in all essential features of the programs should be enacted immediately, it declared in a convention resolution.

The resolution pledged the AFL-CIO's continued support of bills sponsored by Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) and by Representatives Carl D. Perkins (D-Ky.) and Dominick V. Daniels (D-N.J.). The bills would require substantial improvements in state workers' compensation laws long sought by labor, including:

- Compulsory coverage of all wage and salary workers, including public employes, without numerical, occupational or industry exemptions.
- Weekly benefits of not less than two-thirds of the injured workers average weekly wage.
- Coverage of farm workers.
- Full statutory coverage of all occupational diseases.

Glaring defects in the present inadequate and fragmented system of unemployment insurance must be corrected immediately, the AFL-CIO declared, "with permanent improvements in the program so that employment insurance can truly meet the needs of all jobless workers and thus contribute to the welfare of the entire nation."

The convention's resolution called on Congress to enact jobless insurance legislation to:

- Extend coverage to all wage and salary workers on a permanent basis.
- Establish minimum federal benefit standards of at least two thirds of the worker's weekly wage up to no less than 75 percent of the state average weekly wage.
- Require not more than 20 weeks of work for at least 26 weeks of benefits.
- Establish a maximum disqualification period of six weeks.
- Prohibit any reduction or cancellation of a worker's benefit rights or base-period wages.
- Restore the system's financial solvency.
- Abolish the existing trigger formula for extended unemployment compensation programs.

Until economic prosperity is restored, all jobless workers including those temporarily covered under Special Unemployment Assistance, should be eligible for at least 65 weeks of benefits, the AFL-CIO said.

In permanent legislation, it added, federally-financed extended benefits of at least 26 weeks should be available to all workers who exhaust their regular benefits.

Legislation Backed To Protect Privacy

San Francisco — A convention resolution gave the AFL-CIO's support to legislation intended to strengthen individual rights and outlaw invasions of privacy.

A proposed Bill of Rights Procedures Act has been introduced with more than 60 bipartisan sponsors in Congress, the resolution noted. It would require court warrants under tightened procedure in all cases involving interception of communications, obtaining records or conducting searches.

The resolution expressed labor's support "to the extent that this legislation will increase protection of individual rights."

Teamsters Role Condemned:

All Possible Support Sought For Cause of Farm Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

"As a result, our union has been hurt tremendously."

A day before the convention action, the Executive Council named a panel of three of its members to go into the farm fields for a first-hand investigation of unfair acts against UFW organizers and members in the election campaigns.

The committee consists of Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers; Joseph Keenan, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Paul Jennings, president of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

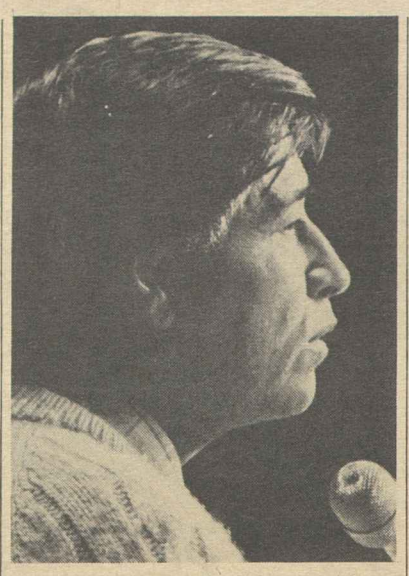
The UFW has filed numerous unfair labor practice charges against the growers and the Teamsters but the CALRB has issued few complaints. In addition, the union says the board has failed to move promptly on frivolous objections filed by the growers in obvious moves to obtain delays in the elections.

"Firings, dismissals, loss of pay, captive audience meetings held a few minutes before the election takes place, sudden wage increases two hours before the election takes place—these are the guns used by labor contractors and supervisors to intimidate the workers to vote right," Chavez charged. "All of this has been permitted by Walter Kintz."

The federation's resolution noted that the accumulated effect of all these circumstances is producing an increasing sense of frustration on the part of workers and growing disillusionment with the new farm labor law and its administration.

"Coercive tactics by growers and Teamsters have disrupted or impaired election procedures, created chaotic conditions surrounding voting, and seriously tainted the election process," the resolution charged.

The Farm Workers' strongest criticism against the CALRB has been in connection with the so-called access rule governing the



CESAR CHAVEZ

rights of union organizers to visit workers in the fields during representation election campaigns.

Despite a California Supreme Court ruling upholding this right, several county sheriffs—most notably Tulare County Sheriff Robert Wiley—have kept UFW organizers from the fields while permitting Teamster officials to spend the whole day talking to workers. The rule drawn up by the CALRB provides for access to the fields on a limited basis—before and after the workday and during lunchtime.

Chavez's wife Helen and their daughter, Linda Rodriguez, were arrested Oct. 1 near Delano on charges of trespassing at the Pandol Bros. ranch. Along with Jose Lopez, a national AFL-CIO representative from New York, and a freelance photographer, they were held by ranch employes on a "citizen's arrest" and turned over to Wiley's deputies.

The AFL-CIO resolution accused the Teamsters, in collusion with the growers, of attempting to destroy established collective bargaining procedures and, in the process, the Farm Workers.

Meany recalled that the attack on the UFW began on Apr. 15, 1973, when 26 growers in the Coachella Valley signed sweetheart contracts with the Teamsters.

"That collusion still exists," Meany charged. "The Teamsters are still in this fight shoulder to shoulder with the organized financial agricultural structure of this state.

"Perhaps some day when the Teamsters realize the shameful procedure being conducted by their leaders, maybe they may have a change of mind and come back . . . to the point where they can call themselves trade unionists."

Sol Stetin, president of the Textile Workers Union of America, told delegates a victory for the Farm Workers not only will bring credit to the entire labor movement but also "may be the start of organizing the remaining unorganized workers in America."

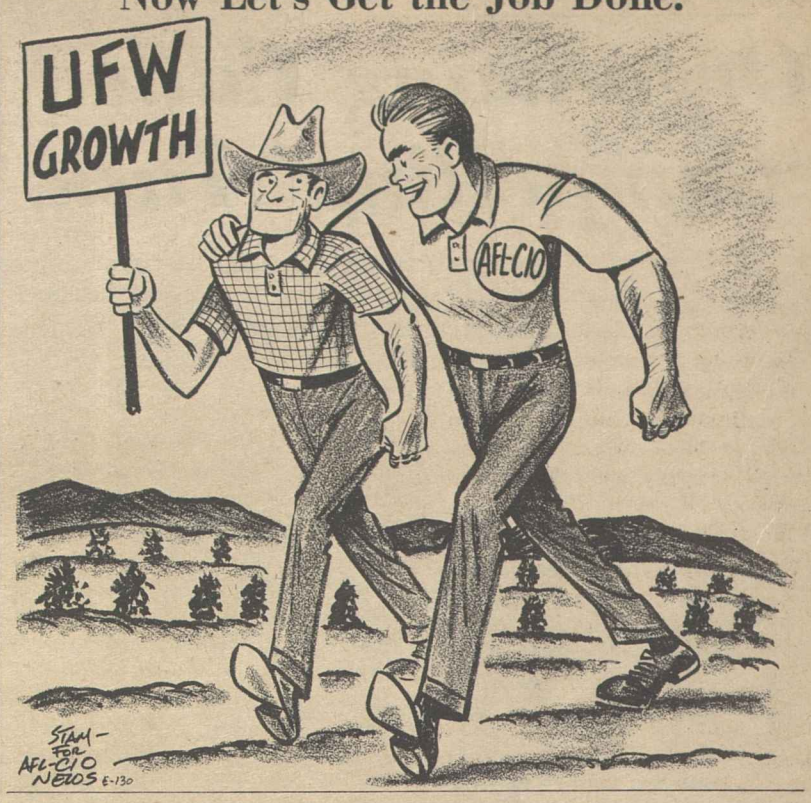
Chavez, reporting on the outcome of some 150 bargaining elections held since the new law went into effect, said that despite all the illegal acts the UFW has received 45 percent of the 26,500 votes cast so far. The Teamsters have received 29 percent, with 14 percent for "no union" and 11 percent yet uncounted because of challenges.

"We feel if we can get the state to act immediately to provide a decent atmosphere so that the workers can truly vote without being harassed and pressured the results will be much higher," Chavez observed.

He thanked the federation for its assistance in the past and gave special thanks to Meany for his personal involvement in the Farm Workers' long struggle to build a union. He recalled Meany's pledge to the UFW at the AFL-CIO's 1973 convention in Miami:

"We are with you and will stay with you until you and your members are able to build a union strong enough to stand alone."

'Now Let's Get the Job Done!'



Major Areas Swamped With High Joblessness

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unemployed were virtually unchanged from August.

Seasonally adjusted, the number of workers without jobs and who were actively looking for work held at 7.8 million. Total employment also remained steady at 85.4 million. This is about one million below a year ago when the jobless rate was 5.8 percent.

In September, there wer divergent movements among the major labor force groups, the Bureau of Labor Statistics pointed out.

The jobless rate for adult men increased to the June-July level of 7 percent, after declining to 6.6 percent in August, while the rate for adult women eased to 7.5 percent from 7.7 percent in August.

Unemployment also increased over the month for married men to 5.3 percent and for household heads to 5.7 percent, but declined a bit for teenagers to 19.3 percent from 21.1 percent in August.

For blacks and other minority groups, the jobless rate rose three-tenths of 1 percent to 14.3 percent.

The jobless rate was unchanged for full-time workers at 8.2 percent, while declining nearly a full percentage point for part-time workers to 9.6 percent. The rate also held steady for blue-collar workers at 11.5 percent, but edged up one-tenth of 1 percent for white-collar workers to 4.7 percent.

Construction industry unemployment was below the 20 percent mark for the second month in a row, declining from 19.9 to 19.2 percent. But the rate in manufacturing, after declining in the previous three months, increased one-tenth of 1 percent to 11.6 percent.

BLS also said that the average workweek for all production workers on nonfarm payrolls dropped two-tenths of an hour to 36 hours, the level of June and July. Over the year, average weekly hours are down a full half-hour.

Widespread declines in average weekly hours in the service sector were partly offset by small pickups in mining and manufacturing, the BLS noted.

The average duration of unemployment rose from 15.7 weeks to 16.2 during September. BLS said there was a continued increase in the number of workers unemployed 27 weeks and longer to 1.6 million. This is the higest level since post-World War II and constituted one-fifth of the jobless workers.

The major causes for Washington's jobless rate of more than 6 percent were attributed to a decline in construction activity, as new building permits were at an all-time low, and layoffs in the printing, publishing and hotel industries. The higher unemployment in the Virginia Tidewater area was due to layoffs in electrical machinery and transportation equipment, the Labor Dept. said.

The major areas hardest-hit by unemployment are in Puerto Rico, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Michigan.

The 10 cities topping the list of high unemployment are Ponce, P.R., 21.3 percent; Mayaguez, P.R., 16.9 percent; Lawrence-Haverhill, Mass., 16.3 percent; Providence-Warwick-Pawtucket, R.I., 16.2 percent; Muskegon-Muskegon Heights, Mich., 15.9 percent; Lowell, Mass., 15.6 percent; Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, Mass., 15.3 percent; Flint, Mich., 15.2 percent, and Detroit, 14.8 percent.

School Lunch Veto Rejected, House Passes Construction Bargaining Bill

President Ford's veto of an expanded school lunch and child nutrition program was overturned by a massive 397-18 vote in the House and a 79-13 margin in the Senate.

On the same day it overrode the veto, the House mustered another big margin to pass the Construction Industry Collective Bargaining bill that had both Administration and labor support—but was opposed by hard-core anti-union groups seeking to kill the companion job site picketing bill.

The bargaining bill, drafted by Labor Sec. John Dunlop in consultation with unions, management and key members of Congress, would give national unions and contractor organizations a greater role in resolving bargaining disputes.

It was endorsed in an AFL-CIO convention resolution as "a careful and conscientious attempt by individuals who know the construction indusrty" to develop new procedures that make collective bargaining more effective.

The bill would establish a Construction Industry Collective Bargaining Committee of 10 members named by the building trades unions, 10 by the employer organizations, three public members and the Secretary of Labor and director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

It would be notified 60 days in advance of contract expirations and have a flexible choice of options in seeking to resolve disputes. It could delay a strike 30 days beyond the contract expiration, but it could not impose compulsory arbitration.

In addition, the committee would study and make recommendations on such matters as the geographical structure of bargaining in the construction industry, apprenticeship issues and stability of employment.

On the school lunch veto, Ford failed even to convince his own party that the fight against inflation would be lost if children from lower-income working families, as well as families on welfare, were to be eligible for low-cost lunch and nutrition programs.

The vetoed bill, now a law, would require all schools to offer reduced-price meals for eligible families. The family income eligibility test would rise to 195 percent of the poverty level. Under present law, the income ceiling is 175 percent and a school isn't required to serve reduced-price meals to those eligible.

The new legislation also extends federal food assistance to residential institutions such as shelters for abused children or homes for retraded children. And it corrects present limitations in summer food programs and in food services for Headstart programs and day care centers.

10-11-75

Labor Renews Demand For Audit of 'Fed'

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO renewed its call for legislation to provide for regular audits of the Federal Reserve System which it charged has severely damaged the economy and brought on high unemployment through its policies.

"The devastation of the economy has caused the Congress to understand it must undertake some actions to make the Fed less powerful and more responsive to the needs of the people," the federation declared in a convention resolution.

The resolution noted the Federal Reserve System has never been subject to any audit during its 62-year history. It is the only federal agency whose activities the General Accounting Office may not audit.

Legislation now before Congress would curb the powers of the board as well as provide for audits to make it more answerable to the public. Several proposals call for reducing the term of each of the Fed's seven members from 14 to 7 years and fixing the maximum term of the chairman—the position now held by Arthur Burns—at four years.

Many economists who have followed the Fed's activities contend that the power and secrecy of the board and its Open Market Committee under Burns have led to severe fluctuations in the economy, the resolution noted.

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Jobs, Energy, Budget Top Issues Demanding Action

Labor Asks Medicare Overhaul

"Inefficiencies in the nation's health care system" are the chief cause of the cost overruns of the Medicare program, the AFL-CIO told Congress.

The federation proposed a number of major revisions in the Medicare financing system to a House Ways & Means subcommittee that is considering amendments to the law. The statement made clear the AFL-CIO's view that these reforms would somewhat relieve the symptoms, but would not cure the disease.

"Only the adoption of a National Health Security program will guarantee a health care system capable of providing comprehensive quality care and of containing cost increases," the AFL-CIO said.

While Medicare has "contributed enormously" to lessening the crushing burden of health care costs for the elderly, the cost reimbursement system for doctors and hospitals "subsidizes inefficiency," the AFL-CIO charged.

Physicians get paid on a basis that "rewards volume rather than quality of service and that provides no financial incentive to keep the patient well."

And hospitals, too, get full payment even when costs are inflated by poor management and unneeded facilities, the statement noted.

While acknowledging no "easy solution," the AFL-CIO proposed:

- Encouraging prepaid comprehensive health services that give the providers of medical care "a financial incentive to keep the patient well and to avoid unnecessary hospital care."
- Replacement of the current prevailing-rate reimbursement to doctors with a negotiated fee schedule. The present system "is an open invitation to doctors in a seller's market for medical services to increase their charges so that the new higher level will have to be considered prevailing."
- Requiring physicians to accept the payment ruled reasonable by the Social Security Administration rather than billing the patient directly and requiring the patient to make up the difference between the doctor's bill and the Medicare reimbursement.
- Establishment of a reimbursement formula for hospitals based on "only those costs incurred by a reasonably prudent and cost-conscious management."

The AFL-CIO emphasized, however, that control of costs in health care should not be permitted to re-

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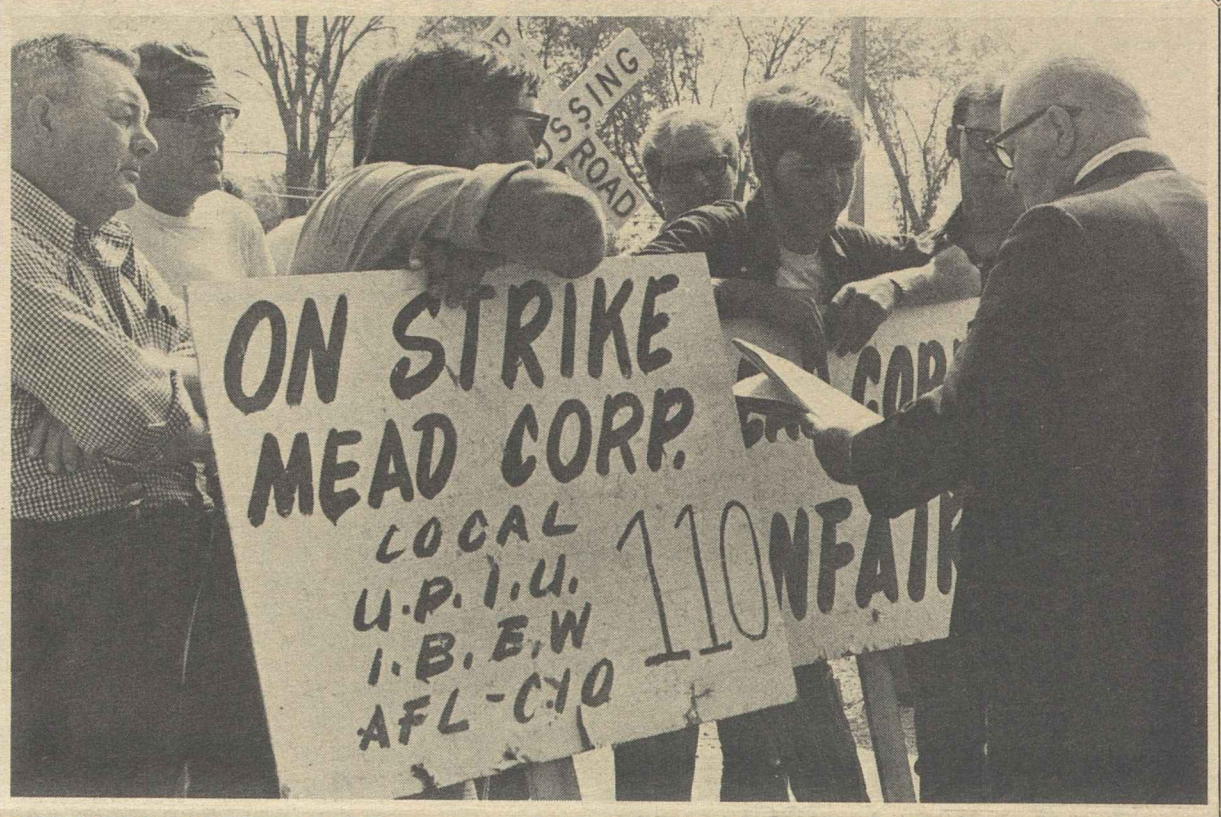


STRIKING PAPERWORKERS are assured the support of their union by President Joseph P. Tonelli, right, during a picket line visit at the Mead Corp. plant at Escanaba, Mich., where two UPIU locals and an IBEW local are on strike. Union members are also striking an Ohio plant.

Despite Abuse of Law:

Farm Union Leads In California Votes

Fresno, Calif. — Despite widespread abuses under California's new agricultural labor relations law, the United Farm Workers have maintained the UFW's lead in its battle with the Teamsters over the right to represent the state's field workers.

As of Oct. 15, the UFW had won 114 elections under the new farm labor election law. The rival Teamsters had won 86, while workers in 13 elections chose neither. Thirty-four other contests were undecided pending the outcome of recounts or court challenges.

In terms of number of workers represented, the elections gave the UFW bargaining rights for 12,750 workers to 9,540 for the Teamsters. An additional 1,740 chose no union representation while 10,800 are involved in the undecided contests.

The UFW's growing strength is reflected in the number of switches to the AFL-CIO affiliate. In its most recent compilation of the outcome of the farm labor elections, the federation's Dept. of Organization & Field Services reported that 36 bargaining units formerly held by the Teamsters had voted to switch to the UFW. In contrast, there have been no shifts from the Farm Workers to the Teamsters.

A three-member panel of the AFL-CIO Executive Council has been touring the farm fields for a first-hand investigation of unfair acts against UFW members during the election campaigns. The committee includes Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers; Joseph Keenan, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Paul Jennings, president of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

A hearing on the challenged election at the E. & J. Gallo winery, the nation's largest vintner, was postponed until Oct. 28. The hear-

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Cases Rank High On Court Agenda

The Supreme Court will take a new look at the Fair Labor Standards Act this fall and seek to resolve a constitutional challenge to the right of Congress to set wage-hour standards for all public workers, including police and fire fighters.

That was one of the big holdover cases as the court began its new term. It considered the issues last year, but decided to schedule a new round of arguments before reaching a decision.

Early action by the court, in terms of accepting and rejecting cases decided by lower courts for review, indicate that labor issues will again rank heavy on the court calendar.

(Continued on Page 2)

Congress Faces Key Decisions

By David L. Perlman

Congress faces a series of tough decisions in the weeks ahead that could determine whether the nation moves closer to labor's full employment goal—at faster than a snail's pace.

After nearly 10 months, the 94th Congress is still trying to shape a comprehensive energy policy that will conserve fuel without sending prices so high that a new inflation-recession round will devastate the still-ailing economy.

A House-Senate conference committee, working under the cloud of a veto threat, will resume its efforts to shape an energy bill after Congress returns from a week's recess on Oct. 20.

In the Senate, a many-sided battle over natural gas pricing will be fought to a decision. The Administration would like all price controls lifted promptly and consumer groups would like to see some of the big producing-distributing monopolies broken up.

The related tax and budget controversies are of special importance to labor's goals.

For weeks the House Ways & Means Committee has been drafting a major revision of the tax code—closing some big loopholes to bring in needed revenue, but in several cases reducing deductions available to working families in the name of "simplification."

Present plans are to couple this bill with a continuation of the temporary tax cuts enacted early this year that pumped billions of dollars in badly-needed purchasing power into the recession-parched economy.

Unless Congress acts this year, taxes shoot back up in 1976 and

(Continued on Page 8)

New Limit Proposed On Asbestos Fibers

By John R. Oravec

A revised federal job health standard to reduce worker exposure to cancer-causing asbestos fibers is being proposed by the Labor Dept., along with new exposure limits on lead, beryllium and 13 additional toxic chemicals.

But the standards would not become effective for several months, following the lengthy process of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's issuance of economic impact statements and subsequent public hearings.

And the proposed asbestos standard would not cover construction workers, although thousands of building trades craftsmen are in daily contact with asbestos materials.

The proposal would reduce the exposure limit from the current permissible level of 5 fibers per milliliter of air to 0.5 fibers over an eight-hour period. In broader terms, this means the reduction is from 5 million fibers per cubic meter of air to 500,000 fibers.

The existing standard, which OSHA issued in 1972, would automatically lower the exposure limit to 2 fibers per milliliter of air on July 1, 1976. Construction workers would continue to be covered by

(Continued on Page 8)

Attack on Food Stamps Scored as Anti-Worker

A union witness assailed a right-wing attack on the food stamp program and told a Senate panel there would be less need for the program if more people had jobs at decent wages.

Arnold Mayer, legislative representative of the Meat Cutters, said high unemployment and inflation have been most responsible for the increased cost of the food stamp program.

He took sharp issue with the employer-backed "solution" in a bill introduced by Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.)—to make eligibility rules so restrictive that millions of low-income families would be disqualified from the program.

Particular targets of disqualification under the Buckley bill are families of strikers, who now are eligible for food stamps if they meet the same test of need that is applied to all other persons.

A National Association of Manufacturers spokesman, Anthony Dragonette, told a Senate Agricul-

(Continued on Page 8)

Medicare Ills Laid to Cost Inefficiencies

(Continued from Page 1)

sult in additional charges on the patients.

Further, the federation urged, there should be no further cost increase to the elderly in the Medicare program. In fact, the hospital care and presently optional medical care elements should be combined in a single program, with the premium for medical care eliminated.

Half the cost of such a combined program, the AFL-CIO proposed, should be financed by a contribution to the trust fund from general federal government revenues.

Along with financing reforms, the AFL-CIO said, a prescription drug program and an expanded home health service program should be added to Medicare.

While the present program allows home nursing services, a broader definition of allowable home care is needed, the federation said.

"Services to keep the home clean, to prepare meals and to transport patients to health services are often as important in preventing institutionalization of patients as direct health services themselves," the statement observed.

While its proposals would "do much to improve the Medicare program" by reducing financial hardships and better controlling costs, the AFL-CIO reiterated labor's conviction that only a comprehensive national health security program can make quality health services available to all Americans "as a matter of right" and at an affordable cost.

READY TO WORK on the Truman Medical Center project at Kansas City is Johnnie Irene Archer, the first woman apprentice in Carpenters Local 61. She qualified for the local's apprenticeship program without prior experience.

Auxiliaries Adopt Plan For New Framework

San Francisco—The AFL-CIO National Auxiliaries wound up what in all probability was its final convention as a separate fraternal affiliate of the federation.

Delegates to the Auxiliaries' 10th convention here approved a plan under which its functions and responsibilities as a voluntary arm of the AFL-CIO will be assumed Jan. 1, 1976, by the federation's Dept. of Organization and Field Services.

Novella M. Porter, who will leave her post as executive director Dec. 31, said that an advisory committee will be set up next month to work out a way to restructure the organization within the new framework.

"We will function as is until then," she said. "We stand at the crossroads and look into the future. I can only hope and wish that the path to be chosen will lead to unlimited horizons."

In remarks to the 60 convention delegates, Mrs. Porter noted that the National Auxiliaries has experienced financial stress since its inception in 1959. While 30 new local auxiliaries were organized and affiliated since the last convention two years ago, a gradual decline in members has severely sapped the organization's strength.

"This is due to many contributing factors, primarily the adverse economic trend affecting our country nationwide," Mrs. Porter noted. "As older members became inactive they apparently are not being replaced by the more youthful members who are not aware of an auxiliary program and cannot feel the responsibility to become involved."

Also, the interests and activities of the Auxiliaries have increasingly become integrated with those of other departments of the AFL-CIO and its affiliates, she observed.

Mrs. Porter, who had planned to retire at this year's convention has agreed to stay on through the end of 1975. She was named executive director in 1972 to succeed Marcella Beatty.

President George Meany, who appointed her to the post, cited her "hard and dedicated work" with the Auxiliaries and added in a letter:

"You have demonstrated a trade union spirit and an ability to handle difficult tasks that merits a commendation of your fellow members in the entire labor movement."

In the light of the convention's action, the delegates did not elect executive officers or draw up a formal program.

Among the resolutions adopted was one opposing the elimination of price marking at the retail level. Others supported International Women's Year and efforts to improve the status of women; the nation's bicentennial program, and a recommendation that all printed material received by the Auxiliaries and its affiliates be returned to the sender if it does not bear a union label.

Supreme Court Agenda Heavy with Labor Cases

(Continued from Page 1)

One of the cases accepted for review raises the question of whether a Texas "right-to-work" law banning the union shop applies to an oil company's tankers that operate principally between Texas and New York. A suit by Mobil Oil Co. sought to void the agency shop contract it had negotiated in 1969 with the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers. A district court said the state "work" law applied. A federal appellate court said it did not because the principal jobsite is "on the high seas." The Supreme Court will decide whether that ruling should be affirmed.

Also accepted for review is another case tied to the issue of whether a company that denies disability benefits for pregnancy is guilty of sex discrimination. This case was brought by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (IUE) on behalf of a group of women employed by General Electric. Last year, the court agreed to consider a similar case, but has not yet acted on it.

Review was also granted in a case in which the Machinists are challenging a decision by the Wisconsin Supreme Court holding that a union's attempt to persuade its members not to work overtime during a contract dispute violated state labor law. The IAM argues that federal labor law pre-empts the state law and such conduct is not prohibited under the National Labor Relations Act.

Also pending before the Supreme Court are an assortment of cases dealing with the reconciliation of steps taken to increase minority employment and the issue of seniority in layoffs and recalls.

The high court has also agreed to consider various cases involving the job rights of public employes, including one involving 80 teachers who were fired by the Hortonville, Wis., school board after a 1974 strike by the National Education Association.

UFW Keeps Election Lead In California

(Continued from Page 1)

ing, in Merced, focuses on how many of 131 "economic strikers" who cast ballots last month are deemed eligible to have their vote counted.

Meanwhile, California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., has appointed a special task force to attempt to unclog the machinery of the new farm labor law, which went into effect Aug. 28. UFW President Cesar Chavez has accused the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board, which is supposed to administer the law, with failure to act quickly in processing more than 200 unfair practice charges the UFW has filed.

The task force is made up of 24 attorneys, 12 from the CALRB and 12 from private practice. The panel is chaired by Larry Berg, a former associate professor of political science at the University of Southern California.

Sheriff's deputies in the state's growing areas, along with the ranch owners themselves, continued to arrest union organizers and others in the fields, even though the California Supreme Court has upheld a CALRB ruling providing for access by the union.

Bommarito Sets Priorities:

Escalator Termed Major URW Goal

Bal Harbour, Fla.—"Catch-up" pay raises for members of the Rubber Workers should be accompanied by cost-of-living protection, URW President Peter Bommarito said in a keynote address to the largest convention in the union's 40-year history.

He told the 997 delegates that a cost-of-living escalator should be a "Number One goal" for the union.

Another priority, Bommarito said, should be pension improvements for both active workers and "our URW brothers and sisters who have retired."

He called also for greater protection for workers displaced by plant closings, and spoke of "a vast no-man's land where people find themselves too old to easily relocate or secure new jobs, but too young to qualify for pension benefits."

While earlier hopes for a merger at this time with the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers were unfulfilled and the merger talks recessed, Bommarito told the delegates that the need for merger remains "an inescapable conclusion we must accept if we are to more fully meet our responsibilities in the future."

A strong theme of international cooperation marked the opening of the URW's 29th convention.

Among the speakers was the secretary-general of the International Chemical Workers Federation, with which the URW is affiliated, and the president of the Japanese Federation of Rubber Workers Unions, founded a little more than a year ago. The two unions have an agreement for joint cooperation, particularly in the area of worker safety and health.

In his keynote speech, Bommarito voiced concern at the growing concentration of economic power in huge multinational corporations. At the present pace, he warned, multinationals are fast surpassing nations in economic power.

He said the URW works with the ICWF in "an attempt to promote the solidarity and living standards of free trade unionists everywhere." Only through international trade union cooperation, he said, can effective action be taken to protect against job losses and plant closings "which result from the global transfer of production by the multinational corporations."

Bommarito denounced the Ford Administration for following in the path of the Nixon Administration as an ally of big business that is out to "zap labor."

The Ford Administration also was roasted by Sen. John H. Glenn, Jr. (D-Ohio), who cited vetoes of bills dealing with health, jobs, veterans, education and child nutrition.

Glenn said Ford heads "a government of crisis," which "waits for something to happen and then takes a Band-Aid approach" to dealing with the problem.

Labor Editor Duane Emme Dies at 54

Duane A. Emme, a highly-regarded labor editor and writer, died Oct. 13 of a heart ailment at the age of 54.

He was senior associate editor of Press Associates, Inc., the news service for the labor press, and wrote many of the Washington Window columns that appear in the AFL-CIO News.

Emme was an assistant editor of the AFL-CIO News from 1967 until he joined PAI in 1970. Before that, since 1954, he had been on the staff of Labor, the newspaper of the railroad unions.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said Emme "made a great contribution to the labor movement as an outstanding writer and editor in his years of service with the labor press, including the AFL-CIO News. His knowledge of labor and his ability to communicate its various activities will be sorely missed."

Born in Minot, N.D., the son of a railroad union leader, Emme graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1947 after service as an army officer during World War II. He worked as a reporter on the Mankato (Minn.) Free Press before coming to Washington, D.C.

Emme was a long-time member of the Newspaper Guild, a former member of the Washington local's executive board and chairman of its Labor Press unit.

He is survived by his wife, Marguerite, and two children, Matthew 8, and Kristina, 5. Services were held Oct. 16 in College Park, Md., with burial at the Ft. Snelling, Minn., National Cemetery. The family has requested that expressions of sympathy be in the form of donations to the Heart Fund.

Tennessee Convention Backs Voter Project

Nashville, Tenn.—Delegates to the Tennessee AFL-CIO convention voted to raise the state federation's per capita tax from 23 to 25 cents to help finance an expanded voter registration program and to provide added revenue for general operations.

A computerized voter identification project is being developed by the state COPE organization to provide for wider voter education and registration activities. The project is tied in with COPE's statewide efforts to increase voter turnout.

The 356 delegates also called for passage of a federal postcard voter registration law to help spur increased participation in the election process. In other major resolutions, the convention urged congressional enactment of improved consumer protection laws, National Health Security and full collective bargaining rights for public employes.

The federation's top officers were re-elected to new two-year terms, including President Matthew Lynch, Sec.-Treas. Lee Case and 16 of the 19 vice presidents.

Three new vice presidents elected at the three-day convention are Edward Harvey of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Sam Odum of the Rubber Workers and J. D. McGee of the Communications Workers.

Major convention speakers included Representatives Harold Ford, Marilyn L. Lloyd and Ed Jones, all Democrats; Nashville Mayor Richard Fulton and John Perkins, national assistant director of COPE.

Grospiron Tells OCAW:

Oil Decontrol Profit Put at $250 Billion

Hollywood, Fla.—If the price of "old" oil is decontrolled as President Ford advocates, the assets of the oil industry will jump by more than $250 billion, the head of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers told delegates to the union's convention.

In his keynote speech to the convention, OCAW President A. F. Grospiron said the decontrolled prices would mean that each American family will have to pay "more and more each year" in added fuel costs.

Controls on the price of "old" oil, already discovered but still in the ground, were scheduled to expire Sept. 1, but have been temporarily extended.

Illustrating his point with an example, Grospiron said: "Suppose an oil company has known reserves of 100 million barrels of discovered oil in the ground, ready to be pumped. By decontrolling the price of that oil, thereby permitting it to rise from $5.25 per barrel to $11.25 per barrel, that oil company would be handed a $600 million windfall."

Thus, he said, "if old oil is decontrolled as Ford would like, the assets of the oil industry will be increased by more than $250 billion," a figure he described as conservative.

Grospiron, who has headed the union since 1965, also expressed sharp criticism of the Ford Administration's economic policies. He pointed out that each percentage point of the current 8.3 percent unemployment rate means that about 940,000 workers are without jobs.

The nearly eight million unemployed are equivalent in numbers to the populations of Toronto, Cleveland, St. Louis and Pittsburgh combined, he said.

"Our members are beginning to feel the effects of the Ford Administration's economic policies," Grospiron said. "Many of them who are employed in such places as paint factories already have been laid off because of what's happened in the housing industry.

"When you consider that housing extends far beyond the building trades, into areas such as the manufacture of furniture, appliances, floor coverings, plumbing fixtures and other materials, then you know what a healthy housing industry means to the economy."

Instead of reversing the nation's economic downturn during the 14 months he has been in office, Ford has vetoed many pieces of legislation designed to end the recession, the OCAW president pointed out.

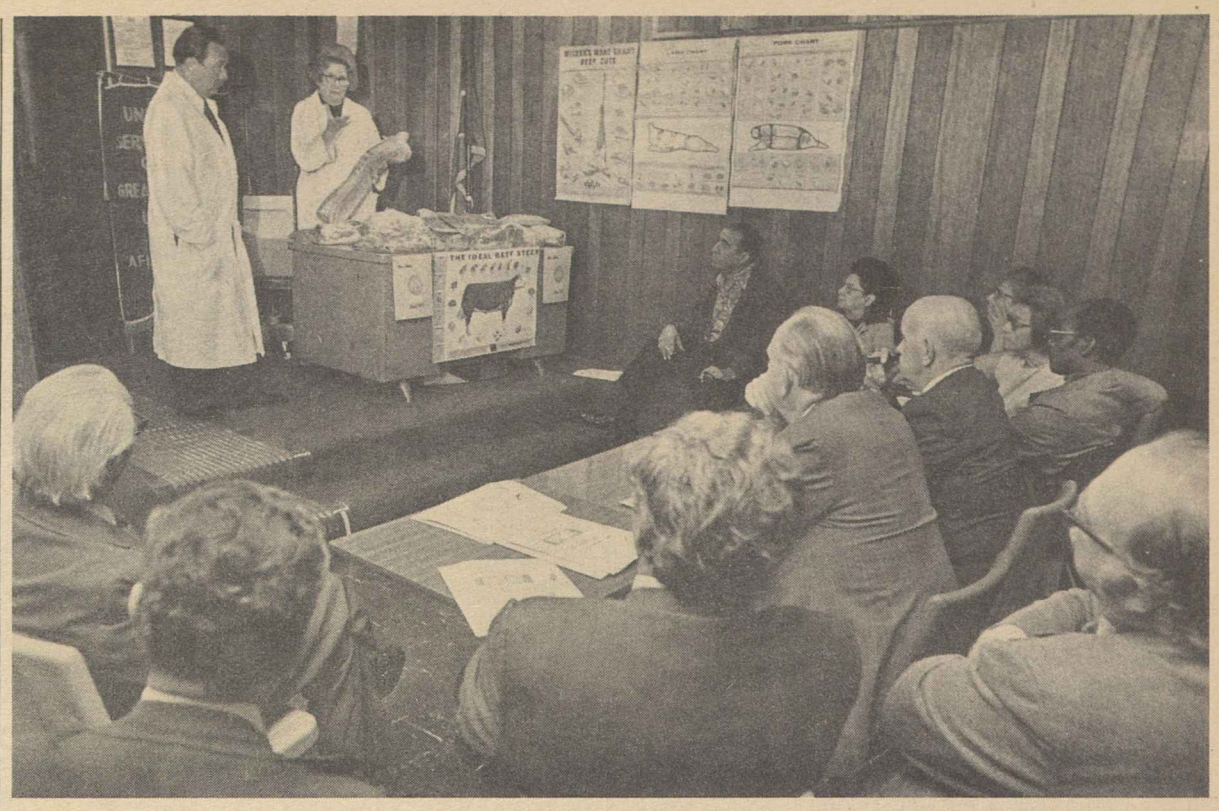
John Simonds, executive secretary of the Canadian Labor Congress, told the delegates that the Trudeau government's recent economic proposals would put a ceiling on wages while providing no effective restraints on other forms of income.

The CLC's response was a nine-point program that could form the basis of labor's cooperation in solving Canada's economic crisis, he said.

In spite of the CLC's proposals, Simonds noted, the Canadian government on Oct. 14 announced a program of wage and price "restraints" that would limit wage increases to 8 percent the first year, provide for an additional 2 percent for "catch-up" because of increased living costs, and an additional catch-up of 2 percent where it can be justified by productivity increases.

Under the program, wage increases would be subject to a minimum of $600 and a maximum of $2,400 in that year, he explained. Prices would be allowed to increase only where it could be proven that production costs have risen, he said.

Because of the recent developments regarding wage and price controls, he said, the "system of free collective bargaining and the structure of the trade unions themselves have come under question."



CONSUMER TIPS on "How to Stretch the Union Dollar" are passed on at a clinic initiated by the Union Label & Service Trades Council of the New York City AFL-CIO. Describing the finer points of purchasing meats are Meat Cutters' representatives Frank Hagemaier and Irene Carney.

Printing Crafts Gaining Support In Strike Against Washington Post

Support for striking printing trades at the Washington Post is growing in response to an appeal from the Greater Washington Central Labor Council in calling for a fair settlement of the dispute.

The strike, now in its third week, began Oct. 1 when newspaper pressmen of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union walked out after their contract expired. Photoengravers of the Graphic Arts International Union and the Mailers local of the International Typographical Union went on strike a few days later.

Other craft unions are honoring the picket lines of the three striking unions. More than half of the 840-member unit of the Newspaper Guild is also refusing to report for work, a local Guild representative said. The executive board of the Guild local directed members of the Post unit to respect the picket lines and scheduled an immediate referendum of the entire local membership on the board's order.

The central labor council noted that this is the third strike at the newspaper in 24 months and reflects the failure of the Post's labor relations policies.

In issuing its appeal for support of the strikers, the council said that it condemned the violence associated with the strike, but also expressed concern over the "vicious anti-union conduct" of the Post management. The council placed the Post on its unfair list until a just settlement is made.

Meanwhile, the Post has been publishing abbreviated editions at six non-union plants outside of Washington and at the Post plant.

But circulation of the Post, which has a daily run of more than 500,000 and 700,000 on Sundays, has plunged. The coordinated union strike headquarters reported that the newspaper had received thousands of cancellations.

The company has charged the pressmen of sabotaging operations by damaging the presses before going out on strike.

James A. Dugan, president of the pressmen's local, said that the company "made no real effort to meet with us." Dugan said wages were not the key issue in the contract talks, stressing that the membership was attempting to stave off attempts of management to eliminate its hard-won gains of the past two decades.

He said that because of the company's hard line in the bargaining, some pressmen on the eve of the strike apparently took out their frustrations by damaging the presses.

When union machinists refused to enter the struck plant to restore the presses, the company recruited non-union mechanics to handle repairs. Several presses are now in operation, but the Post continues to publish thin editions of the paper.

The mechanical operations of the newspaper production are being handled by supervisors, executives and some non-union employes in the Guild's jurisdiction, the Washington Guild local said.

The Post had been cross-training executives, personnel officials, supervisors, advertising salesmen and others for the past two years to take over the mechanical operations in the event of a strike.

Mark J. Meagher, executive vice president of the Post, said at a press conference that most of the training took place at the Newspaper Production Research Center in Oklahoma City. That facility has often been termed by members of printing trades unions as a "scab training school."

Armed with this backup crew of "pressmen" the Post hardened its bargaining stance in the negotiations prior to the strike.

Job Issues Dominate Iowa State Convention

Dubuque, Iowa—Labor's program to put the nation back to work was reinforced at the Iowa AFL-CIO's 20th annual convention as delegates explored the impact of state legislative priorities and Ford Administration economic policies.

State Federation President Hugh D. Clark termed 1975 "a bleak" year, in which joblessness has approached depression levels.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, told the 300 delegates that an essential step in achieving labor's goals will be the election of the labor-supported candidates in the 1976 elections.

Kistler said that the nation's economic problems stem from "an unwillingness or inability of those in power to recognize our problems" and to correct them.

Lowell Goss, president of the Iowa Farmers Union, said in an address during the three-day convention that the Administration's failure to adopt a responsible food policy is driving a wedge of misunderstanding between farmers and consumers.

He also warned that an unregulated program of grain sales to the Soviet Union could bring the same inflationary impact that occurred in 1972 when the USSR made massive purchases of U.S. wheat.

The convention called for a state legislation to prohibit employers from monitoring telephone calls of employes in their workplaces to curb the invasion of privacy.

Delegates also approved a 1-cent increase in the monthly per capita tax to finance an oral labor history project conducted in cooperation with the University of Iowa. The per capita tax hike to 31 cents goes into effect Jan. 1.

Convention resolutions called for passage of the labor-backed National Health Security bill, support of the United Farm Workers, and opposition to legislation banning disposable bottles and cans.

N.C.

Degree Plan Enrolls 44 At Labor Studies Center

Forty-four union officers and full-time staff members are now enrolled in a unique college degree program established by the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center in cooperation with Antioch College. The program leads to a bachelor of arts degree in labor studies from Antioch.

The core of the program is the Labor Studies major which enables students to relate their day-to-day activities in the labor movement to general economic, social and political developments.

Courses are offered in such areas as labor law and legislation, collective bargaining, labor history and labor and politics. Additional credit toward the major is available for competence gained through experience in the labor movement; the student gets some college credits for his regular trade union activity. The program requires substantial course work in the social sciences, humanities and the sciences.

The most distinctive feature of the center's college degree program is the way it is adapted to fit the needs of individuals who cannot attend regular classes at traditional schools or colleges. The degree program revolves around week-long "in-residence" sessions every six months at the center's campus at Silver Spring, Md.

At these sessions, students begin their courses with intensive classroom experiences. During the following six months each student works independently, completing assignments, conferring with instructors by mail and phone before returning to the center to complete the work and begin another set of courses.

In addition to credits earned directly through the program, students receive credit for other learning experiences such as previous college work, experience in the labor movement, long-term labor education programs and technical and vocational education.

Of the 44 who are currently studying for the labor studies degree, all but five have some previous college credits. Most have had the equivalent of two years in college. Twenty are officers of local unions, 12 of international unions, five of district or regional union councils or joint boards, three of city central labor bodies and one of a state federation. One is on the staff of the AFL-CIO while two others come from allied organizations. They are members of 24 national or international unions. Their average age is 37.5.

Any union officer, representative or full time staff member interested in the college degree program can get complete information by contacting the College Degree Coordinator, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20903. The phone number is 301/431-6401).

Political Action

THE SUCCESSES in 1974 elections created the problems for 1976. Chief among them is the need to retain the many congressional districts that switched from conservative to progressive in the last election.

The continuing development of COPE programs and their growing acceptance and support within the trade union family are encouraging signs that labor's political activities will be able to meet this challenge.

However, to assure full labor movement support of COPE and its goals and to enhance the prospects of its endorsed candidates in 1976, we recommend:

1. Total commitment at all levels of the labor movement to achieve victory at the polls in 1976.

2. Establishment of a COPE committee in every affiliated local union to do its utmost to assure political participation by every union member and voting-age member of his or her family. Our minimum goal should be to get every union member and every voting-age member of his or her family to register, vote and contribute $2 to COPE.

3. Increased efforts at all levels to communicate the issues and candidates' records with our members on a continuing basis.

—Adopted by 11th AFL-CIO convention.

Women Workers

WOMEN ARE TURNING TO the trade union movement in ever-increasing numbers as the only effective means of gaining and maintaining justice and equality. Their number continues to grow as organizing drives push forward.

The importance of women as trade unionists must be recognized and their full participation encouraged. A good union contract is not only the most effective guarantee against economic exploitation, but it is also the basis upon which true equality can be built.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO calls upon its affiliates to:

1. Reaffirm their commitment to the equality of women, especially equal opportunity for women in the work place.

2. Continue to combat discrimination at the bargaining table by seeking to eliminate all wage differentials based on sex; provide for sickness and accident benefits for pregnancy and maternity leave paid on the same basis as any other disability; job posting and upgrading; and supporting expansion of applicable state laws which now protect only women to protect men.

3. Urge Congress to pass fully adequate child care legislation.

4. Encourage full participation of women in all union activity.

5. Endorse the Equal Rights Amendment as a clear statement of commitment to the principles of equality of the sexes and urge all affiliates to work for ratification of ERA in the remaining state legislatures.

—Adopted by 11th AFL-CIO convention.

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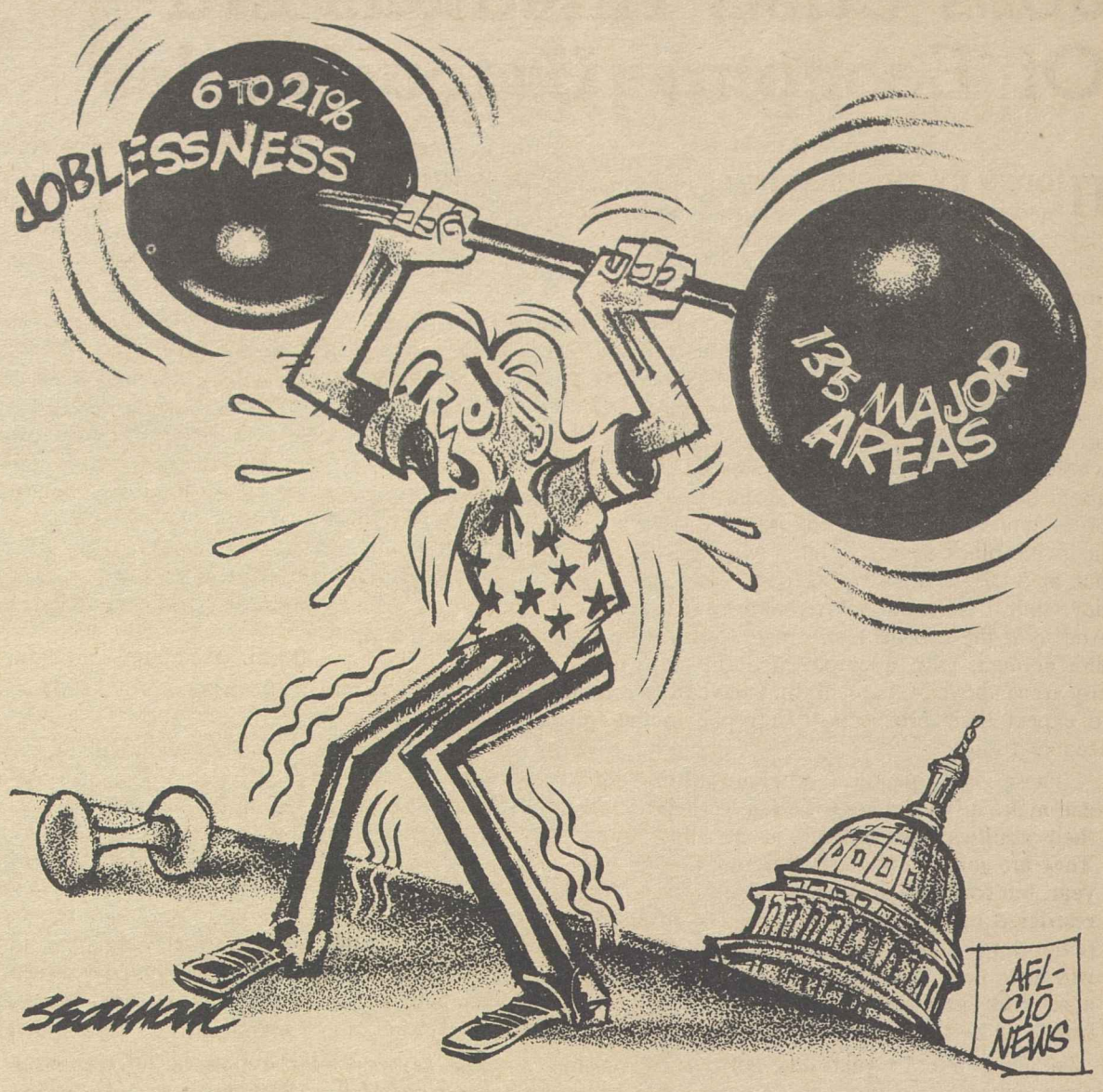
'They Said This Was G-Good for Me!'



A Word Edgewise:

Moynihan Deserves a Medal For His Counterpunch to Amin

By John P. Roche

AS ONE WHO VALUES civility, I am disturbed when debate in Congress, the United Nations, or anywhere else degenerates into a slanging match. However, when someone starts to fight on this level, he has named the game, and I will be delighted to play.

Ambassador Daniel Patrick Moynihan's observation about Uganda's President-Field Marshal-tinpot gangster Idi Amin thus struck me as an admirable counterpunch. The interesting thing was not that Moynihan accurately referred to Amin as a "racist murderer," but that he had to do so at the AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco, where presumably he was out of reach of the State Dept.'s tsk-tsk brigade. Now the Coup of the Month Club—the "Third World"—is scurrying around the United Nations collecting signatures on anti-Moynihan petitions and demanding his replacement. I have started a campaign of my own to get him a medal.

Perhaps I feel more strongly about this than most because of past experiences abroad, at the UN, and in Washington. In 1959, for example, when in France as a Fulbright professor, I was asked by the U.S. Information Agency to give some lectures on civil rights in the United States—one of my areas of historical specialization. I gave them with the bark off: American deficiencies were not tucked under the rug, but neither was our remarkable improvement over the past half-century. In the question period I quickly realized the audience had been packed by the Communists—one after another, various characters rose and instead of asking questions gave speeches denouncing every aspect of American life.

I decided to close this playground. Taking the offensive, I inquired why the questioners were so concerned about civil rights in the United States when even the right of habeas corpus was missing in France? (De Gaulle later introduced this procedure.) Continuing on this track, I listed all the liberties Americans enjoyed and the French lacked and wound up by noting that in percentage terms more American blacks went to college than young French men and women. In short, I got my therapy.

Much to my surprise, the American authorities seemed profoundly distressed by this friendly give and take—I was told not to engage in "controversy" which might reflect upon the Fulbright program.

In 1965, when I was lecturing in Italy under State Dept. auspices, I must have touched off another flurry. Again the audience was stacked by the Communists and a 15-minute question explained that American non-recognition of Red China was a bad thing. I agreed—the policy of "Two Chinas" most liberals held made sense to me—and this information was featured next day in a local paper. Fortunately our public affairs officer in Rome was a man of sense and sensibility: when we met, he grinned and said, "When will you learn that it is un-American to be controversial?"

ENTERING PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S White House, I resolved to reform, at least to the extent of refraining from irony (which can get you into more trouble than arson). However, in early 1967 I was talking about Vietnam "off the record" to a group of Young Democrats. As usual, the question period was my undoing: in explaining why things were such a mess I observed that we were "seven months pregnant before we knew we'd been had." A Washington Post reporter outside the meeting had this gem in 10 minutes, and next morning it was on page one. State and Defense were unsettled and, arriving at the White House, I had the strange feeling people were measuring me for a coffin.

Sure enough, no sooner was I settled in my office than the direct presidential phone went off like a fire alarm. President Johnson, too politely I thought, inquired how come I made the funny papers. I explained it was supposedly "off the record." He chuckled, dryly congratulated me on my vivid metaphor, and ended the matter with the observation, "Johnnie, the only things off the record are those you don't say."

Similarly, he seemed privately pleased when I addressed the UN press corps on Vietnam, was assailed hip and thigh, and fought back with extemporaneous vigor. Yet when I suggested to him that our representatives at the UN should fight fire with fire, he backed off, saying there is a kind of contest you don't get into with a skunk.

This argument does not impress me: I'm delighted that President Ford has unleashed Moynihan. It's time we stopped playing the polite patsy.

For Poor, Minority Youths:

Jobs Crisis Threatens Era Of 'Economic Untouchables'

By Bayard Rustin

HIDDEN BY THE HEADLINES of recession and unemployment, there is an unnoticed social crisis with frightening implications. We are perilously close to creating a generation of economic untouchables. Unless the economy is quickly turned around to sustained full employment we risk sentencing a generation of minority youth to growing up without meaningful job experiences.

A few statistics indicate the magnitude of the problem. Among 20 to 24 year old men as a whole the official jobless rate is 14.2 percent—about double the rate of 1973 and triple the rate of the late 1960s. An even more depressing statistic is that black teenage unemployment is officially put at 34.7 percent, while many economists believe that it is actually closer to 50 or 60 percent. And as if the prospects of ghetto youth were not dim enough, with unemployment in many inner city areas above 50 percent, they have little reason to expect their prospects to improve in the forseeable future.

These young people are being told that they can make no useful contribution to society, that their abilities and aspirations are superfluous. They are going to be on welfare not just for one year, but for three or four. Their options will be restricted to welfare, or hustling, or marginal, temporary, dead-end jobs. Their self-esteem will have been badly, if not permanently, damaged and their attachment to society will be fragile at best.

Today, unlike 15 years ago, to talk of racism as the cause of unemployment among blacks or black youth merely diverts us from the real causes and practical solutions.

The causes of unemployment among minority youth include the growing reliance upon automation and cybernation in production, the failures of education in the inner city, the disastrous welfare system, the lack of efficient mass transportation to get the poor to the jobs, and the creation of most new jobs in the suburbs.

A whole series of governmental programs have made it more difficult for youngsters from poor families to get jobs. These programs, of course, did not have the purpose of creating or preserving employment. For the most part they are well-intentioned programs that have pursued useful goals. But in the process they have ignored or inflamed other pressing social problems.

A shocking example of the tendency of government programs to ignore the need for minority youth employment is CETA, the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act. Designed to train and employ the unemployed, the unskilled and the semi-skilled, CETA has been diverted into a program to mostly re-employ fired city employes.

The corruption of CETA's purpose is the result of the failure of the Ford Administration to develop a genuine program for economic recovery. CETA has been asked to perform a task—fighting overall unemployment — for which it was neither designed nor adequately funded. Consequently, the problems of structural unemployment, of unskilled and semi-skilled youth have been left unattended.

IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL that job training programs continue even during the recession and that they be expanded. But these programs will be doomed to ineffectuality unless they take place within a growing, fully employed economy.

In the absence of a healthy economy, we are witnessing a brutal return and intensification of the cycle of poverty. During the Kennedy-Johnson years, when we had steady economic growth, that cycle was broken and 15 million people moved out of poverty. But in three of the five years before 1975, the number of poor increased. In 1974 alone 1.3 million people were thrown back into poverty. Even more have been tossed back into despair and deprivation by the present recession, the worst since the 1930s.

The reversal of the pattern of across-the-board gains of the 1960s is cruel and wasteful. Those thrown back into proverty in the last six years had only begun to have real hope for the future and confidence in the willingness of the larger society to make full use of their skills and abilities.

For poor and minority youth this has a most devastating impact. It is almost guaranteed to produce discouraged, embittered, and frustrated young men and women.

The nation, no less than black Americans, cannot afford to tolerate the creation of a generation of economic untouchables. This catastrophe can be avoided if the nation acts quickly and forcefully to restore the economy to full employment and if there is a renewed dedication to the elimination of poverty and injustice. Central to such an effort must be a massive program of job-training and job-creating for disadvantaged youth.

Federal Efforts Improved:

Stories on Overpayment Twist Role of Supplemental Benefits

UNBALANCED REPORTING of overpayments and other errors have painted a distorted picture of the new Supplemental Security Income program that is aimed at putting more equity into helping the nation's aged, blind and disabled, AFL-CIO social insurance expert Lawrence Smedley declared.

Noting that SSI combined into a single federal program the widely differing state programs, Smedley stressed that the error rate has in fact fallen since the Social Security Administration began handling the programs, and will improve even more in the near future.

"Error is a fundamental characteristic of any means-tested program," he said, pointing out that the federal system has to rely on income and other eligibility data from the states, and that the time lag rules out the kind of day-to-day updates that can alter eligibility and payment amounts.

Smedley, who is assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, said that while there are "some valid criticisms" of SSI, charges of runaway overpayments and "accusations of scandal are simply not accurate." He said that in any program involving some 4.5 million beneficiaries there could be "some cheating," but it is certainly not widespread among SSI beneficiaries, who are "among the poorest people in our nation."

Appearing on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Smedley said that administration of the SSI program has also been hampered by short-funding and lack of experienced personnel. He said that more than 30,000 employes were involved in administration of the programs at the state level, but the original authorization for the Social Security Administration was only 15,000 SSI employes. Noting that the current authorization has been raised to 23,000 employes for SSI, he said that is probably enough to do the job.

Smedley said it is doubtful that much of the $400 million in overpayments will ever be recovered, particularly in view of continuing inflation and the low level of benefits. He also noted that many of the beneficiaries involved are very old, and that "the death rate is very high."

Smedley was questioned by Duane Emme of Press Associates, Inc. and John Grimes, freelance reporter and writer on labor and economic issues.

Full Measure of Quality!

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

ALCOHOLICS WHO HAVE done something to arrest their illness will tell you that alcoholism is caused by drinking too much booze.

In the dictionary, you'll find that an alcoholic is "a person suffering from alcoholism." That's simple enough, even if it doesn't give you any details.

Leo Perlis, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, is upset that the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism (NIAAA) has managed to gobbledegook definitions so that an alcoholic worker has become a "troubled employe," and an alcoholism program in industry is "an employe assistance program."

Federal defenders of the "broad brush" approach to the booze problem argue that employers will not "buy" a straight alcoholism program because their employes resent the term "alcoholic." The NIAAA defenders of obfuscation also argue that alcoholic employes have a variety of other problems.

The National Council on Alcoholism, a private organization, last June adopted a resolution saying that the best way to counteract any stigma attached to the term alcoholism "is to forthrightly identify it by name in all preventive, educational and program activities."

And, says Perlis, the federal government's NIAAA "should be among the first to point out that obscurantism neither prevents nor cures."

He is especially indignant about the bureaucratic argument that alcoholics also have other problems. "Permit me to assure them," he says, "that all employes have other problems—marital problems, parental problems, money problems, health problems, legal problems, and employer problems. You name them and they have them. And that goes for employes with diabetes, emphysema, cancer, heart disease, arthritis, neurosis, psychosis—and alcoholism."

LABOR TRIED TO convince the federal people that the "broad brush" approach to the problem of alcoholism was ill-conceived. But the federal defenders of the dogma rejected criticism, promoted "their ill-conceived theories everywhere, made it a factor in funding and instituted no valid controls."

Last May Perlis sent a letter to labor representatives on the subject. He stated that "we have avoided all current 'catch-all' phrases and programs such as 'troubled employe,' 'broad brush,' and 'employe assistance.'" Perlis said such programs were designed to "lump all job problems and behavioral ailments into one basket."

"If a program is an alcoholism program," Perlis wrote, "then we should call it by its proper name. If it isn't, then it shouldn't fly under false colors and use funds appropriated by Congress exclusively for alcoholism."

Alcoholics Anonymous, recognized as a successful program for the treatment of alcoholism, does not engage in "public controversy." But AA members with whom the matter was discussed agreed that "we have the right to expect plain language instead of euphemism from people engaged in the fight against alcoholism."

In June, a House Appropriations subcommittee said it was concerned that NIAAA was promoting "catch-all" health and job-problem programs "instead of concentrating on specific problems of the alcoholic worker." The subcommittee said NIAAA "should not offer programs or guidelines that might interfere with the collective bargaining process."

The Senate Appropriations Committee this September took a similar dim view of NIAAA's "broad-brush," "troubled-employe" approach to the problem of alcoholism.

One old veteran drunk, sober and happy these many years in AA, commented:

"Hell, if the people who are supposed to be treating alcoholics won't call a booze problem a booze problem how can they expect the alcoholic, himself, to face up to the problem? There's nothing the practicing alcoholic likes better than to blame his alcoholism on something else."

OVERBLOWN STORIES on errors in payments to the needy under Supplemental Security Income have distorted the true role of the federal program, Assistant Director Lawrence Smedley, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Duane Emme, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and John Grimes, free lance reporter and writer. The program was taped shortly before Emme was hospitalized with a heart ailment that led to his death.

Dialogue with audience on work of performers is led by Actors & Artistes President Frederick O'Neal.

Union Showtime In San Francisco

The AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center in cooperation with the federation's performing arts unions treated delegates to the AFL-CIO's 11th convention to the tops in musical and dramatic fare.

An Evening with Actors, on Oct. 2, featured Equity President Theodore Bikel and David Hurst of Southern Methodist University's drama department in a comedy skit.

On Oct. 6, the program was highlighted by performances by Rudy Salvini's jazz group and members of the famed San Francisco Opera Co., soprano Linda Roack and tenor Gary Burgess. Salvini's group belongs to the AFM. The operatic performers are members of the American Guild of Variety Artists.

Following performances on both evenings, participating artists engaged in a dialogue with the audience, discussing and answering questions about their work and their unions. The programs were similar to those held regularly at the Labor Studies Center in Silver Spring, Md., under financial grants from the Foundation for the Arts.

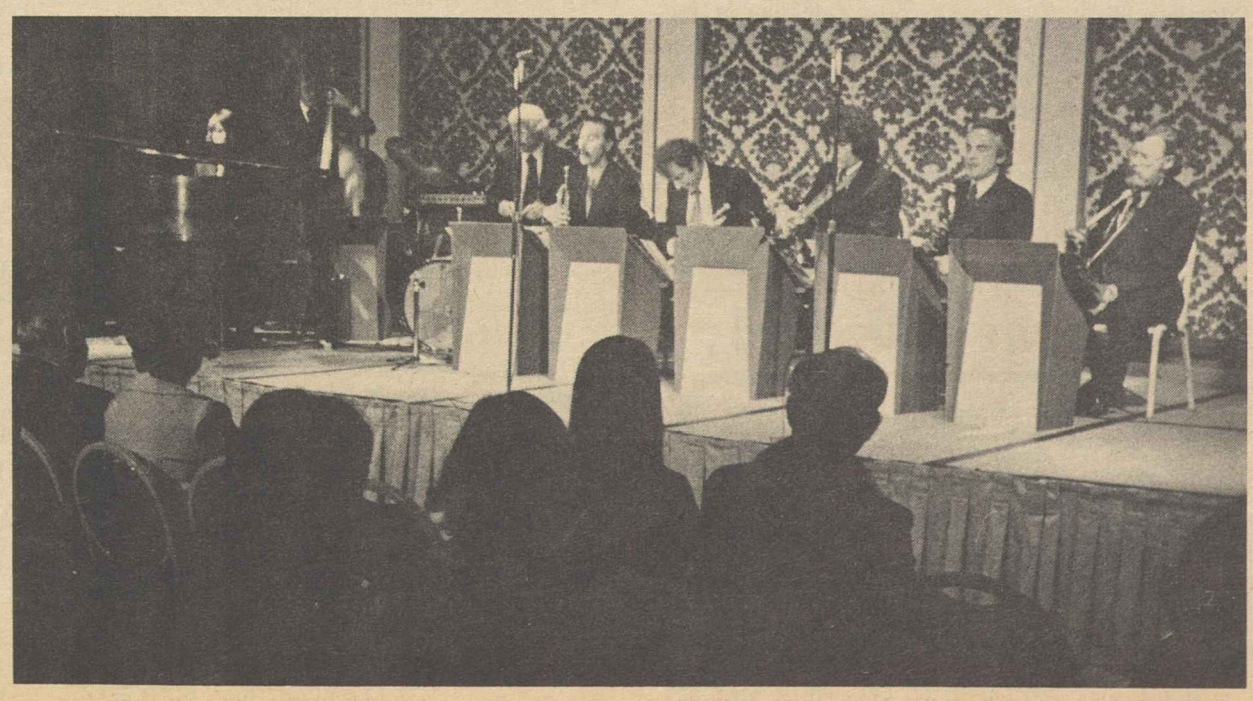
Television artist Kathleen Nolan.

Character actress Kathleen Freeman.

Duet by members of the San Francisco Opera Co. highlighted entertainment.

Vignette starring David Hurst, left, and Theodore Bikel captivated the audience.

Dennis Weaver fields questions from audience. He heads Screen Actors.



Jazz ensemble enlivened program by members of the Musicians.

Executive Board Expanded:

Transit Union Votes Per Capita Increase

Calgary, Alberta—A per capita tax increase of $1.35 and an expansion of the union's executive board were approved by delegates to the 43rd biennial convention of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

The 500 delegates also approved a resolution calling for the resignation of President Gerald Ford as it blamed his "government of do-nothingness by veto" for the nation's economy, energy and social problems.

The convention acknowledged, however, that the possibility of Ford's resignation is remote, and agreed to intensify the ATU's political efforts on all levels to work toward his defeat in 1976.

In approving the per capita increase, which raises monthly payments from $2.65 to $4, the convention authorized the ATU to determine in what areas the added revenues should be spent to keep the union moving forward "at a time of great change within the transit industry and a time of overall economic hardship."

To provide more service for the members and obtain more input from them, the convention voted to expand the general executive board from nine to 24 members by placing the 10 international vice presidents on the board and creating five at-large positions to be filled by local division officers.

The convention also reaffirmed the ATU's support of organized labor's legislative programs, COPE, the initiation of urban no-fare transit, and increased government subsidy of mass transit systems.

The delegates received a report that approximately 12,000 new members had been added to the union's rolls since the previous convention. It was also reported that the ATU would engage in further organizing activities "wherever such opportunities may occur."

In other internal matters, President Dan V. Maroney, Jr., was re-elected, as was Executive Vice President Edward W. Oliver. John W. Rowland, who had been filling the unexpired term of retired Sec.-Treas. James J. Hill, was elected to that post for his first full term.

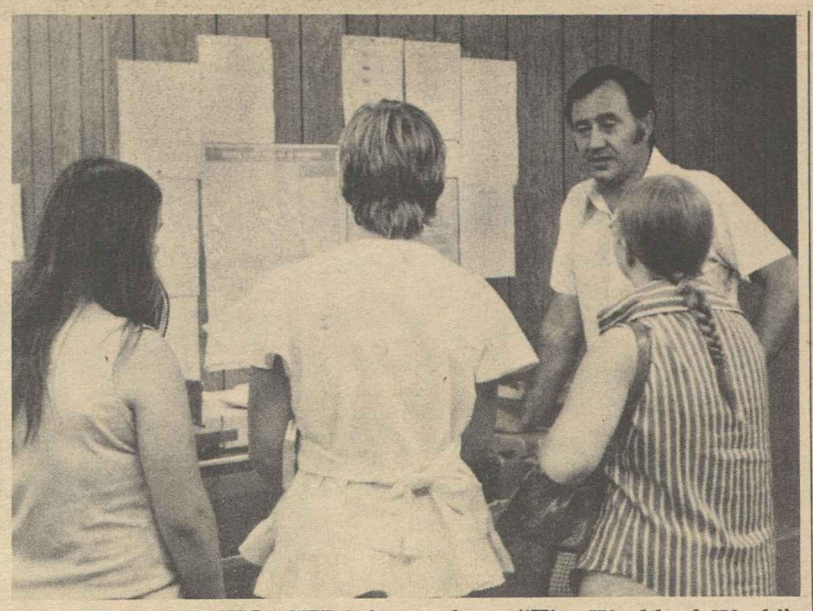
In a telegraphed message to the convention, AFL-CIO President George Meany cited the responsibility of union leaders "to our members and to our fellow countrymen to present policies and programs that will put unemployed workers back to work, reverse the erosion in the living standards of working people and restore the concept that government must be responsive to the needs of its citizens."

Meany praised the ATU as one of the pacemakers "in proposing solutions to this country's mass transit problems, with its implications on energy policy."

A call for greater cooperation between management and labor in the transit industry was issued to the delegates by James L. Kerrigan, president of Greyhound Lines, Inc.

"We have many common problems that represent a greater outside threat to our companies and our jobs than ever before," Kerrigan said. "Those of us who communicate and cooperate will be the ones that survive. . . . All of our labor-management problems have not been solved, but I believe that together we have made a beginning and that our example can serve the interests of our employes, our customers and our stockholders."

Other speakers who addressed the convention included President Matthew Guinan of the Transport Workers Union of America, Executive Director Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, President William C. Marshall of the Michigan AFL-CIO, a member of the ATU, and Sec.-Treas. Donald Montgomery of the Canadian Labor Congress.



MONTANA TEENAGERS learn about "The World of Work" from Executive Sec. James W. Murry of the Montana AFL-CIO in an innovative youth program sponsored by the state federation. The program also covered alcohol and drug abuse problems, grooming, job interviews, and employer-employe relations.

6 Percent Pay Boosts Settle Teacher Strikes

The Teachers wrapped up nearly all their contract disputes of the current school year but the agreement in the nation's largest city remained tenuous and threatened to come apart because of New York's shaky financial situation.

Major strikes in Boston, Berkeley, Calif., and Wilmington, Del., were resolved through contract settlements or, in the case of Berkeley, by sending the dispute to an arbitration panel. Only in Bristol, Conn., and in Cahokia, Ill., were AFT locals still on strike.

The Teachers reported their highest level of strike activity this year, about twice as high as in 1974. AFT members participated in 38 walkouts in 10 states this year. The strikes involved 110,000 teachers.

In Wilmington, 1,000 teachers approved a new three-year contract providing 6 percent raises in January 1976, July 1976 and January 1978. Ratification of the pact ended a strike that began on Sept. 2 and had become the longest teachers' strike of 1975.

I. James Warnick, president of AFT Local 762 in Wilmington, attributed the settlement to the union's solidarity in the face of the city's attempt to break it. The dispute was marked by mass arrests, heavy fines and an unprecedented curfew against the teachers.

The AFT's Boston strike ended after two weeks when the teachers voted by a 7 to 1 margin to accept a one-year contract providing a 6 percent wage increase. The agreement also provided improvements in the local's health and welfare plan.

In Berkeley, striking teachers went back to class to await the outcome of a settlement that refers all outstanding issues to an impartial three-member panel. The strike was prompted by the school board's argument that it did not have the funds to provide wage increases and would have to lay off a large number of teachers.

Meanwhile, the new Emergency Financial Control Board in New York City announced it had rejected last month's agreement between the Board of Education and the United Federation of Teachers —even as the union braced for further cuts in the school budget. The reason given was that the cost of the new two-year pact was more than the ceiling alloted for the city's schools.

AFT officials accused the control board—established to review all new city contracts to help New York out of its grim financial situation—of undermining the basic foundations of collective bargaining. As for the proposed new budget cuts, AFT President Albert Shanker said the reductions would make "a baby-sitting operation" of the nation's largest school system.

In Bristol, Conn., some 640 teachers continued their strike for higher wages, and in Cahokia, Ill., 380 teachers were off their jobs over economic issues. Both strikes were entering their third week.

2¢ Equity Hike Recommended To Shopcrafts

A presidential emergency fact-finding board recommended that railroad shopcraft unions be given a 2-cent-an-hour equity pay increase to enable them to gain parity with machinists of operating rail unions.

The three-member panel, appointed by President Ford last month to block a strike by the shopcraft unions, also proposed adjustments and clarifications in work rules on subcontracted work.

The board's recommendations were part of its report on the long-standing dispute between the four unions that make up the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. and the nation's major carriers. The unions are the Firemen & Oilers, the Carmen, Boilermakers-Blacksmiths and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The report marks the last step toward resolution of the dispute under the Railway Labor Act. The two sides now have until Nov. 9 to act on the recommendations. If no agreement is reached by that date, the unions would be free to strike.

Eleven rail unions already have accepted a new settlement with the carriers. Generally, the pattern agreement has provided a 41 percent boost in wages and fringe benefits over a three-year period. The shopcraft unions refused to go along with the pattern, citing a number of special problems affecting their members.

Landmark Laws Hailed At Illinois Convention

Springfield, Ill.—More than 2,300 delegates to the 18th annual convention of the Illinois AFL-CIO hailed the enactment of a number of long-sought state legislative goals, protested a veto, and urged action in other areas.

State AFL-CIO President Stanley L. Johnson thanked Gov. Daniel Walker, a convention speaker, for signing bills barring the importation of professional strikebreakers into Illinois, establishing a model workers compensation law, improving unemployment benefits and raising the state minimum wage.

But the convention also protested the governor's veto of a school aid bill and urged the legislature to override it.

The state labor federation will also continue to press for passage of a public employe bargaining law, Johnson declared.

Other resolutions supported passage of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, backed the International Women's Year, and called for a state law barring the use of injunction to break strikes. The injunction was used as a tool in the recent Chicago teachers strike and resulted in the two-time jailing of the president of the AFT local.

Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D-Ill.), in an address to the convention, found "nothing wrong with this country that a Democratic president couldn't solve." He charged that the White House, under Republican Administrations, failed to provide national leadership. And President Ford, he said, has neither a domestic nor a foreign policy.

Sen. Charles Percy (R-Ill.) urged continuation of at least a portion of the individual income tax cuts put into effect this year. Percy maintained that the keystone to economic recovery is renewed confidence among consumers and producers.

President Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers called for curbs on the export of American jobs by multinational corporations.

The United States cannot be a country of paper and pencil pushers, Chaikin said. "We must be a country of working people, who work with the sweat of their brow, with their hands, with their muscles and their heads," he said.

Johnson and Sec.-Treas. Robert G. Gibson were re-elected to new four-year terms without opposition. The new terms begin next Apr. 1.

Also re-elected or elected without opposition was the executive board of 16 incumbent vice presidents and 3 new vice presidents. Retiring vice presidents Thomas J. Burke, former president of Janitors Local 25, and Joseph Germano, former director of Steelworkers District 31, were named vice presidents emeritus.

Broadway Musicians Score Major Gains

New York—Broadway musical houses lit up again as the Musicians ended their 25-day strike to preserve work rules and improve salaries.

The walkout ended with ratification of a new three-year contract covering some 900 members of AFM Local 802. The main point in dispute had been an attempt by theater owners to end a requirement in the old contract that a minimum number of union musicians be employed for certain productions.

Local 802 President Max Arons noted that in addition to wage increases the agreement maintains the minimums, with only minor adjustments at three of the 12 musical houses involved.

Under the contract, which is retroactive to Sept. 3, the musicians' base pay rises immediately from $290 a week to $350. In 1976, the figure goes to $370 and in 1977 to $380. Vacation schedules are improved and pension benefits remain as they were.

The negotiations were conducted with the League of New York Theaters & Producers which represents 30 musical and straight dramatic theaters in the city.

The union gave up its Sunday premium pay and agreed to a freeze of premiums for on-stage and in-costume musicians at $42 and $24 for existing shows. However, in new shows, these premiums will be reduced to $21 and $12.

Rehearsal pay was increased to $10 an hour for two and a half hours minimum for the term of the agreement. The rate was $7 an hour under the old contract.

Arons expressed his satisfaction with the complex agreement, particularly the initial wage increase.

During the strike, nine major musical productions suspended performances and three others delayed their openings.

Mill Vote Won By Textile Union

Belton, S.C.—The Textile Workers Union of America won a representation election in a unit of 135 workers at Essex International's blanket division here.

It was the third TWUA election victory in the South within a month. Other wins were at plants in Rome, Ga., and Charlotte, N.C.

We Love You, Too, Mr. Congressman

When the House passed the jobsite picketing bill, Rep. Robert E. Bauman (R-Md.) explained why he had cast an anti-union vote against the bill.

Labor, he said, was acting like a little boy who wants "every piece of chocolate in the candy shop." And Bauman, "like the wise parent of that little boy," declared that "it is only because each and every member of this Congress loves you in our own particular way that we must deny your unreasonable demand."

A majority of House members had a different concept of "love" for labor, however. They voted for the bill.

Jobs, Energy, Budget:

Votes on Key Issues Confront Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

Americans will have less take-home pay.

In fact, as the AFL-CIO has pointed out, the $8 billion tax cut in effect for 1975 would have to be raised to $12 billion for 1976, merely to keep withholding taxes at present levels. That's because the 1975 cut didn't take effect until April and was compressed into a nine-month period in terms of the withholding tax formula.

President Ford has sought to use the strong congressional sentiment for renewing the tax cut as a bludgeon for his demand for a hold-down on government spending.

He has demanded that Congress agree in advance to match a 1976 tax cut package for business and individuals with a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the projected budget for the 1977 fiscal year. Otherwise, Ford warned, he wouldn't hesitate to veto a tax cut bill.

The Ways & Means Committee is expected to reach an early decision on extension of the tax cut at least through next year. Committee Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) branded Ford's attempt to couple it with a budget cut "totally preposterous."

Still ahead for both the House and Senate is another step in the congressional budget-setting procedure—a review of the spending targets established earlier this year and the setting of firmer figures.

The self-imposed spending ceiling has swayed votes away from programs the AFL-CIO considered important to economic recovery. And in some job-creating areas, funds included in the congressional budget target have been blocked by presidential vetoes.

In recent testimony, AFL-CIO President George Meany prodded Congress to stop playing "budget one-upmanship" with the Ford Administration and do more to get America back to work.

On legislation of special interest to unions, the House will be acting soon on a bill to lift Hatch Act restrictions on political activities by federal and postal employes.

The labor-backed bill, sponsored by Rep. William L. Clay (D-Mo.) and backed by the House Post Office & Civil Service Committee, would protect government workers from political pressures.

But it would affirm the right of government workers, as with other citizens, to participate voluntarily in the political life of the nation.

On the Senate side, although no firm date has been set, both the Construction Industry Collective Bargaining bill and the jobsite picketing bill are expected to be brought up—whether or not threats of a filibuster by anti-union senators are carried out. Both bills have already passed the House and have the endorsement of the Senate Labor Committee.

Another unresolved issue, awaiting a House-Senate conference agreement, is an appropriations bill that carries a Senate rider barring enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act in establishments with fewer than four workers. There is no such restriction in the House-passed version.

Lie Detector Ban In New Hotel Pact

A new three-year contract covering 7,000 members of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees at 35 Washington, D.C., hotels includes among its fringe benefits a dental care plan, the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., as an additional holiday, a fourth week of vacation after 15 years—and a ban on lie detector tests.

The contract, which averted a scheduled strike, provides wage increases of $33.80 for non-tipped workers and $18 for tipped workers.

Voluntary Approach To Metrics Pressed

Conversion to the metric system of weights and measures should be "entirely voluntary" and not the result of government pressure, the AFL-CIO said at Senate hearings.

Legislative Rep. Kenneth Peterson opposed any legislation that would commit the federal government to the metric system or set up a timetable for conversion.

Instead, he urged acceptance of a House-passed bill that he termed "generally in line with the position of the AFL-CIO."

The House measure, passed in early September, would establish an independent U.S. Metric Board with representation from labor and other interested groups. The board would facilitate voluntary conversion to metrics and help develop an educational program to familiarize Americans with the metric system. It would also study and make recommendations dealing with problems of conversion, including the impact on workers, consumers and on small firms.

Peterson told the Senate Commerce Committee that the AFL-CIO does not agree with the assumption of most proponents of the metric system that "costs should lie where they fall" and that workers with investments in tools of their craft should absorb their loss.

Labor's position, he testified, is for "full reimbursement to workers" for new tools and all other costs associated with any metric system legislation.

An AFL-CIO convention resolution, anticipating the enactment of the House-passed bill with few changes, urged affiliates to participate actively in all levels of metric system planning.

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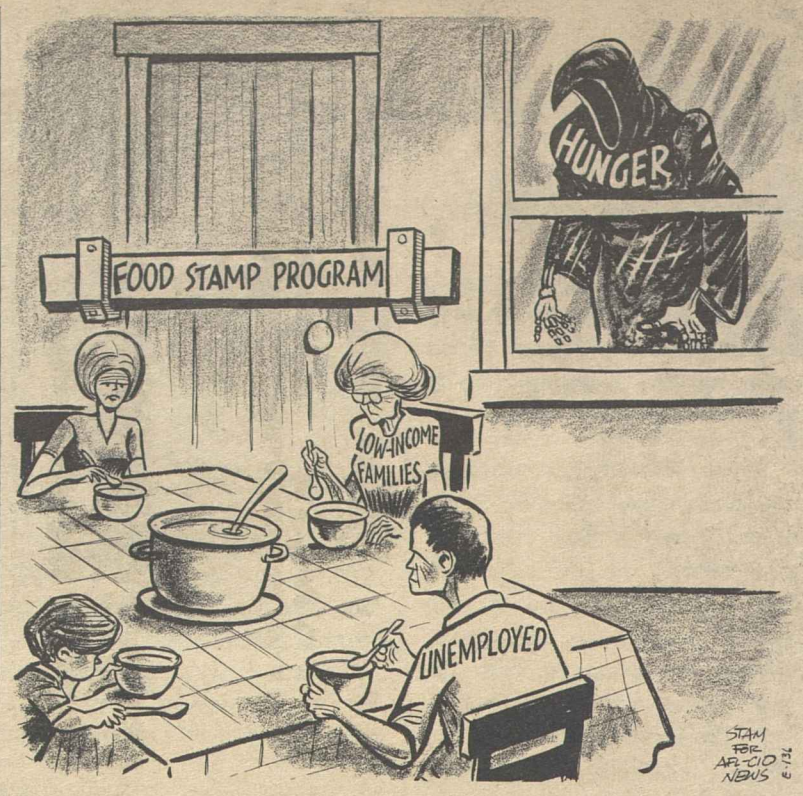

Attack on Food Stamps Scored as Anti-Worker

(Continued from Page 1)

ture subcommittee that allowing strikers to qualify for food stamps has a "crippling effect" on collective bargaining. He termed it "an outrage" to allow food stamps for persons who "voluntarily refrain from working."

Mayer countered that the real goal of the anti-striker campaign is "a humble, docile and hungry labor force."

He noted that the Buckley bill not only seeks to starve strikers back to work, but also would deny food stamps to the family of any unemployed worker who quit a job "without good cause" or who refused to strikebreak.

As for attempts by conservatives, including Administration spokesmen, to portray food stamps as an experimental program that went wild in cost escalation, Mayer noted the relationship between unemployment and food stamp participation. In September 1974, when the jobless rate was 5.8 percent, 15 million Americans received food assistance. By May 1975, when unemployment reached 9.2 percent, the food stamp rolls rose to 19.5 million. Since then, following the slight dip in joblessness, they declined to 18.8 million.

Far from being "a well-known haven for chiselers and ripoff artists," as Treasury Sec. William E. Simon has charged, investigations found fraud in only 8/100ths of 1 percent of food stamp households.

"Workers do not want food stamps and they do not want welfare," Mayer testified. "They want jobs which will pay decent wages and benefits, so that they can raise their families in dignity with an American standard of living. But if those jobs are not available, if programs to create work are scuttled . . . then workers and their families will not willingly go hungry," he warned.

President Ford was scheduled to submit the Administration proposal for changes in the food stamp program when Congress reconvened on Oct. 20, and the Senate panel anticipated reopening hearings in November.

In a recent letter to state and local central bodies, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned of a "concerted, coordinated attack" on the food stamp program by the Administration and congressional conservatives.

He linked it to an attack on workers in general involving blocking job-creating legislation, promoting policies that raise the cost of fuel and food, and finally seeking "to starve the jobless and the working poor by knocking them off food stamps."

Los Angeles ITU Local Marks 100th Birthday

Los Angeles—Local 174 of the Typographic Union celebrated its 100th anniversary, and the birthday party at the Convention Center was attended by leading trade unionists from throughout the Los Angeles area.

Mayor Tom Bradley and ITU President Sandy Bevis were among the speakers and Local 174 gave its first honorary membership to William R. Robertson, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO.

Long-Term Joblessness Up Further

Long-term unemployment continued to plague the nation in the third quarter of 1975, as the average duration of joblessness rose from 13.9 to 15.8 weeks, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The increase in long-term unemployment was the third straight quarter in which average duration has risen, BLS noted. The number of persons idle for 15 weeks or more has tripled over the past year, and 1.5 million workers have been out of work for six months or longer, the government added.

BLS said the number of "discouraged" workers—those who are not looking for work because they feel jobs for them do not exist—held steady at 1.2 million over the July-September period. The number of discouraged workers in third-quarter 1974 was 625,000.

The national jobless rate fell to 8.4 percent in the July-September quarter, after reaching a post-World War II peak of 8.9 percent in the year's second quarter. Although representing the first quarterly decline in over two years, the third-quarter jobless rate still was nearly three percentage points above the level of third-quarter 1974.

During the most recent quarter, the jobless rate for adult women dropped to 7.7 percent from 8.5 percent in the previous quarter. The rate for adult men fell from 7.1 to 6.9 percent while the rate of teenage joblessness dropped from 20.5 to 19.8 percent.

White unemployment fell from 8.2 to 7.7 percent in the July-September period. Blacks had a jobless rate of 13.8 percent—down from 14.3 percent in the second quarter.

New Limits Proposed For Asbestos Fibers

(Continued from Page 1)

this standard unless OSHA's Construction Industry Safety Advisory Committee comes up with a proposal to lower the exposure limit.

When the original standard was being promulgated in 1972, organized labor had sought to get the 2-fiber limit issued immediately. It also urged that the limit be reduced to 1 fiber within a year and eventually to zero.

In a subsequent court suit, the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. was unsuccessful in getting a speedier reduction in the exposure level, but an appelate court directed OSHA to review its monitoring regulations and to extend the time period for keeping medical records on workers exposed to asbestos.

The new proposal would require employers to retain monitoring and medical records of their workers for 40 years or for the duration of a worker's employment plus 20 years—whichever is longer. Under the existing standard, monitoring records are retained for three years and medical records for 20 years.

An estimated 50,000 workers are involved in the manufacture of products containing asbestos, the Labor Dept. said. But the number of workers exposed to asbestos on the job is unknown, although the number runs into the millions.

The proposed lead standard would limit worker exposure to 100 micrograms per cubic meter of air. Monitoring would have to begin at 50 micrograms, and any time the level exceeded 100, employers would be required to use all feasible engineering controls to reduce the workplace concentrations.

A new beryllium standard would also bring the exposure level to 100 micrograms per cubic meter of air, down from the existing standard of 200 micrograms.

Other toxic substances in the proposed standards are toluene, trichloroethylene, p-tert-butyltoluene, cumene, ethyl benzene, alpha-Methyl styrene, styrene, vinyl toluene, cyclohexane, camphor, mesityl oxide, 5-methyl-3-heptanone, and ozone.

The proposed standards would allow exposure levels to remain at existing limits. Employers would be required to make the determination of whether the exposure exceeds an action level of one-half the permissible limit for each chemical.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court refused to review an appeal by the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and the Health Research Group challenging OSHA standards on 14 toxic substances suspected of causing cancer among workers. In the court suit, OCAW and HRG charged that the Secretary of Labor did not comply with the mandate of the federal job safety law. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit held, however, that he exercised "reasonable" judgment and deferred to his view of what was practical.

In another development, President Ford announced his intention to nominate Morton Corn, an occupational health professor at the University of Pittsburgh, as assistant secretary of labor for safety and health to succeed John H. Stender who is resigning.

Real Earnings Drop Below 1965 Level

Prices Up 7.8 Percent Over Year

By James M. Shevis

Real spendable average earnings fell in September, leaving American workers a smaller take-home pay than they averaged 10 years ago, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

A worker with three dependents took home seasonally adjusted average weekly earnings of $91.13 this September—19 cents less than he averaged in 1965, BLS announced. Last month's average was 51 cents below the previous month's. All figures are adjusted for the effects of inflation since 1967.

In percentage terms, the September drop in buying power was six-tenths of 1 percent. BLS said real spendable earnings were up 1 percent over the year despite a 2.9 percent decline in real average weekly earnings because of a reduction in federal income tax rates which went into effect last May.

The decrease in real average weekly earnings last month was the result of a six-tenths of 1 percent decline in average weekly hours and a five-tenths of 1 percent rise in the consumer price index, the government said.

The September CPI increase lifted the index to 163.6 of its 1967 base—7.8 percent higher than a year ago. Large increases in local transit fares, college tuition, physicians' fees, gas, electricity, clothing and pork were responsible for most of last month's CPI rise, BLS said.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Dept. reported that real output—gross national product adjusted for inflation—rose at an annual rate of 11.2 percent in the third quarter, compared with 1.9 percent in the April-June quarter. More than half of the increase was due to what Commerce called "a reduced rate of inventory decumulation."

Inventory decumulation, or cutback, amounted to $9.5 billion in the third quarter, compared with $31 billion in the second and $19.2 billion in the first, the government noted. The third-quarter figures are based on preliminary and incomplete source data and are subject to revision, the Commerce Dept. stressed.

Consumer spending in the third quarter increased to $31.4 billion, compared with $25.4 billion in the second.

Business investment in plant and equipment rose slightly, compared

(Continued on Page 2)

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Farm Union Victory Tied To Enforcing Law Fairly

SPECIAL PANEL of the AFL-CIO Executive Council returns from observing representation election at a Watsonville area orchard which the United Farm Workers won overwhelmingly. From left are Marshall Gans of the UFW, Federation Vice Presidents Paul Jennings, Joseph D. Keenan and Paul Hall, and Director Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

Hall Panel Cites Flaws, Violations

By Allen Y. Zack

Sacramento, Calif.—If California's new agricultural labor relations law is strictly and fairly enforced, with elections conducted in a "free atmosphere," the votes will go overwhelmingly for the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall told a press conference here.

Hall, president of the Seafarers and chairman of a special three-member panel of the AFL-CIO Executive Council sent to California for a first-hand investigation of election practices, said that "proper enforcement of this law" is essential to fair elections.

Hall and the other panel members, Vice Presidents Joseph Keenan, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electical Workers (IBEW), and Paul Jennings, president of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (IUE), spent five days touring key growing areas of the state talking with farm workers, representatives of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board and others involved in enforcement of the law.

The subcommittee members expressed encouragement at the performance of the UFW under "tremendous adversity."

They stressed that the UFW has not lost a single election where it held the contract and had won more than 30 elections on farms where the Teamsters held contracts.

The AFL-CIO convention earlier this month renewed the federation's commitment to the UFW and called

(Continued on Page 3)

New Wage Law Needed:

$3 Minimum Urged To Combat Poverty

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to raise the minimum wage to $3 an hour as rapidly as possible in order to raise America's lowest-paid workers above the poverty level and give the economy a job-creating stimulus.

Inflation has already frustrated the planned step-up to $2.30 an hour begun in 1974, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller testified. Most workers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act are now under a $2.10 minimum, which will rise to $2.30 on Jan. 1, 1976. But those whose jobs were more recently brought under the FLSA — including most low-wage groups—aren't scheduled to reach $2.30 until 1977 or, in the case of farm workers, 1978.

Meanwhile, Biemiller told a House Labor subcommittee, the amount of income needed to escape family poverty has long since passed the $2.30 an hour mark and is projected to exceed $3 in 1977.

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger noted at the hearing that the Consumer Price Index has risen nearly 60 percent since Feb. 1, 1968, when the minimum wage reached the $1.60 level. Over the same period the minimum wage has gone up less than 32 percent.

Rep. John H. Dent (D-Pa.), the subcommittee chairman, has introduced a bill that would accelerate the minimum wage step-up and reach the $3 level on Jan. 1, 1977 for most workers, and a year later for all other workers.

It also would impose stiffer premium pay penalties for overtime work as a prod to employers to hire new workers when the workload expands. And it would phase out the amount of tip income an employer

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Calls Grain Pact 'Good News'

A long-term grain-sale agreement negotiated by the United States and Russia "is good news for American consumers and farmers," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

"We believe that it will eliminate the possibility of future Great Grain Robberies, minimize the inflationary impact of grain sales on American consumers and bring stability to the American farmer," Meany said.

As a result of the pact, Meany said, Longshoremen have ended a

(Continued on Page 2)

Federal Aid Vital in N.Y. Fiscal Crisis

New York—The national implications of a possible default by fiscally troubled New York City spurred renewed efforts in Congress to obtain emergency federal aid for the nation's largest city.

New York City Mayor Abraham D. Beame, appearing before a Senate panel a day after the city teetered on the edge of default, summed up the situation:

"There can no longer be any doubt that without appropriate federal assistance the city of New York will default by the end of the year, triggering national and international consequences that will touch the lives of every American."

(Continued on Page 7)

House Votes to Lift Hatch Act Curb On Political Rights of U.S. Workers

The House voted 288-119 approval of a labor-backed bill that would allow federal and postal workers to participate voluntarily in the nation's political life—and encourage them to do so.

It would amend the Hatch Act by lifting nearly all restrictions on off-duty voluntary political action, and the harsh penalties of dismissal or 90-days suspension that has had such a chilling effect on the federal civil service.

The legislation, which now goes to the Senate, would continue to protect government workers from political pressures on the job and from coercion to contribute to the party in power.

The Hatch Act amendment carried the endorsement of the recent AFL-CIO convention, and was strongly supported by the federation's government worker unions and the Public Employee Dept.

A letter from AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, urging House members to support the bill without crippling amendments, said present Hatch Act restrictions deprive several million Americans of full citizenship rights.

The "carefully drafted" bill sent to the House floor, Biemiller stressed, "would significantly enhance the political rights of federal employes while strengthening the protection against improper political activities."

During nearly five hours of debate, the House rejected all amendments that the sponsors of the bill considered harmful.

The key vote came on an amendment by Rep. Joseph L. Fisher (D-

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Calls Grain Pact 'Good News'

(Continued from Page 1)

boycott of Russian grain shipments.

Signed in Moscow, the agreement provides for a minimum Russian purchase of 6 million metric tons of wheat and corn a year for five years. The Soviets could buy an additional 2 million tons each year but this would require consultations between the two governments and specific permission of the President.

The agreement, which does not become effective until Oct. 1, 1976, ended a two-month ban on further U.S. grain sales to the USSR. President Ford also announced the United States would resume talks with the Soviets later this month on plans to buy up to 200,000 barrels of Russian crude oil a day.

When the Russians last summer purchased massive amounts of U.S. grain, members of the ILA refused to load grain bound for the USSR as a protest against possible price rises to American consumers.

President Ford sent Charles W. Robinson, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, to Moscow to seek an agreement on a more orderly purchase of grain. This was the agreement announced Oct. 20.

"Only such government-to-government negotiations, which we have long sought, can insure that America's tremendous agricultural resources will not be used just for the private profit of grain dealers and speculators," Meany declared. "No longer will the Soviet Union be able to enter U.S. grain markets at will and create chaos through large purchases."

Assistant Agriculture Sec. Richard Bell said the Russians, who purchased 10.3 million tons of American grain before Ford imposed an embargo, may purchase another 6 or 7 million tons this year under the new agreement.

All sales would be executed through private U.S. grain exporters at market prices.

TOP OFFICERS of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers discuss convention proceedings. OCAW President A. F. Grospiron, right, and Sec.-Treas. Anthony C. Sabatine were elected to new two-year terms.

Little Real Progress Seen in Output Report

(Continued from Page 1)

with a decline in the second quarter. Government purchases of goods and services increased $1.5 billion in the third quarter, just under the $1.9 billion rise in the second.

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger said he saw "very little forward momentum in this overall picture."

He noted that the level of buying power in the third quarter—despite the effects of the tax rebate and reduced withholdings since last May—was considerably less than what it was in the same quarter two years earlier.

"It would take an increase of about $40 billion in after-tax personal income to bring the average buying power of every man, woman and child in the country to where it was in the fall of 1973 when the recession got under way," Goldfinger observed.

He emphasized that extension of the individual income tax cuts and lower interest rates are needed to pump up retail sales and to stimulate housing.

"Housing is weak and at a very low level and cannot pick up much unless interest rates decline and government programs are implemented," Goldfinger said.

"A continuing improvement of retail sales depends largely on extension of the tax cut and the related degree of consumer confidence."

In another report, the Commerce Dept. said the number of new housing starts in September fell at an annual rate of 2 percent from August levels, to a seasonally adjusted 1.24 million units.

Housing starts are still about 50 percent below 1972 levels and the issuance of permits for future starts indicates little, if any, increase in activity in the next few months.

Reporting on quarterly changes in the consumer price index, the Bureau of Labor Statistics noted that retail prices rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 7.3 percent in the three months ended in September. This compared with a 7.1 percent rate in the quarter ended in June and a 6 percent rate in the first quarter.

"Prices in the food and energy components continued to rise substantially but by less than in the second quarter," BLS said. "Prices of other items, on the other hand, rose at a somewhat faster pace. . . ."

The index for non-food commodities rose at a 7.5 percent annual rate in the third quarter, compared with 5.9 percent in the preceding quarter. The rise in the services index during the July-September period was 8.5 percent, compared with 6.3 percent in the second quarter.

Much of September's CPI rise was due to a 1 percent increase in charges for services. All major categories of services except rent increased more in September than in August, BLS said.

Release of Funds Held Limited Housing Aid

The Ford Administration, prodded by a lawsuit challenging government impoundment policies begun in the Nixon days, agreed to free $264.1 million over the next two years to help persons of modest income buy new homes.

But funds for the Section 235 Low-Income Homeownership program will not be available until next spring. Meanwhile, unemployment in the depressed construction industry is still around 20 percent, and the government reported a further decline in housing starts.

Henry B. Schechter, director of the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Urban Affairs, said release of the funds "will be of some help but it is limited by the absurd mortgage limitations." The program, which has been somewhat revised by the Housing & Urban Development Dept., is geared to the $9,000-$11,000 annual income group.

The maximum allowable mortgage will range from $21,600 to $28,000 at a below-market 5 percent interest rate subsidized by the federal government. Schechter contends these mortgage limitations will not permit construction to go forward at a significant rate in high-cost areas of the country.

"Also, we don't see why the program couldn't get under way sooner," he noted.

HUD Secretary Carla Hills said the goal of the subsidy program is to stimulate production of homes priced under $30,000, adding that it could provide 250,000 newly built or "substantially rehabilitated" houses, condominium units or cooperative apartments.

Funds for the program were frozen by former President Nixon in January 1973 on grounds it was too costly and difficult to administer. President Ford also refused to spend the congressionally appropriated funds.

The General Accounting Office, an arm of Congress, sued HUD last April to release the impounded funds. The suit followed dozens of complaints over the impoundment by housing specialists, congressmen and others, including the AFL-CIO.

At a press conference, Hills said the program could generate $6.5 million in new construction over the next two years and create half a million construction jobs. She said lower-income families now are priced out of the new-home market by interest rates averaging 9 to 9.5 percent and a median price of $39,000 on new homes.

CWA Presses Search For Missing G.I.s

San Francisco — The Communications Workers called on the House of Representatives to give full support to the new select committee created to examine the problem of American servicemen still listed as missing in action.

The CWA board at a meeting here said the fate of approximately 2,500 servicemen remains an unanswered question more than two and a half years after the end of the U.S. combat role in South Vietnam. CWA charged that the federal government has maintained a tight silence about the MIA groups.

New Formula Approved:

OCAW Links Dues To Hourly Pay Rate

Hollywood, Fla.—Delegates to the 13th convention of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers voted to establish a self-adjusting per capita and local dues structure, in addition to spelling out procedures for merger negotiations and re-electing top union officers.

Under the dues formula, monthly per capita payments to the international will be based on the weighted average hourly pay, with members on lower wage scales making lesser payments than those on higher scales.

The per capita currently is $4.80 a month for most of the 180,000 OCAW members and $4.10 for the lower-paid members. With the new rates taking effect Dec. 1, the per capita payments will range from $4.10 to $6 a month.

Annual adjustments, to be initiated Oct. 1, 1976, will provide for an increase in the per capita of 1 cent a month for each negotiated 1-cent raise in the hourly pay of members. Local dues will also be increased by the same hourly wage formula each year.

The new dues structure provides for increasing payments to the OCAW defense fund from the present 82 cents a month to $1. Also, 20 percent of future per capita increases will go into the defense fund.

The 800 delegates also adopted a resolution setting procedures for merger discussions with other unions, including the possibility of reviving negotiations with the Rubber Workers.

OCAW and the URW had conducted serious discussions on merger earlier this year, but an impasse ended the negotiations.

President A. F. Grospiron, head of OCAW since 1965, was re-elected without opposition to his sixth two-year term. Other top incumbent officers were returned to office in several contests.

Sec.-Treas. Anthony C. Sabatine was elected to his first full term in a race with Robert Palmer, an international representative from Louisiana. Sabatine was named to the post earlier this year after B. J. Schafer retired.

Vice Presidents Robert Goss and Elwood Swisher were re-elected in a four-way race over international representatives James Bergerson of Minnesota and Richard Watson of Indiana.

C. R. Reimer was re-elected by the Canadian delegation as the Canadian national director. All nine executive board members, representing geographical districts, were re-elected.

A convention resolution spelled out the union's position on energy pricing and sharply criticized President Ford's program to do away with all controls on natural gas and "old" crude oil. Such decontrol would result in increased living costs of more than $550 per year for the average family, as well as add to the unemployment problem, the resolution stated.

Ratification by the states of the Equal Rights Amendment also was advocated by the convention. Another resolution called upon the President and Congress to more closely oversee the operations of the nation's intelligence activities.

Mrs. Coretta Scott King in her convention address denounced the Ford administration's theory that high unemployment is necessary to cure inflation.

"Even if that were true, this decision would still stand as one of the most stunningly cold and inhuman economic decisions of recent memory," she said.

"Recent events have clearly shown that even with massive unemployment, inflation can still rise for reasons that have little to do with the labor market," she said. "Despite more than 8 million unemployed Americans, fuel and food prices have shot up in recent months."

The convention also voted pay raises for union officers, district directors and international representatives.

John Beidler Dies, Labor Lobbyist

Alexandria, Va. — Funeral services were held here for John H. Beidler, legislative director of the Auto Workers and a former AFL-CIO legislative representative. He died Oct. 15 at the age of 46.

Beidler began his labor legislative career in 1953 with the former CIO, served on the AFL-CIO staff after merger and from 1965 to 1968 was legislative director of the Industrial Union Dept. After two years with the Center for Community Change, he became the UAW's legislative director in 1971.

A graduate of Antioch College with a law degree from Georgetown University, Beidler was "a brilliant legislative tactician" who "worked hard for millions of people who never knew his name," UAW President Leonard Woodcock said. He leaves his wife, Beverly, and four children.

Teachers Get Labor Support In Delaware

Rehoboth Beach, Del.—The Delaware State AFL-CIO's 19th annual convention adopted legislative goals and voted strong support for a no-contract, no-work strike by Wilmington teachers that has since been settled.

Delegates re-elected John A. Campanelli as president of the state federation. Norman L. Tyrie succeeded Edward F. Peterson as vice president, and Thomas E. Watson replaced Howard E. Hillis as secretary-treasurer.

In major resolutions, the convention urged:

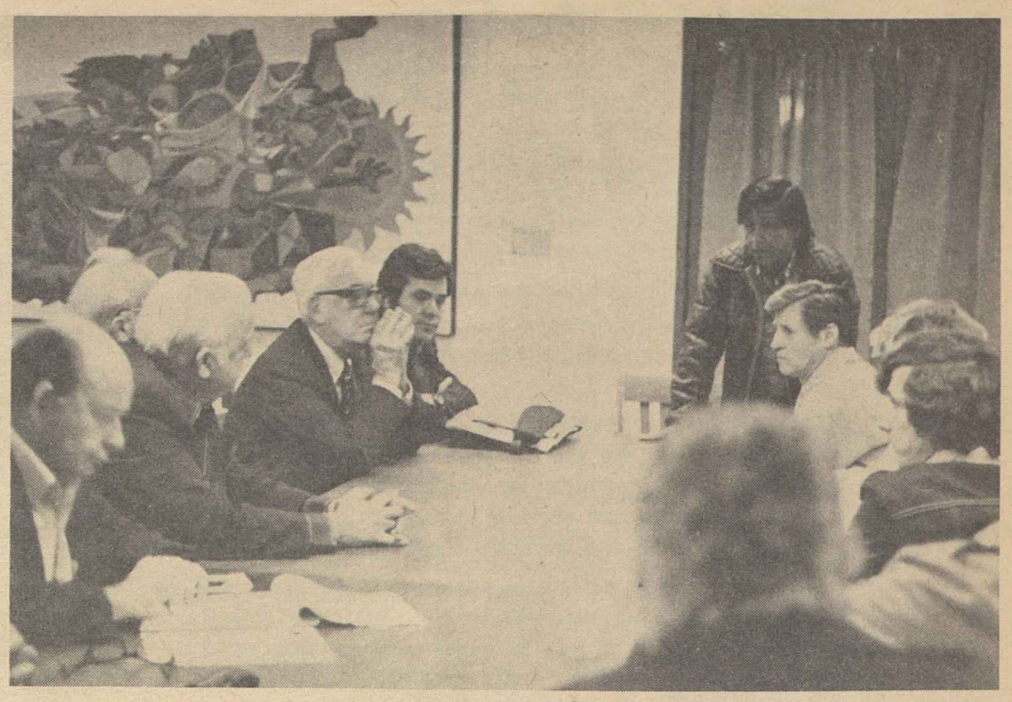
- Passage of the construction site picketing bill presently before the U.S. Senate.
- Federal legislation extending health insurance to the unemployed.
- Strengthening Delaware's Prevailing Wage Act to guarantee the prevailing wage and benefits on state-funded construction as the Davis-Bacon Act does on the federal level.
- Curbs on job-destroying foreign imports.

The state central body formally changed its name from the Delaware State Labor Council to the Delaware AFL-CIO.

Machinists Expand Unit At Rohr Industries

San Diego—Technical and office workers at Rohr Industries voted 375-159 for union representation. They will be represented by Machinists Local 755, which has represented the firm's hourly-paid workers for more than 35 years.

FARM WORKERS testify on their experiences under the new California agricultural labor law at a hearing in Salinas.



UFW PRESIDENT Cesar Chavez briefs AFL-CIO subcommittee members on the current status of representation elections.

Farm Union Victory Tied to Enforcement

(Continued from Page 1)

on affiliates to give all possible aid to the union's struggle for survival.

The subcommittee will submit its formal report to AFL-CIO President George Meany, but Hall highlighted some of the panel's findings:

"There has been and is at this point intimidation of the workers involved in the elections. There has been inadequate investigation of the charges that have been lodged by the workers and their representatives," he said, and enforcement of the law has been "bad."

Hall said the subcommittee's "saddest" finding was the failure of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) to make its presence felt in the fields through quick investigation of charges, explanations to the workers of their rights and speedy processing of complaints.

Specifically, the subcommittee criticized the general counsel of the ALRB, Walter Kintz, for not providing leadership to the board's agents.

Hall noted that Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., has appointed a special task force headed by a California trial attorney, Sam Cohen.

This task force, Hall said, is taking "vigorous action" and in a short time has produced a "noticeable change" in the administration of the law.

In seperate meetings, the subcommittee received assurances from the governor, Kintz and Bishop Roger Mahony, chairman of the ALRB, that the board would launch a bilingual advertising program to inform workers of their rights under the law.

Cohen, in his meeting with the subcommittee, emphasized the efforts of his task force to speed up administration of the law, particularly the process of certifying election results and issuance of complaints for unfair labor practices.

Hall expressed the hope that the task force would be continued after its four-month temporary appointment.

Unfair labor practices, particularly the wholesale discharges of workers who support the UFW, constitute the major source of intimidation to the workers, Hall said.

This point was repeated many times when the subcommittee held public hearings in Delano, Guadalupe, Salinas and Stockton to hear from the workers themselves.

Workers told about the discharges of entire crews who were sympathetic to the UFW, individual workers who had been blacklisted by growers for supporting the UFW, and repeated threats to fire workers who are known as "Chavistas."

Hall expressed amazement at the degree of physical intimidation of UFW organizers and was critical of the failure of law enforcement officers to properly enforce the law.

He cited the so-called "Posse Comitatus," a vigilante group in the Stockton area, that has threatened to kill UFW organizers, board agents or law enforcement officials attempting to enforce agricultural labor relations act.

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, reported that his request for an investigation of the vigilantes by the state and federal attorneys general has not been answered.

The presence of vigilantes with shotguns in Stockton and other instances of growers and Teamster organizers armed with rifles, pistols, clubs and shovels in other areas has made any attempt at free elections a "farce," Hall added.

Hall told reporters that the exploitation and intimidation has created a "terrible situation."

Sheriff's deputies in several areas, along with the growers, have continued to arrest union organizers and others in the fields, even though the California Supreme Court has upheld an ALRB ruling providing for access to the workers in the fields by the union.

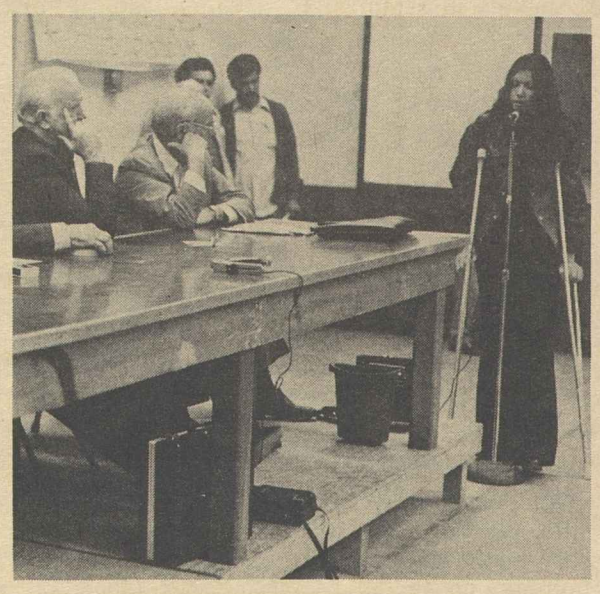
There is "no doubt of collusion between the grower and the Teamsters in many areas," Hall added. But the subcommittee found "no evidence" of collusion between the growers and the ALRB. "We only found ignorance of the law," he said. The ALRB staff has "suffered tremendously from a lack of leadership."

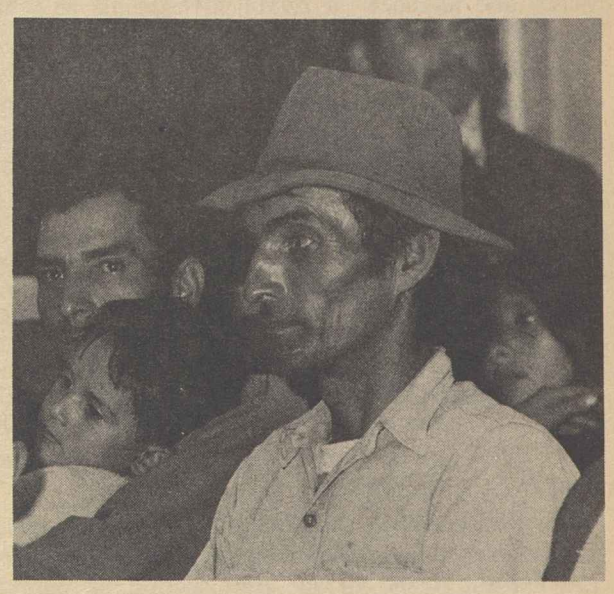
He told reporters that the subcommittee would recommend that the AFL-CIO "continue its maximum support" to the UFW.

He said the UFW would need extra assistance as the elections move into the pivotal Imperial Valley, where the UFW hopes to make strong inroads in a major Teamster area, and into the courts where key legal issues will be decided.

The three-member panel was named by the Executive Council to investigate the reports from UFW President Cesar Chavez of unfair acts against UFW members during the elections.

The subcommittee was accompanied by Alan Kistler, director of organization and field services, and members of the AFL-CIO field staff who have been working with the UFW.





UFW SUPPORTER told the panel at a hearing in Delano that her leg was injured when her car was forced off the road by a Teamsters' organizer. At right is part of the overflow crowd attending the hearing at Guadalupe, Calif.

Photos by Reuben Diaz

Jobless Benefit Fight Shifts to Full Panel

Key legislative proposals to establish federal standards for unemployment compensation—including weekly benefit amounts, qualifying requirements and duration of payments—will be fought out in the full House Ways & Means Committee.

A 10-member subcommittee approved a bill that would strengthen the financing of the federal-state unemployment compensation systems, substantially broaden coverage and make it a bit easier to "trigger" extended benefits for workers who exhaust their state benefits when unemployment is still high. More than 9 million additional workers would be covered.

But the subcommittee failed to muster a majority for either the benefits standard backed by the AFL-CIO—based on two-thirds of lost wages up to a ceiling of 75 percent of the average state wage—or the Administration proposal for 50 percent of lost wages to a ceiling of two-thirds of the state wage.

Amendments incorporating the labor-supported improvements to the jobless benefits program are expected to be introduced later.

Subcommittee Chairman James C. Corman (D-Calif.), who sponsored a bill that included labor-backed benefit and duration standards, said he expects action by the full committee in the near future.

Among the key provisions in the bill approved by the subcommittee:

- Extension of coverage to most public employes, domestics who earn $600 or more per quarter and to workers in the Virgin Islands.
- Coverage for more than 700,000 workers on farms employing four or more persons 20 weeks a year.
- An increase in the employer-paid federal tax rate Jan. 1 from five-tenths of 1 percent to seven-tenths of 1 percent, but with the taxable wage base staying at $4,200 for 1976. The taxable base would increase to $8,000 in 1977, but the tax rate would revert to five-tenths of 1 percent in 1982.
- Extended benefits would be triggered on sooner by eliminating the requirement that state unemployment must be 120 percent higher than it was for the preceding two years. The nationwide trigger of 4.5 percent of insured unemployment would be activated on the most recent 13-week period rather than the current requirement of the last three consecutive months.

The bill also would prohibit disqualification for jobless benefits solely on the basis of pregnancy, but would also disallow summertime benefits for teachers and school administrators between spring and fall contracts.

375 OK'd for Aid On Import Job Loss

The Labor Dept. has certified 375 shoe workers in Jackson, Mo., eligible for trade adjustment assistance because they lost their jobs to the increased imports of women's shoes. But another 160 workers at two shoe plants in St. Louis were denied certification.

The 375 certified workers were employed at an International Shoe Co. plant following a Labor Dept. investigation of a petition filed by the Boot & Shoe Workers.

Turned down on their bid for trade adjustment benefits were 130 workers producing women's footwear at the Hamilton Shoe Co. and another 30 at the Rockmore Co. which produced bows, stripping and ornamentation for shoes.

Tax Deduction On Gas Kept In House Bill

The House Ways & Means Committee has reversed an earlier decision and voted to retain the federal income tax deduction for state and local gasoline taxes. Removal of the gasoline tax deduction would have amounted to a tax increase for more than 18 million car-owners who itemize deductions, most of them middle-income workers.

In a letter to committee members, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller had strongly protested a tentative decision to end the deduction.

Biemiller said the added tax burden if the deduction were eliminated would fall heaviest "on those Americans who must use their automobiles for transportation to and from work, most of whom have no alternative means of transportation."

He said the AFL-CIO "favors measures which would simplify the tax-filing chore." But tax simplification, he stressed, "must be part of a total package which insures that legitimate expenses and costs that affect the ability to pay are taken into consideration." The AFL-CIO opposes actions "taken in isolation which have the effect of increasing the tax burden of working people."

A recent survey showed that 88 percent of all AFL-CIO members use their automobile in transportation to work.

For a typical working family, Biemiller said, wiping out the deduction would have been equivalent to raising the price of gasoline 1.5 cents a gallon.

Plight of the Cities

THE ECONOMIC DOWNSLIDE has put severe pressures on state and local budgets. Vital services have been cut back; essential projects have been postponed or cancelled; payrolls slashed; jobs destroyed, and a number of cities are on the brink of bankruptcy. The nation's stock of public facilities has deteriorated and public services essential to the nation's well-being have been curtailed.

The AFL-CIO firmly believes that the nation's major domestic problems are still rooted in the shortages of services and facilities that are traditionally and appropriately the responsibility of government.

We are deeply concerned over the fact that the Administration, by focusing obsessively on the dollar deficit in the federal budget, is pursuing policies which are widening the already huge gaps in public facilities and services. Congress has shirked its responsibility to challenge and overturn these policies.

We believe that there is much that the states and localities and particularly the states can and must do to improve their public investment capabilities. But especially in times of economic crisis it is the federal government—which represents all of the people and can marshal the nation's resources—that holds the key.

The federal government's role in providing the leadership, programs and finances for public investments to build America must be continued, strengthened and expanded.

Substantial increases are needed in federal grants-in-aid to the states and local governments for specific programs in the nation's interest, such as education, manpower training, health services and facilities, metropolitan transportation, air- and water-pollution control, urban renewal, public service jobs and energy conservation and development.

Federal grant-in-aid programs should be fully funded and monies already appropriated by Congress and impounded by the President should be made available to state and local governments as quickly as possible.

WE URGE ENACTMENT of special federal legislation to authorize payment of funds directly to local governments suffering from depressed economic conditions so that they can maintain essential public services.

Institutions, such as a federal urban bank, should be developed to provide states and localities with easier access to long-term, low-interest loans for the construction of public housing, urban transit systems and other community facilities. The federal government should have stand-by authority to provide emergency aid to local governments in times of severe fiscal crisis.

There should be a thorough review of present federal categorical grants-in-aid. Such a review should aim at increasing their efficiency, re-examining matching-fund formulas and making it easier for state and local officials to be aware of and obtain the federal aid available to them. However, the purposes, performance standards and requirements of the programs must be safeguarded so that the national interest is served.

We encourage state governments to share a greater portion of their tax revenues with local jurisdictions, especially those which are responsible for financing a continually growing level of public services from an eroding tax base.

—From the resolution on Financing State and Local Governments adopted by the 11th AFL-CIO Convention.

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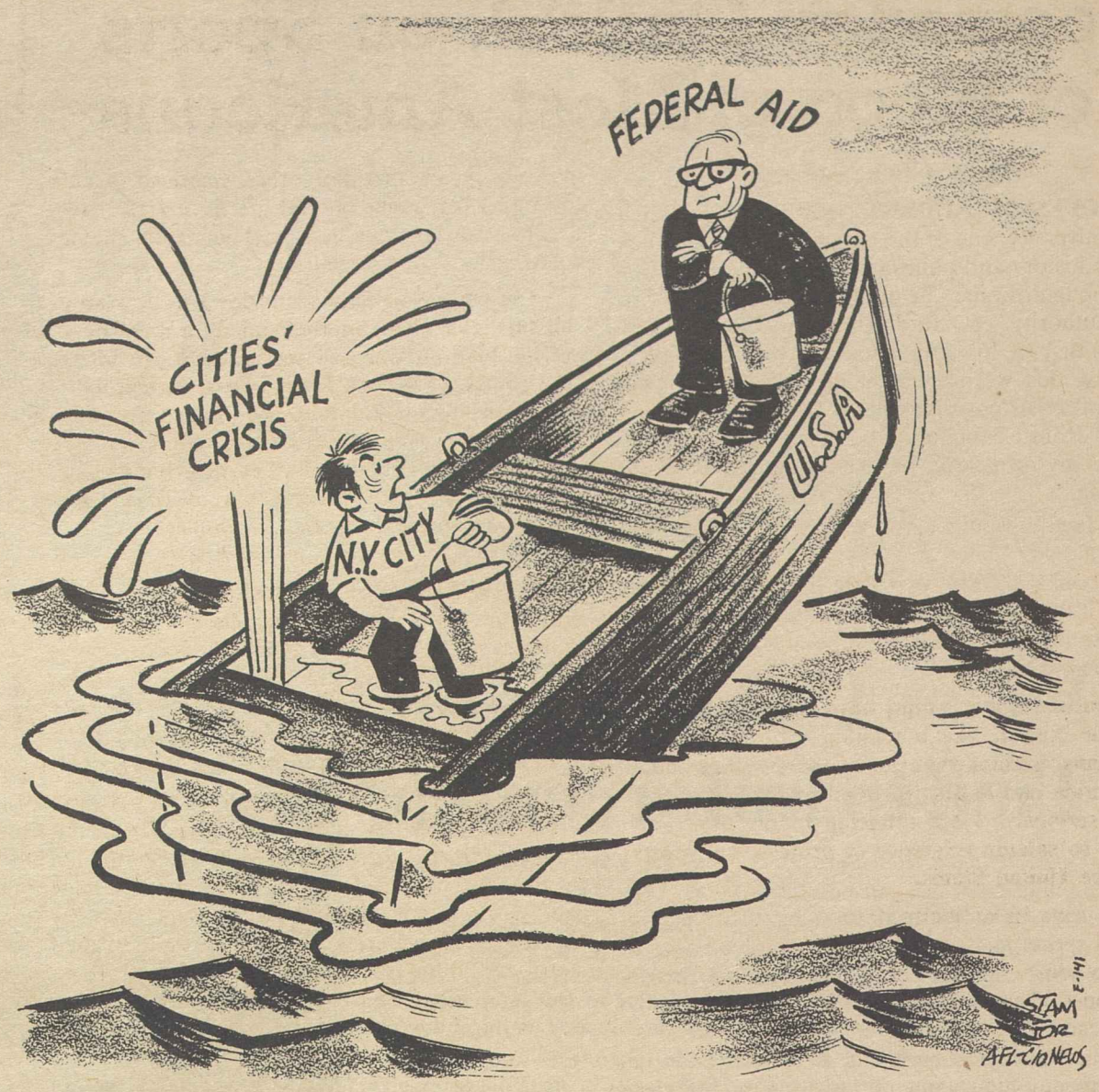


A Word Edgewise:

Low-Cal Soft Drink Fans Taste Sweet Victory in Bitter Fight

By John P. Roche

UP TO A CERTAIN POINT I'm willing, even glad, to be protected against myself. It's reassuring to know that the Food & Drug Administration is out there barring such menaces as thalidomide. The buzzers in the car that alert me to close the door, fasten my seatbelt and also put one around the bag of groceries next to me on the front seat are not intolerable.

And by stretching my patience a bit I can even put up with the new tops on medicine bottles that call for some expertise in safecracking. (Fortunately—since I am a timid soul—I do not encounter the Surgeon General's warning on either cigars or pipe tobacco.)

However, three times in the last decade my willingness to go along with Big Brother has been severely tested. At the top of the list was the Surgeon General's definition of "alcoholism," which converted virtually any non-teetotaler into a lush. The exact formulation escapes me, but plus or minus an ounce or two it indicated that if you drank six ounces of spirits in any one day, or a total of 10 a week, you were in the bag.

I hate to challenge the Surgeon General, but where I come from alcoholism is an addiction which can't be defined in ounces: it is the ability to take it or leave it. Drinking too much is undoubtedly bad for the health, but it is not necessarily alcoholism. Indeed, I have known alcoholics who were one-drink drunks.

The second occasion on which I almost looked up the local anarchists for a membership application was the swordfish ban. Luckily we can still get swordfish (in fact we had it for dinner last night), but I am informed it is a federal offense to take Massachusetts swordfish to, say, Rhode Island—or vice versa. The FDA's excommunication of the swordfish—which incidentally decimated the swordfishermen and jacked up the price where you can still get it—arose from a single incident. Again the exact details are vague, but, if memory serves, a woman on a special weight-losing diet was eating about 10 pounds of swordfish a week over a sustained period and developed mercury poisoning.

That was unfortunate, but I have a sneaking suspicion that, if you ate 10 pounds of peanut butter a week for six months, you would come down with something. And subsequent research has indicated that mercury levels in fish have remained stable over 50 years (some old cans of fish still in good chemical condition were analyzed). But the ban still stands, and, even if it were lifted, the fishermen have shifted to other waters, or gone out of business.

The third episode was the 1969 ban on cyclamates, the artificial sweetener used in low-cal soft drinks. This I took personally. For about 30 years I have been fighting my waistline (I have probably lost about 600 pounds), and the only low-cal soft drinks that—for some metabolic reason—didn't give me the jitters were those made with cyclamates. If your summer option is low-cal ginger ale and the jitters, or beer and calories, you have a problem.

NOW WE LEARN from a fascinating piece of detective work in "Barron's" that there is every indication that the barring of cyclamates by FDA was a "triumph of pseudoscience," if not a set-up sponsored by the sugar industry to eliminate competition. The article by Dana L. Thomas explores in meticulous detail, the history of the attack on cyclamates as a potential carcinogen.

The lead is the confession by Dr. Bernard Oser, who did the 1969 tests which triggered federal action, that the experiments had not been designed to show if cyclamates caused cancer and concluded that the "decision to select cyclamates as the culprit . . . was probably not justified."

Thomas points out that in the 1960s production of cyclamates jumped from 5 million to 15 million pounds and "some sugar producers feared that if the boom continued unchecked, the industry eventually would lose half its yearly sales." "In 1964," he says, the industry "swung into action . . . via the Sugar Research Foundation (which) contracted with the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation to launch a study on the effects of feeding cyclamates to rats."

Four and a half years later, the drive paid off: cyclamates were suddenly withdrawn from the U.S. market. Needless to add, this did not hurt the price of sugar. "Barron's," on behalf of us weight-watchers, thanks.

Professor Nisbet's Fumble:

Doomsday Outlook on Sports Not Mood of Most Americans

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

PROFESSOR ROBERT NISBET of Columbia University, one of the nation's leading scholars in the history and philosophy of social and political thought, argues in his latest book, "Twilight of Authority" (Oxford University Press, New York) that we live at a dangerous turning point in history, that we are caught up in a political and cultural crisis not dissimilar to that preceding the fall of Rome. I found the book a bit too pessimistic for my own taste, but nevertheless well worth reading.

In fact, I would agree with those critics who have already hailed it as one of the most important books of the year. Despite its doomsday tone, it turns out to be, in the end, a very hopeful treatise on ways of arresting, even reversing, "the decline of the West."

On one minor point, however, I think Professor Nisbet, like a number of other academicians, is somewhat out of touch with middle America and is also inclined to take life a bit too seriously. I am referring to his brief and ever so solemn reference to professional sports in the United States.

He says he is inclined to think that "professional sports take a great deal of the load off war as the source of release to a bored, increasingly tension-ridden population. Teams are combat units, and there is much in common psychologically between the team in the field and the actual fighting unit, the squad or platoon or company in wartime. . . . Anyone who hates war," he concludes, "must dread the day when athletics, amateur and professional, loses its present capacity for mobilizing agressive forces on the field and thrilling large audiences."

I wonder what the boys would make of that at a KC or American Legion smoker? I suspect they would find it rather amusing—but more about that in a moment.

Professor Nisbet, in another section of his book, laments the fact that Americans have become increasingly careless in their use of the English language. Yet in his own apocalyptic reference to sports, he himself is guilty of this very fault. He equates "sports" in general with an aggressive type of warlike team play on the football field, but, for at least half the year, the sporting events that glue the American people to their television sets don't fit that description at all.

What's so aggressive or warlike about Jack Nicklaus chipping to the pin with a nine iron, or Chris Evert catching her opponent off balance with a backhand shot to the far corner of the court, or your favorite hitter stealing second base? For that matter, what's so aggressive or warlike about basketball or soccer? Hockey, yes — but aside from hockey, boxing and football, the other sporting events that hold the American people enthralled for weeks on end are no more aggressive or warlike than a genteel game of shuffleboard, cricket or croquet.

And when you come right down to it, what's all this stuff about football taking a great deal of the load off war and serving as a providential source of release for a bored, increasingly tension-ridden population? To most Americans it's only a game. Why, then, do so many intellectuals feel constrained to describe it as a surrogate for war? In short, why do they take the game and themselves so seriously?

Above all, why do they so frequently insult the American people by referring to them (and Professor Nisbet is not unique among intellectuals in this regard) as a bored, tension-ridden population? With apologies to the professor — who strikes this reader as being a very decent type human being—I think it must be said that there is something rather snobbish about this kind of inflated ivory tower rhetoric.

PROFESSOR NISBET DOES have a point, however, when he says that "whether sports can survive the present headlong rush toward huge profits, enormous individual contracts carefully negotiated by batteries of lawyers for individual stars, and the growing image of each of these same stars as businessmen—owners of hamburger or bowling alley chains, with names prominently displayed—is still uncertain."

It seemed very "uncertain," indeed, a couple of weeks ago when a number of NFL teams went on strike to protest against the so-called Rozelle rule. Our own house was divided on the pros and cons of this monumental dispute, but, for my own part, I was on the players' side.

The Rozelle rule—if I, too, may indulge in a bit of inflated rhetoric—is a form of (admittedly well-paid) indentured servitude, and the owners, in my opinion, would be well advised to give it up voluntarily before they are compelled to do so by the courts.

In any event, my good friend Willie Usery, director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service and the greatest living expert in the field of labor mediation, deserves the Congressional Medal of Honor for having mediated the NFL strike in time to get the players back into uniform for the opening games of the season, thus restoring their "capacity for mobilizing aggressive forces on the field and thrilling large audiences."

Professor Nisbet doubts that many of them will emerge as national heroes. In fact, he says that the age of sports heroes may soon be gone forever. We shall see. Meanwhile it's time to go—the Redskins are about to kick off to the New Orleans Saints (an unlikely name, by the way, for a platoon of aggressive warriors).

States Lag on Update:

Benefits Improvements Pressed As High Joblessness Continues

WITH ALL SIGNS now pointing to high unemployment for at least two or three more years and the Administration calling for budget cuts that will trigger even more joblessness, overhaul of the 40-year-old unemployment insurance system just can't be shoved to the back burner.

That view was expressed in a network radio interview by Assistant Director James O'Brien of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, as he scored the failure of most states to keep their programs in pace with economic changes and growing needs. He listed as the major shortcomings of the present regular unemployment insurance system:

- Denial of protection to more than 12 million workers, such as public employes, most farm workers and most domestics, when they are temporarily unemployed.
- Lagging benefit levels that most often fall far short of the 50 percent wage replacement goal of the program.
- Harsh eligibility rules that let unscrupulous employers or those seeking to avoid "experience-rated" premium increases block millions of otherwise eligible workers from receiving compensation while they are out of work and looking for jobs.

O'Brien said that emergency legislation adopted in response to the current recession has eased the impact of some of the program's shortcomings. But, he pointed out, that relief is only temporary, with the measures terminating in early 1977.

For that reason, he declared, there is no time for Congress to delay in remedying the "serious inadequacies that . . . have been put into sharp focus" by the recession. He said that the AFL-CIO favors federalization of the unemployment insurance system, but that stands as a long-range goal.

The immediate aim—and it can be achieved quickly by a determined Congress—is minimum federal standards that will make the system equitable, fair and adequate in all parts of the nation, he stressed.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

A VISIT WITH Secretary of Labor John T. Dunlop in his conference room on the second floor of the new Labor Dept. building is an intriguing experience.

Dunlop is available to the press. His long experience of teaching at Harvard and mediating tough labor-management disputes for 35 years has made him nimble and quick. And one has to be nimble and quick with Washington reporters.

Dunlop knows a lot about labor. He especially knows a lot about the leaders of labor and the leaders of management. And he gets along with them as he puts it because he does not "ride any white horses into the West;" he accepts things as they are.

The reporters had gathered a little early on a warm October afternoon to plunk themselves down in the comfortable chairs provided. The secretary came in with his aides and sat down at a table and started to talk about unemployment insurance.

There was a prolonged discussion about unemployment benefits and the need for an overhaul of the system—a reform which Dunlop favors. He explained that the department is pushing for some quick changes in this Congress to make the system more equitable. Then, he said, he will push for a thorough study of the whole jobless benefits system so that, hopefully, there can be a complete overhaul—something that hasn't been done for 40 years.

The secretary explained that one of the big unanswered questions about jobless benefits that he is asked is whether people who are unemployed really don't try hard enough to find jobs but simply collect their benefits. One reporter suggested that unemployed workers would rather work than not. Speak for yourself, said another reporter who probably would rather have gone fishing on this nice fall day.

Dunlop said that the question is still there and critics of the jobless benefits system are going to have to be satisfied that working people would really rather work. So, the secretary said, we'll take a look at people who have actually exhausted their benefits to find out if, not having any funds, they actually will try harder to get jobs.

DUNLOP REMINDED the reporters that he is seeking federal standards and trying to modernize the unemployment insurance system so that jobless workers will receive benefits the equivalent of from one-half to two-thirds of normal pay.

Dunlop repeated that his goal—since "day one" when he came into the job—has been to get a limited number of practical changes in the unemployment insurance system this year and then to move ahead for a comprehensive study of the whole system.

The reporters turned to what one reporter called "Mr. Ford's tax-and-slash" program. The secretary reminded the reporters that he favors an indefinite extension of the income tax cut. He said he agreed wholeheartedly with the President that middle-income Americans need continued tax relief. It is most important that adjustments be made in tax rates so that the middle-income Americans will get some long-range benefits, Dunlop said.

The secretary said that if "people think their tax rates are going back up again in six months, they will not go out and spend money for new cars and help stimulate the economy and put people back to work."

There was some conversation about how the Labor Dept. would handle the problem of cutting its own budget in line with the President's proposal. Questions were asked about the "suggestions" of the Office of Management & Budget (OMB). The secretary said OMB did not tell the department what to cut; "they just gave us a gross figure." Dunlop emphasized "gross." He said the experts in the department are studying the matter.

A reporter asked Dunlop if he ever argued back with the White House. "I regard that as an absolute insult," said Dunlop, who is noted in Washington for arguing back.

WITH UNEMPLOYMENT sure to stay high for the next few years and President Ford pushing for budget cuts that will throw more Americans out of work, modernization of the outdated unemployment insurance system can't be delayed, Assistant Director James O'Brien, center, of the AFL-CIO Social Security Dept., warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Lloyd Schwartz of the Fairchild Publications and Michael Posner of the Reuters news agency. The AFL-CIO produced public service program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

LABOR'S CONCERN that rigid budget curbs could plunge the nation into a deeper recession was expressed at recent House hearings by AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison, left, and Assistant Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

Safety Council Pressed On Job Disease Curbs

Chicago—Organized labor urged the National Safety Council to spearhead a campaign against occupational diseases, the silent killers which take the lives of more than 100,000 workers each year.

William W. Winpisinger, vice president of the Machinists, told a session of the Labor Conference at the council's annual National Safety Congress here that up to now the stress has been on accident prevention — the "dropping hammer" syndrome.

He praised the Safety Council's work to curb on-the-job accidents, which kill 14,000 workers each year, and asked it to turn its attention to the materials workers handle, noise and other unseen dangers.

"The primary threat to workers today is constant exposure to toxic substances," Winpisinger said. "Workers wind up selling not labor, but years of their lives to employers."

He noted that 97 percent of materials workers handle are untested for their long-range dangers to health.

Winpisinger said the Ford Administration has been playing the dollars-and-cents angles on job safety with no attention to the human factors. He called for the hiring of 2,000 new compliance officers and an end to miserly funding for job safety enforcement and research.

The Labor Conference presented its top 1975 Safety Awards to Machinists Lodge 1781, Burlingame, Calif.; Steelworkers Local 480, Trail, B.C., Canada; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1379, Bettendorf, Ia.; Machinists Lodge 851, Joliet, Ill.; Meat Cutters Local 342, Jamaica, N.Y.; and the Laborers International Union.

Gene Kozlowski, safety director of IBEW Local 1859, Cicero, Ill., received the top individual award.

Robert Farrell, safety director of Operating Engineers Local 150, Countryside, Ill., is outgoing chairman of the Labor Conference. Incoming chairman is Jack R. Suarez, job safety and health director of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers. Joe M. Short of the Laborers was named vice chairman of the conference. Paul Connelley, safety director for the Carpenters, is National Safety Council vice president for labor.

Study Explores Wage Drain by Multinationals

Foreign tax breaks for multinational corporations take money out of the pocket of the average worker and give it to corporate stockholders and executives, according to a report released by the Senate Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations.

The study also blames part of the current shortage of capital in the United States and the general economic malaise on multinationals and their foreign investment. It says $200 billion in foreign investment over the last 25 years has displaced domestic investment and reduced this nation's capital stock.

The study, by Prof. Peggy B. Musgrave of Northeastern University, is titled "Direct Investment Abroad and the Multinationals: Effects on the United States Economy." It will be the subject of a series of hearings by the subcommittee this fall.

It concludes that the operation of multinationals reduces wages throughout society while enriching stockholders. In reducing the U.S. capital stock, foreign investment raises the rate of return on available capital but lowers wages, the author says. "It follows that U.S. labor loses . . . and U.S. investors gain."

Subcommittee Chairman Frank Church (D-Ida.) said the study appears to indicate that "it is not further subsidies for the corporations which are needed to revitalize our economy and encourage employment but rather a reform of the tax subsidies given to multinational corporations."

Labor Board Opens San Antonio Office

The National Labor Relations Board announced the opening of a new office in San Antonio, Tex., and appointment of new regional directors in San Francisco and Chicago.

John C. Crawford, 49, of Houston, a career member of the NLRB staff, will direct the San Antonio resident office. The new office—the fourth in Texas—will handle cases filed in 31 southwest Texas counties.

Natalie P. Allen was named to head the San Francisco office, replacing Roy O. Hoffman who retired in July. She becomes NLRB's only woman regional director. The San Francisco office is the agency's largest in terms of staff and case handling.

The new Chicago regional director is Alex V. Barbour. At 33 he becomes NLRB's youngest regional director. He succeeds Ross M. Madden who also retired last July.

Multinational Politics:

Overseas Scandals Uncover Web of Business Corruption

A new and tangled web of corporate corruption now coming to light dramatizes the lengths to which some American businesses will go to satisfy a burning greed for profits.

The latest scandals, an outgrowth of the Watergate investigations, involve millions of dollars in political payoffs to foreign agents or governments by big U.S.-based multinational corporations bent on building up earnings.

The payoffs, which may take the form of bribery, kickbacks or other special favors, are doled out to those with influence to secure contracts, protect in-place investments or gain favorable concessions such as a tax break in the host country.

James M. Shevis, writing about the overseas payoffs in the October issue of the AFL-CIO magazine, the American Federationist, notes that the wrongdoing "is widespread and corrosive and threatens to weaken our economic system and the nation's ethical fiber."

The full dimensions of the payoffs cannot be fully grasped at this point, Shevis observes, since an array of government and other agencies is still knee-deep in its investigations of the corrupt business practices.

But facts already unearthed show that the corruption reaches directly into the executive suites of some of the best-known companies of America, including Gulf Oil Corp., Ashland Oil, Inc., Lockheed Aircraft Corp., United Brands Co., Phillips Petroleum Co., and Northrop Corp.

The payoffs touch presidents, prime ministers, generals and government officials of countries throughout Europe, the Middle East, Central and South America and Asia, Shevis notes, adding that "it is this extent of involvement at the very pinnacles of power that makes the scandals unprecedented."

Shevis, an assistant editor of the AFL-CIO News, points out that the disclosures thus far have led to the suicide of one corporate head, the firing of several top executives, dozens of stockholder suits, threats of expropriation of U.S. property and the overthrow of a foreign ruler.

Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.), chairman of a Senate panel only midway through its probe of the foreign payoffs, has referred to the overseas bribery as "a cancer eating at the vitals of Western society." Church added:

"Corruption, in big business as well as in politics, has become the enemy of free societies, giving the Communists a potent weapon to wield against us."

At home, of course, it is against the law for corporations to make political contributions to federal election campaigns. But unless specifically forbidden by the laws of a given country, U.S. political payoffs abroad violate only ethical considerations. Yet, as Shevis notes, this is precisely the issue.

"The crux of the matter is the cavalier acceptance of such unethical practices by the big American corporations and their leaders who view them as 'normal' business behavior," he observes.

The multinational firms, most of which are based in the United States, say they must grease palms in many of the nations in which they do business just to stay even with the competition. They write off the payments—many of them outright bribes—as the "cost of doing business."

Chairman B. R. Dorsey of Gulf Oil Corp., after admitting his company gave $4 million in payoffs to the ruling party of South Korean President Park Chung Hee, offered a revealing explanation for his decision to make the corporate contributions.

Gulf had a total investment in refining, shipbuilding and other operations in South Korea in excess of $300 million, he told Sen. Church's Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on multinational corporations. Leaders of Park's party demanded money from the firm, he said, a demand accompanied by pressure which "left little to the imagination as to what would occur if the company would choose to turn its back on the request."

Recalling the incident, Dorsey noted that Gulf was expanding its Korean operations and was faced with myriad problems.

"I carefully weighed the demand for a contribution in that light," he said, "and my decision to make the contribution was based upon what I sincerely considered to be in the best interests of the company and its shareholders."

Sen. Dick Clark (D-Iowa), a member of the Church subcommittee, following up Dorsey's testimony, asked incredulously:

"This was the sole basis of your decision? I assume it was not something that had to do with the national interest of the United States. That, I assume, is not your responsibility. You make decisions on these contributions solely on profit motives for the stockholders' interest, is that correct?"

"Exactly right," Dorsey replied. As for the correctness of the ethics involved in the transaction, Dorsey put it this way: "What is immoral to some is perfectly correct to others. What is onerous to one culture may be perfectly proper and decent to another."

While bribing a foreign official does not violate U.S. law, covering up the payoff through bookkeeping gimmickry constitutes a violation of the Securities & Exchange Commission's reporting requirements. SEC has led a vigorous investigation of firms that have allegedly made undisclosed payments abroad, among them Northrop, General Refractories, Gulf, United Brands and others.

Meanwhile, in Congress, Rep. Stephen J. Solarz (D-N.J.) has introduced a bill to prohibit the bribery of a foreign government official or political organization.

Whether such a law would put an end to the payoffs is highly debatable, though, since many big multinational companies already have knowingly broken other laws at home and abroad in their reach for profits, Shevis observes.

But, he emphasizes, "the problem of how to deal with corporate bribery abroad must be faced up to squarely for the problem is not likely to go away by itself."

Abel Hits 'Trivial Fines' On Coke Oven Abuses

Pittsburgh—Steelworker President I. W. Abel strongly criticized the Occupational Safety & Health Administration for a settlement allowing U.S. Steel to pay "trivial fines" for violation of OSHA emission regulations at its coke plants in four states.

OSHA inspectors cited the company for the violations after the USWA filed complaints at coke plants in Fairfield, Ala.; Gary, Ind.; Duluth, Minn.; and Clairton, Pa. The OSHA representatives assured the USWA that they would "insist upon a strong settlement" that would impose meaningful engineering controls and work practices. Abel said, "OSHA then caved in and agreed to let the company off by paying trivial fines."

Abel said that the settlement was "further proof of the weakness of present OSHA coke plant regulations and enforcement procedures," and demonstrates the real need for coke oven regulations that will force steel companies to eliminate smoke emissions from the plants.

Findings of medical researchers show that the cancer death rate among coke-oven workers is 2.5 to 10 times greater than that of all workers in the basic steel industry. Studies have failed to determine the exact cause of the high rate.

Abel criticized coke oven standards proposed by Secretary of Labor John T. Dunlop last July. He charged that standards recommended by an OSHA advisory committee were largely ignored by Dunlop in favor of regulations more acceptable to industry. The committee, composed of representatives from industry, labor, and the public, recommended fixed standards for air quality, mandatory engineering controls and work practices, worker access to their own medical records, a reduction of coke oven emissions of benzo-a-pyrene, a known cancer producing agent, detailed monitoring of work sites, and employer provided medical exams for all coke oven workers.

The USWA represents about 90 percent of the 15,000 coke oven workers at 65 plants across the country.

Cennamo Fills No. 2 Post in Leather Union

San Francisco—Ralph Cennamo, 57, of Bridgeport, Conn., was unanimously elected secretary-treasurer of the Leather Goods, Plastics & Novelty Workers Union by the union's executive board, President Benjamin Feldman announced.

Cennamo's election followed the resignation of Harry Frankel, effective Oct. 1, for reasons of health. Frankel had served in this position since 1970 and before that was an officer of the Luggage Workers Local 60.

Cennamo will continue to serve as director of organization in addition to his new responsibilities. A member of the union since 1937 when he started to work in a handbag plant, he has served for nearly two decades as a member of the executive board.

Key Negotiations in '76:

Rubber Union Votes Strike Benefit Hike

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Delegates to the Rubber Workers 40th anniversary convention voted to increase strike benefits as the URW prepares for negotiations with the "Big Four" rubber companies. Contracts with Goodyear, Firestone, Goodrich and Uniroyal will expire next spring.

While the individual strike benefits payments were raised from $25 to $35 a week, the URW per capita tax will continue to be collected on an existing formula which links membership dues to increases in hourly earnings.

URW President Peter Bommarito warned that the union may face a "tough" situation in the 1976 round of master contract negotiations. He said union negotiators will be seeking "the most meaningful and sizable packages of recent years." Topping the priority list are catch-up raises, cost-of-living adjustments and pension improvements.

Bommarito was re-elected to a new three-year term over Gilbert Laws of Lincoln, Neb., by a vote of 1,537 to 284. Sec.-Treas. Ike Gold and Vice Pres. Kenneth Oldham were unanimously re-elected, while the 1,013 delegates elected 13 new executive board members and returned one incumbent to office.

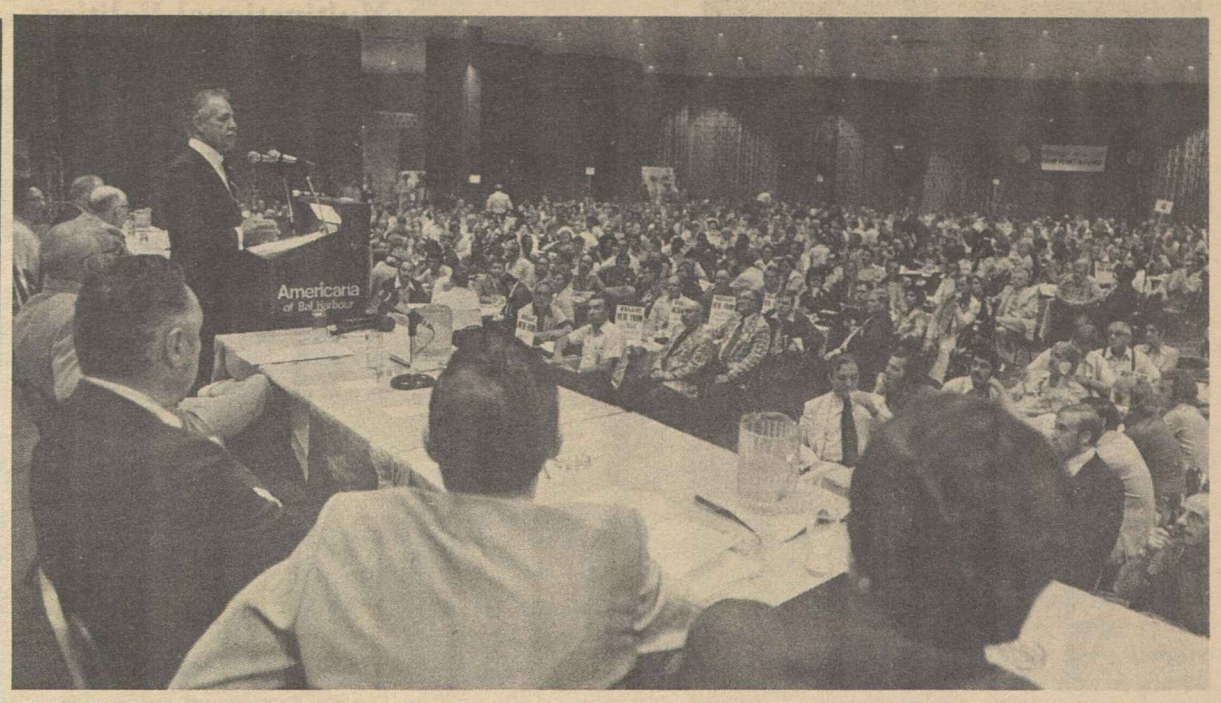
The convention also amended the URW constitution to provide for further exploration of merger and affiliation with other unions. Officers were authorized to create new vice presidential positions and an executive board seat to represent new affiliates.

The URW had been involved in merger discussions with the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers earlier this year, but the talks have been recessed.

Another constitutional change authorizes organizing in any "acceptable industries," rather than limiting the URW to rubber, cork, linoleum, plastic and allied industries.

Major speakers addressing the convention included Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio); Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, and John Simon, executive secretary of the Canadian Labor Congress.

The 13 new board members elected at the convention are Fred Belair, Clairemont, N.H.; Darwin Bixler, Jr., Oaks, Pa.; Don Cox, Miami, Okla.; Wilbur Davis, Akron, Ohio; John D. Fuhrman, Kitchener, Ont.; Donald Gilbert, Findlay, Ohio; Zelma Harris, Madisonville, Ky.; Eugene Knowles, Dayton, Ohio; Shelby McLaughlin, Carleton, Mich.; Alfonso Roybal, Wheatridge, Colo.; Lyle D. Skinner, Salesburg, Ill.; Georges St. Laurent, Waterville, Que., and W. Aaron Waldrop, Northport, Ala. Re-elected to the board was Joseph Daniele of Akron.



BARGAINING GOALS are outlined by President Peter Bommarito at the Rubber Workers convention. He listed catch-up raises, cost-of-living adjustments and pension improvements as key objectives of the union.

Alabama Labor Backs Improved Job Injury Aid

Montgomery, Ala.—The Alabama AFL-CIO is mounting an all-out legislative drive to expand coverage and improve benefits under the state worker's compensation law.

Delegates to the state federation's 10th biennial convention endorsed proposed amendments to the law that will be considered by the state legislature at a special session opening Nov. 3.

The nearly 600 delegates also called for renewed efforts to repeal Alabama's "right-to-work" law and win collective bargaining rights for public employes throughout the state when the new legislature convenes next year.

In his report to the convention, President Barney Weeks noted that membership in the state federation increased to 104,000 with the affiliation of 103 local unions representing 30,000 since the last convention.

He urged delegates to transform the growing strength of the state labor movement into an effective political action program for the 1976 elections, calling for the election of candidates that have solid programs to revitalize the nation's economy and to correct the "mismanagement" of the Nixon and Ford Administrations.

On key national issues, convention resolutions spelled out proposals for effective housing and energy programs, health insurance coverage for the unemployed, postcard registration of voters, tax reform, curbing job-eroding imports and passage of National Health Security.

The convention re-elected Weeks, who has headed the state federation since 1957, to a new two-year term. Also re-elected were Sec.-Treas. A. G. Trammell and Executive Vice President Connie Entrekin.

Four new vice presidents elected to the board are W. E. Johnson of the Communications Workers, Clayton Suddith of the Iron Workers, Ralph Minor of the Machinists and Isom Clemon of the Longshoremen.

Major speakers at the three-day convention included National COPE Director Al Barkan, Rep. Robert E. Jones (D-Ala.), State Attorney Gen. William J. Baxley, AFL-CIO Regional Director James Sala, Executive Director Charles Bradford of the Human Resources Development Institute and Executive Director Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

Ford Names John Irving NLRB Counsel

John S. Irving has been named general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Appointed by President Ford, Irving has been deputy general counsel since 1972. He was named to succeed John C. Miller, who has been acting general counsel since the expiration of the term of former general counsel Peter G. Nash last Aug. 15.

Irving, 34, is a career government employe. He was a law clerk with the NLRB while still a law school senior. Later, he was an attorney adviser to former board member Sam Zagoria and a trial attorney in the general counsel's appellate court branch.

From 1969 to 1971, Irving served as special assistant to the solicitor and executive assistant to the Under Secretary of Labor. He returned to the NLRB as associate general counsel for operations, in charge of the agency's field operations and its advice branch.

Federal Assistance Held Essential In New York's Financial Crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

President Ford has voiced opposition to a federal aid for New York, although he has avoided flatly saying he would veto legislation providing financial assistance in the form of long-term loans or guarantees.

Federal aid to New York and other hard-pressed cities and states was urged in resolutions adopted at the AFL-CIO's 11th Convention in San Francisco. The convention warned:

"If New York City defaults, the repercussions will be felt far and wide throughout the country. Already the market for municipal bonds is weakening so that other cities are no longer able to borrow at reasonably low rates to meet the normal demands for funds used for temporary or long-term needs such as public works, rehabilitation and maintenance of essential facilities."

Another resolution noted the economic recession of the past two years has put severe pressure on state and local budgets, and that the Ford Administration's obsession over federal budget deficits has exacerbated the situation by short-changing the states and localities of needed funds.

President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees told a press conference that New York's problems differ from those of other areas only in size. "The model for disaster for other local and state governments is clearly discernible" in New York City's crisis, Wurf warned.

"The federal government must stabilize the credit market for New York State, New York City and other state and local governments," Wurf said. "The only meaningful assistance should be a federal guarantee mechanism of state and local debt."

New York City narrowly averted default on Oct. 17 when the United Federation of Teachers agreed to instruct its representatives on the teacher pension fund to invest $150 million in bonds issued by the Municipal Assistance Corp. The money was needed to meet the city's notes coming due.

"Teachers made the investment they did because they were aware of what default would have meant, both to the city and to the state," UFT President Albert Shanker declared.

"In defaulting, the city would have dragged with it hundreds of city and state governments and school systems and thousands of private concerns throughout the United States, and overseas as well," said Shanker, also head of the American Federation of Teachers.

The city's fiscal problems came to a head when major banks in New York refused to go along with the latest plan worked out between the state and the city for financing debt payments due in October.

After the Teachers pension fund had come to the rescue, Gov. Hugh Carey sent President Ford a telegram asking his cooperation and leadership in resolving the crisis.

"New York, by exhausting all of its resources, can meet its obligations until Dec. 1," Carey noted. "After then, the welfare of our citizens rests in the hands of the federal government."

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur F. Burns, who until the city nearly went bankrupt Oct. 17 had minimized the seriousness of the situation, said he is reviewing New York's plight.

"If the New York City crisis remains unresolved, and if the fate of New York State remains tied to the city's, the process of economic recovery now under way in our nation could be injured," Burns warned.

Insurance Workers OK Prudential Pact

The Insurance Workers announced ratification of a two-year bargaining agreement with the Prudential Insurance Co. The vote was 3,604 in favor of ratification and 3,183 opposed in returns from 156 local unions. Affected are 16,000 Prudential district agents represented by the union in 35 states and the District of Columbia.

The new agreement provides $32 per week in new benefits, equally divided between salary increases and fringe benefit improvements. IWIU's Prudential members had earlier authorized by a 15-1 margin a strike against the company if a satisfactory agreement could not be concluded.

This wraps up the 1975 round of bargaining for IWIU during which it reached agreements with Prudential, Metropolitan Life and John Hancock Mutual Life for a total of about 35,000 insurance agents.

Strip Mining Controls Asked in North Dakota

Bismarck, N.D.—A legislative program drafted by the 18th annual convention of the North Dakota AFL-CIO proposes measures to insure payment of prevailing wages on state and local government projects, effective environmental controls of strip mining and the expansion of the state-owned bank.

The 200 delegates called for strict regulations on strip mining in the state, stressing that unrestricted mining operations would produce adverse social and environmental results.

Delegates also endorsed the extension of branch offices for the State Bank of North Dakota, the only state-owned and operated bank in the nation.

Other resolutions adopted at the three-day convention called for passage of the labor-backed National Health Security bill and reform of the National Labor Relations Act to provide added protection for workers.

Sen. Quentin Burdick (D-N.D.) in his convention address assailed President Ford's policy of government by veto. He said that the repeated efforts of Congress to bring about economic recovery have been frustrated by a string of 39 vetoes while the President attempts to hold Congress responsible for the nation's problems.

"Every time we tried to give him a tool or something to operate with, he vetoed it," Burdick observed.

Other major speakers included Margaret Thornburgh, western area director of the COPE's Women Activities Dept.; Charles Bradford, executive director of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, and Stanley Moore, president of the North Dakota Farmers Union.

Delegates re-elected President Wallace J. Dockter, Sec.-Treas. Robert A. Donegan and five vice presidents to new two-year terms. Two new vice presidents elected to office are Earl Swanson of Fargo and Alton Schuette of Bismarck.

Mayors Back Aid To New York City

A delegation of three mayors, representing the majority of some 15,000 municipalities across the country, urged Congress to pass legislation to keep New York City from bankruptcy.

The mayors of New Orleans, St. Louis and Syracuse told a House hearing that a default by New York City "would have a significant effect on the entire municipal bond market."

From Appropriations Bill:

Panel Asked to Drop Curb on Job Safety

The AFL-CIO asked a House-Senate conference committee to scrap an amendment to the Labor-HEW appropriations bill that would effectively deny protection of the Occupational Safety & Health Act to nearly three million workers.

The Senate-passed amendment would limit OSHA's enforcement authority by exempting from federal inspection all businesses with three or fewer employes.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, in a letter to House and Senate conferees who are ironing out differences in appropriations bills cleared by their respective chambers, noted the amendment would exempt 47 percent of all presently covered establishments.

"These same establishments—employing three or less workers—have a disproportionate number of lost work-days caused by job accidents and related illness," Biemiller observed.

The federation's strong opposition to the amendment was shared by Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop. Responding to queries from conferees as to the Labor Dept's position on the amendment, Dunlop said that all workers should be entitled to job safety and health protection under the law that Congress passed five years ago.

Any exemption based on the size of the workforce of an establishment could have long-range debilitating effects on the safety and health act, Dunlop noted. He added that additional exemptions probably would be sought in later years, if the amendment were enacted into law.

Biemiller's letter noted that, while the AFL-CIO is against the restriction on coverage, it supports another Senate-added amendment providing for $10 million for additional federal compliance officers.

"The addition of these inspectors is badly needed to make the proper enforcement of OSHA a reality for America's workforce," he said.

Turning to another rider on the Labor-HEW appropriations bill, an amendment on busing that is unrelated to the proposed OSHA limitations, Biemiller urged the House-Senate conferees to delete the Senate's anti-busing addition or at least make the provision consistent with the United States Constitution.

"Busing may be a controversial issue, but there can be no controversy concerning the court's right —without congressional interference—to interpret the Constitution," he said.

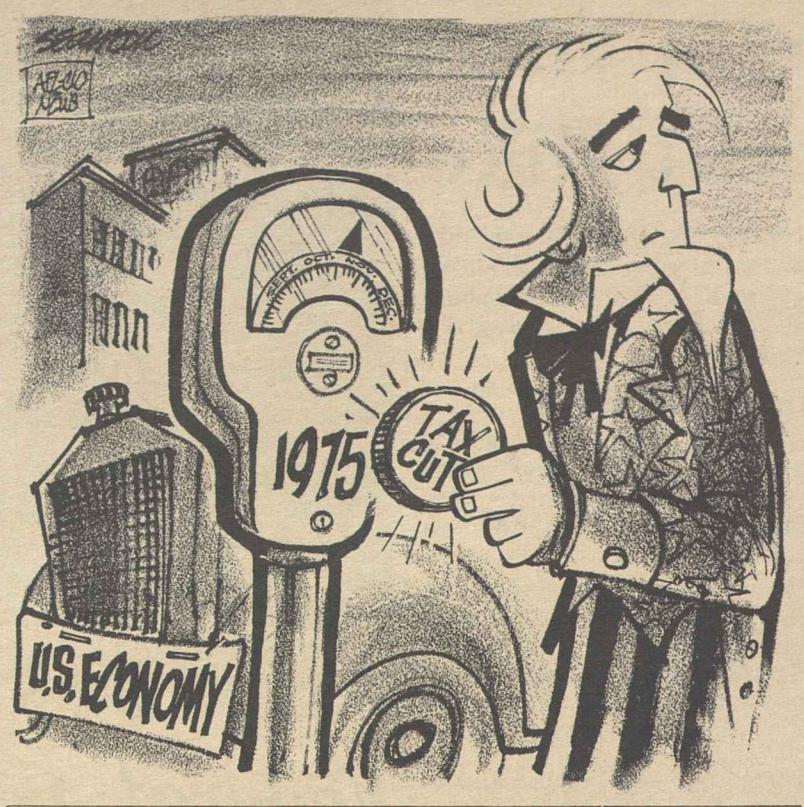
5-Day Workweek Still the Pattern

Most Americans still work a five-day week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

A BLS study of non-farm workers on full-time schedules revealed that 83.7 percent work five days a week, 14.1 percent work more than five days, and 2.2 percent work less than five days.

The largest percentages of full-time employes working more than five days per week were in the mining and trade industries.

Time To Feed the Kitty



House Eases U.S. Employe Political Curbs

(Continued from Page 1)

Va.) that would have reinstated many of the Hatch Act restrictions the bill sought to remove. It would have prohibited federal employes from holding office in a partisan political organization, barred them from running for any full-time state or local office or any federal post, and limited their partisan political activity to support of candidates running for part-time local or state office.

Rep. William Clay (D-Mo.), the principal sponsor of the original labor-backed bill, told the House that the amendment would "gut" a major section of the legislation.

It was beaten by a 260-147 margin and was the only amendment taken to a full rollcall. Before final passage, the House voted 327-81 against a motion by Rep. Edward J. Derwinski (R-Ill.) which would have limited the legislation to employes of the semi-autonomous U.S. Postal Service, while leaving all other employes under the Hatch Act as it now stands.

During the debate on the bill the point was strongly made that the Hatch Act, when passed in 1939, was intended to protect workers against political discrimination and not discourage them from an active citizenship role.

While the Civil Service Commission in recent years has responded to complaints by trying to balance the list of "can't do" prohibitions with "can do" listings, the legislation would make the change in emphasis explicit. It declares that the policy of Congress is that federal employes should be encouraged to exercise their rights of voluntary participation in the political processes of the nation.

$3 Wage Floor Urged To Aid Poor, Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

could deduct from the minimum wage. Under present law, an establishment can pay a worker only half the minimum wage if the employe can make up the difference in tips.

Biemiller told Dent that the bill "reflects many of the same concerns" that were expressed by the AFL-CIO at its recent convention. The federation went on record for a $3-an-hour wage floor, double-time pay after eight hours in a day and 40 a week, and progress towards "the principle of a 35-hour workweek."

One of the main purposes of the original Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 was to bolster the national economy, Biemiller noted, and today's problems are similar.

"We view this bill as emergency legislation," Biemiller said, to "benefit the entire economy by generating additional purchasing power and creating additional jobs."

Increasing premium pay for overtime work is intended to create new jobs rather than increase earnings, he stressed. The amount of overtime worked in a sample week in September was the equivalent of nearly 900,000 full-time jobs, Biemiller testified. He told the subcommittee:

"We recognize that not all overtime can be eliminated by changing the overtime standards, but we are persuaded that much of it can and will be eliminated when employers find it more expensive to schedule regular, recurring overtime than to hire additional workers."

Because the part of compensation represented by fringe benefits isn't affected by premium pay for overtime, the time-and-one-half rate now required after 40 hours a week is actually less than that in terms of employment costs.

To stimulate job creation, Biemiller said, "we must restore the penalty aspect of the overtime pay standard."

The Dent bill would establish a cost-of-living escalator after the $3 level is reached and Biemiller termed the feature a needed protection for purchasing power. He said the AFL-CIO would also like to see the lowest-paid workers share in productivity increases through an improvement factor.

Biemiller expressed strong support for the phaseout of the tip credit provision of the present law.

"We believe that an employe should be paid at least the minimum wage and that his employer should pay it. He should not have to depend on the generosity of his customer to earn a living wage," Biemiller said.

Eliminating of tips from the minimum wage calculation was urged also by Legislative Rep. Robert E. Juliano of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees, who testified on behalf of President Edward T. Hanley.

First Bank Contract Includes Union Shop

Tacoma, Wash.—A first contract with the Union Bank here includes a union shop as well as pay and fringe benefit improvements. The Office & Professional Employees' contract allows sick leave to accumulate to 60 days.

Ford Moves to Slash Food Stamp Program

President Ford asked Congress to cut back the food stamp program so as to eliminate or reduce benefits for almost half of the 18.8 million Americans who now receive food coupons.

The Administration proposal would tie eligibility to the official poverty line of $5,050 for a family of four, eliminating one million households or some 3.4 million people from the program. Another 5.3 million who would still qualify would receive reduced benefits. Chief victims of the Ford plan would be the unemployed, the low-wage earners and those on strike.

"The bill would make it impossible for most jobless workers to be eligible for food stamps until they have been unemployed for a number of weeks," Meat Cutters Legislative Rep. Arnold Mayer said.

"It is a first-class prescription for hunger among the families who are most in need," he charged.

AFL-CIO President George Meany recently warned state and local central bodies of right-wing attacks on the food stamp program. It is "part and parcel" of the Ford Administration's attacks on workers, Meany said.

"First, they prevent the enactment of job-creation legislation. Second, they promote policies which sharply increase food and energy costs. Third, they seek to starve the jobless and the working poor by knocking them off food stamps," he charged.

The Administration's proposals, submitted by Agriculture Sec. Earl L. Butz at Senate hearings, would determine eligibility by allowing families to deduct a standard $100 a month from gross income. If there were a family member 60 years old or older, the deduction would be $125 per month.

If, after the deductions are made, the net income is below the poverty line figure of $5,050, the family would be eligible but would have to pay a flat 30 percent of its net income for food coupons.

Currently, net income eligibility is 50 percent above the poverty line figure. Most families end up paying between 16 and 24 percent of their net income for the stamps.

10-25-75

Political Fund Limits Cited for Corporations

Corporations should be limited in soliciting voluntary contributions to a corporate political fund to stockholders and their families, organized labor told the Federal Elections Commission.

This can be the only interpretation of the new elections law, attorneys for the AFL-CIO and the Auto Workers told the commission, in light of the plainly written provision that solicitation of voluntary contributions to a union political fund is limited to members and their families.

The union viewpoint was filed with FEC chairman Thomas Curtis in reply to a request by corporations asking the commission for an interpretation of the law.

"There can be no doubt," said the letter from AFL-CIO General Counsel J. Albert Woll, Special Counsel Laurence Gold and UAW General Counsel Stephen I. Schlossberg, "that Congress intended to permit corporations and unions to establish separate, segregated political funds composed of voluntary contributions, and to administer such funds in the sense of determining what federal contributions and expenditures should be made.

"In all these respects, the fact that in 1975 a corporation should feel the need for guidance on the establishment of such a fund demonstrates only the business community's blithe disregard of the law over the years."

The letter pointed out that one adopted amendment to the law by Rep. Orval Hansen (R-Ida.) was intended to permit the "use of corporate treasury money only to defray the costs of reaching stockholders."

Congress drew the line between corporate political activity directed at stockholders and political activity financed by treasury money directed at the general public on "an overriding issue of principle," the union attorneys declared, noting that it applies also to union political activity directed at members only. They quote Hansen, during floor debate on the bill, as terming his amendment "a complete victory for those who believe that corporations and unions have no moral right to utilize their organizations' general funds for active public partisan politicking. It totally subordinates organizational interests to individual interests."

To permit corporations to use treasury money to solicit non-stockholder employes would "destroy the equity Congress intended to achieve," the union letter said.

It added that against the background of Watergate and the "systematic refusal by the corporate community to abide by the limitations imposed by Congress" the commission would be "most unwise" to interpret the law "in a manner which opens wide opportunities for abuses."

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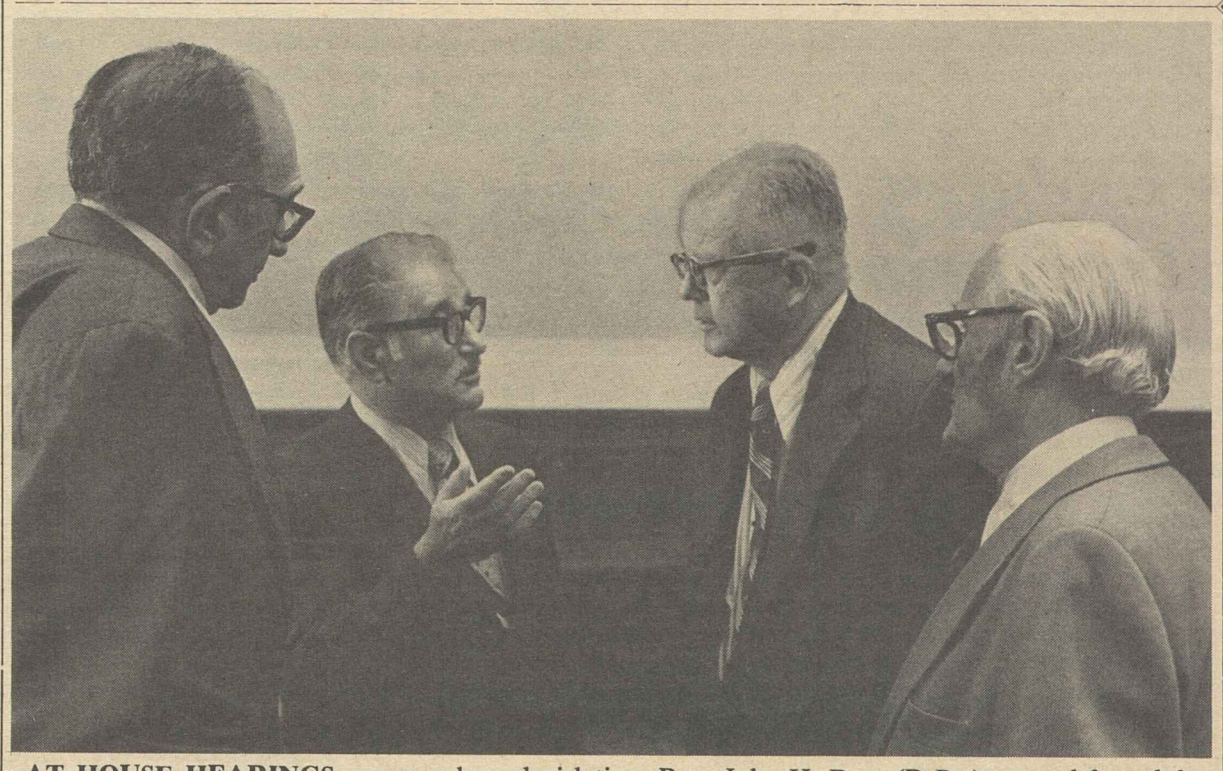
Rail Repair Clears House, Would Aid 20,000 Jobless



AT HOUSE HEARINGS on wage-hour legislation, Rep. John H. Dent (D-Pa.), second from left, discusses his bill for a $3-an-hour wage floor with AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller. Research Director Nat Goldfinger is at left, Legislative Rep. Kenneth Meiklejohn at right.

Bill Goes to Conference, Faces Veto

A labor-supported bill to put thousands of unemployed to work repairing badly-deteriorated segments of railroad roadbeds won 261-129 House approval in the face of another in a long series of presidential veto threats.

An even larger-scaled bill passed the Senate by a 67-10 margin earlier this year, and a House-Senate conference committee will draft the final version.

As passed by the House, railbed and signal maintenance workers who have been laid off because of the near-bankruptcy of major railroads would be the first hired.

Persons who have exhausted unemployment benefits and other long-term unemployed would be given second priority.

An estimated 15,000 to 20,000 jobs would be created under the $240 million authorization in the House bill. Railroads could not reduce their regular maintenance spending.

The Senate bill carries a $700 million price tag. The Senate would subsidize part of the cost of materials, while the House would fund only wages.

The presidential veto threat was relayed by the conservative Kansas Republican, Joe Skubitz, who led the fight against the bill. He read a letter sent to him by the Office of Management & Budget declaring that the Administration considers the bill "highly objectionable" and declaring that "the President has indicated that he would veto it if passed."

Skubitz sharply attacked the requirement in the bill that workers hired be paid the regular wages for the work they do. He couldn't see why workers should be paid "union wages" of about $6 an hour instead of a $2.10 minimum wage.

18.3 Million Unemployed During '74

A total of 18.3 million American workers were unemployed at some time during 1974, according to a special report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This was nearly 4 million more than were out of work in 1973.

Among all persons in the workforce for any part of 1974, the proportion of those with one week or more of unemployment was 17.6 percent, the highest in over a decade, the BLS report observed. This was more than triple the 5.6 percent average rate of unemployment in 1974.

The figures are contained in a Monthly Labor Review article titled "Work Experience of the Population, 1974," by BLS economist Anne McDougall Young. The article is in the October issue of the publication.

Other highlights of the report:

- The number of workers unemployed for 15 or more weeks in 1974 was 5.6 million, compared with 4.3 million in 1973.
- **One-third of all construction workers and one-fifth of all factory workers were unemployed at some time during the course of the year.**
- The increase in unemployment was sharper for men than for women but the proportion of the workforce with joblessness during the year continued to be higher for women—18.3 percent, compared with 17.1 percent.
- The drastic decline in economic activity at the end of 1974 "was reflected in a drop of nearly 500,000 in the number of men who worked year-round full-time. Most of the loss in steady employment among men was in manufacturing industries."
- In contrast, the number of women who worked year-round full-time increased 800,000, "led by workers in wholesale and retail trade and in services."

AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger noted that on the basis of the report, the federation's estimate of the number of workers who will experience joblessness at one time or another this year probably is "quite conservative."

The AFL-CIO estimates that about 20 million or more workers will be unemployed some time during the course of 1975 and that about 8 million or more will be jobless for 15 weeks or more during the year.

BLS's annual survey of the work experience of the population during a given year is made in March of the following year.

(Continued on Page 7)

Issues Veto Threat:

Ford Rules Out Aid In New York Crisis

President Ford washed his hands of New York's financial crisis and said the federal government's only role should be to prevent a breakdown of essential public services if the nation's largest city goes bankrupt.

And if a divided Congress should nevertheless come up with legislation providing emergency federal aid to enable New York to avoid financial collapse, Ford said he will veto the bill.

The President's long-awaited statement on the New York crisis was made in a suddenly-scheduled speech to the National Press Club in Washington, just before he left on a Republican Party fund-raising trip to California.

It was a flat repudiation of federal responsibility to avert a crisis that Ford said was the result of New York's own mismanagement.

Earlier, leaders of unions representing New York City employes appeared before a House Banking subcommittee to urge approval of federal loan guarantees. The guarantees are essential to both the city and New York state, they said, and necessary to prevent potentially serious economic consequences for the nation.

Ford merely asked Congress to amend the bankruptcy law so that a federal court could assume direction of the city's finances after default. This, he indicated, would allow continuation of such functions as police and fire protection, and emergency hospital care, while the city tried to work out arrangements with its creditors.

But the President stressed that he was "fundamentally opposed" to any of several proposals before Congress aimed at preventing the city's default through federal loan guarantees.

"I can tell you now that I am prepared to veto any bill that has as its purpose a federal bailout of New York City to prevent a default," Ford threatened.

In a sharp retort, the U.S. Conference of Mayors said the

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Hits Distortion of Busing Policy

Recent demonstrations in Louisville, Ky., and in the nation's capital against so-called "forced busing" do not represent the policy of the AFL-CIO, Federation President George Meany declared.

In a letter to Kentucky State AFL-CIO leaders, Meany deplored "the actions of those who pretend they are representing the labor movement or speaking in the name of the AFL-CIO" in organizing and staging such demonstrations.

Meany pointed out that the federation has gone on record three times in support of school busing for the purpose of securing quality education for all children, when ordered by the courts. This policy was most recently endorsed at the

(Continued on Page 3)

$29 Million Chiseled From Workers' Pay

Labor Dept. investigators reported that employers short-changed nearly 138,000 workers of more than $29 million in the first quarter of fiscal 1976. That amounts to a 31 percent increase over the same period last year.

Over $21 million of these underpayments resulted from violations of the minimum wage and overtime pay provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Labor Dept. said. Most of those short-changed were among the nation's lowest-paid workers.

The remaining $8 million in underpayments resulted from employer violations in the following areas: 6,320 workers due $4,549,458 under the Equal Pay Act, which requires equal pay for men and women doing comparable work in the same establishment; 750 workers due $2,136,157 under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, which prohibits employment discrimination against workers ages 40-65; and 6,127 workers due $1,320,095 under prevailing wage provisions of federal government contracts.

The government managed to get employers to restore only $16.5 million in back pay to workers during the first quarter, and some of this total was a

(Continued on Page 7)

Unions Retain Rights On Health Plan Choice

Revised federal regulations covering prepaid health maintenance plans provide full guarantees for collective bargaining rights of unions.

The new rules issued by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, to take effect late in November, make clear that a "dual choice" provision obligating employers to offer an HMO plan as well as a conventional-type reimbursement plan does not bypass the union's role as representative of the workers.

An earlier interpretation by HEW had brought a strong protest from the AFL-CIO. It would have nullified basic collective bargaining principles by requiring an employer to offer workers a plan that had already been rejected by their union.

Under the new regulations, the employer's option offer must meet the collective bargaining requirements of the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act. Thus the dual choice obligation will be met when the employer makes the offer to the workers through their union.

(Continued on Page 8)

TOP OFFICERS of the Train Dispatchers—President C. R. Pfenning, left, and Sec.-Treas. D. E. Collins—trade congratulations following their re-election by acclamation at the union's convention in Chicago.

Dispatchers Endorse ConRail Restructuring

Chicago—ConRail, the federal government's plan to restructure the country's rail system in the Northeast, received strong support at the Train Dispatchers 22nd convention here.

Delegates also called for expansion of Amtrak, the quasi-governmental agency charged with developing and managing a rail passenger network in the United States.

In other actions during the three-day convention, the 100 delegates elected officers, voted a dues increase, adopted a series of resolutions and heard several speakers.

ATDA President C. R. Pfenning, reviewing collective bargaining gains since the previous convention, noted that pay increases averaged over $4,000 per member over the four-year period—"the largest gain in the history of our union."

Pfenning was re-elected without opposition as were Sec.-Treas. D. E. Collins and Vice Presidents B. C. Hilbert, D. V. Chandler, R. J. Irvin, Jr., and R. E. Johnson.

Delegates approved a constitutional amendment increasing dues to the national organization by about 28 percent. The increase will take effect in three steps over three years.

Another change raised the initiation fee from $35 to $50 for full-time dispatchers while maintaining a reduced rate for those working only part-time.

Among the resolutions adopted by the convention were those calling for:

- A joint move by ATDA and other interested unions to secure fair and impartial hearings for employes charged with rule violations by the carriers.
- An investigation of the effects on commerce and the environment of proposals to transport coal via slurry pipelines.
- Transfer of railroad safety regulations from the Federal Railway Administration in the Transportation Dept. to the Labor Dept.'s Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

Principal speakers were James E. Yost, president of the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept., and C. J. Chamberlain, president of the Signalmen and chairman of the Railway Labor Executives Association.

Yost, noting that the four shopcraft unions affiliated with the RED have nearly exhausted all legislative remedies in their current contract dispute with the railroads, said it may be necessary "to call on members of the ATDA and members of other rail unions for support if we are forced to use our economic strength to get an agreement." Delegates responded enthusiastically.

Chamberlain, observing that over one-half of the delegates were attending their first ATDA convention, called for strong educational programs by rail unions to spread the word about what the trade union movement is all about.

Thomas Kessel Named NLRB Chief Judge

Thomas N. Kessel, a trial examiner and administrative law judge with the National Labor Relations Board for 22 years, has been named the NLRB's chief administrative law judge.

Kessel has been directing the NLRB's Division of Judges as acting administrative law judge since July 1. He has served the division in an executive capacity for nine years, first as associate chief and later as deputy chief administrative law judge.

A 20-Year Stocktaking:

Labor Movement Presses Fight for Jobs, Social Justice

The AFL-CIO's 20th anniversary this year finds the labor movement strong and vigorous, Thomas R. Donahue writes in the October issue of the American Federationist.

"The U.S. labor movement remains the strongest, most solid, most consistent voice for social improvement, for democracy and for the betterment of the human condition this nation has ever known," he observes.

Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, takes stock of the labor movement's progress toward two main goals. The first goal is to improve the job-related conditions of union members. A secondary object is to improve the general condition of members by improving conditions for everyone, everywhere.

In pursuit of the primary goal, an extensive system of collective bargaining has been constructed. And it works, despite imperfections, Donahue notes.

"It sorts out the demands and the final offers; it continually devises new approaches, systems and techniques, and it accommodates to constantly changing conditions."

The sharp growth in the number of workers covered by cost-of-living escalator clauses is but one example of that effort to accommodate. Others include innovations in the bargaining process such as the Experimental Negotiating Agreement in the steel industry.

"The trade-union movement's 1975 hopes for collective bargaining remain the same as the objectives of the government outlined in the Wagner Act 40 years ago," he declares.

"Those are: to create the conditions in which workers, with full freedom of association, can band together to equalize their buying power with that of the employer and thereby better enable both employer and employes to accommodate to one another's interests and the interests of all the people—in a sense, to better enable them to live productive lives together—with benefits for each and all."

Hampering the bargaining process are government policies and management schemes that result in lengthy delays in settlements, Donahue notes. He cited delays in the processes of the National Labor Relations Board, the federal government's failure to give its employes more than token rights to bargain and employer dodges in the textile and air transport industries.

"But the most significant point is that labor recognizes both the successes and shortcomings of collective bargaining and continues every day to try to improve the system and make it more responsive," Donahue observes.

In pursuit of its larger goals—that is, the improvement of the general condition of everyone—American labor can be seen as a movement with a social philosophy, the author notes.

"The effective pursuit of those larger social interests is manifested every day in the fight for national health insurance, minimum wages, full employment, decent housing, better education, equal rights, tax justice, better social security, workers' compensation, fair trade, the free movement of peoples and the dozens of other items which make up our agenda of social concerns," Donahue points out.

Within the trade union movement, he sees more mergers among unions, more coordination of bargaining, more cooperative organizing efforts among affiliates, a greater emphasis on political and legislative action and an enlarged participation by minorities in union affairs.

The current recession and inflation will cause a concentration on job security and wage catch-up for the next few years, he suggests. There will also be renewed concerns about safety and the work environment.

"A large part of the available money, in the short term, is going to have to be applied primarily to catch-up costs in wages and basic fringes and that fact is going to put a severe strain on bargaining," Donahue notes.

"The trade-union movement has never accepted the concept that our function is only to maintain our current position in the economic order. Rather, we insist on improving our position," he said, "and insist on a more rational distribution of the wealth we create."

Georgia Labor Pushes Agency Shop Measure

Savannah, Ga.—The Georgia State AFL-CIO renewed its commitment to repeal of the state's so-called right-to-work law which forbids unions and employers to negotiate union-shop agreements.

At the same time, delegates to the organization's 19th annual convention here set their sights on passage of an agency shop bill in the 1976 session of the state legislature. They said the open shop law has retarded progress in Georgia while promoting distrust between labor and management.

The convention approved a 5-cent increase in monthly per capita dues, effective Jan. 1, 1976. The hike, necessitated by the employment of a full-time women's activities director, raises the per capita to 20 cents.

Another constitutional amendment, aimed at trimming costs, requires that future executive board meetings be held in Atlanta. Most board members live in or close to the city. In the past, the quarterly meetings had been held in different cities throughout the state.

The three-day convention, attended by 450 delegates, also went on record in favor of a collective bargaining law for all state, county and city employes in Georgia. And it announced its solid backing of efforts by the Textile Workers Union of America to secure a first-time contract with the anti-union J.P. Stevens & Co. at Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

Speakers included Lt. Gov. Zell Miller; John Perkins, assistant director of the AFL-CIO's National COPE; Charles Bradford, executive director of the Human Resources Development Institute; and Nicholas Bonanno, a vice president of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

Steelworkers Get 10-Cent COL Hike

Pittsburgh—Some 400,000 members of the Steelworkers employed in the basic steel industry and about 36,300 USWA members in the container industry become eligible for additional cost-of-living adjustments this month. Steelworkers President I. W. Abel announced.

Basic steel workers will receive a 10-cent COL increase, effective Nov. 1 while the can industry workers will receive a similar adjustment Nov. 15.

November Schedule Set By Labor Studies Center

A five-day institute to help union officers, representatives and staff members develop more effective leadership skills highlights the November program at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, Silver Spring, Md.

Students at this institute will explore the ways groups are motivated and decisions are made, how a good leader can help groups toward the effective use of resources and efficient organization. The class becomes an experimental group so that members can analyze their own leadership styles and explore alternative techniques. Lectures, discussion and video tape playbacks are used.

The institute begins at 4 p.m. Sunday Nov. 16 and runs to Friday, Nov. 21.

Other activities at the 47-acre campus during November include:

Carpenters—A seminar for new business agents of the international. Topics will include the pensions reform law, leadership skills, collective bargaining developments, the law of picketing, Davis-Bacon Act and equal opportunity laws. Participants will spend one day at the Carpenters headquarters building in Washington, D.C. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9 to Friday, Nov. 14.

Machinists—A program for local union presidents. Subjects include local administration, the IAM constitution, union communications, developing public understanding and the union's dues structure. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16 to Friday, Nov. 21.

Two off-campus institutes are scheduled for November.

A five-day seminar on Labor Law will be held Nov. 2 to 7 at the Unversity of Colorado, Boulder. It will cover organizing and the law, collective bargaining and the law, Landrum-Griffin and the regulation of internal union affairs, and the impact of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

A seminar on Grievance Arbitration is set for Nov. 16 to 21 at the University of Illinois, Champaign. It offers training in the preparation and presentation of grievance arbitration cases. Topics will include the issue of arbitratility, the law of arbitration and the selection of arbitrators. Participants will prepare and present cases before a professional arbitrator.

Two unions will use the Silver Spring campus for one-day training sessions during November. The American Federation of Government Employees will conduct a steward training program for District 14 on Nov. 8; and the Council of School Officials will meet on campus Nov. 21.

More information on these and other programs may be obtained from Fred Hoehler, executive director, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20903. Phone 301/431-6400.

Breakthrough Election:

Farm Workers Win Napa Valley Vote

Delano, Calif.—The Farm Workers scored a major breakthrough in winning the first union representation election in the Napa Valley.

Workers at the Charles Krug Vineyards of C. Mondavi & Sons favored the UFW by a vote of 77 to 35 for no union. Six ballots were challenged.

The victory is viewed as significant, not only because it was the first election in the valley, but also because the UFW organizing activities were far less extensive than in other parts of California.

In a statewide vote tally released by the state Agricultural Labor Relations Board, the UFW has won 121 of the 215 elections conducted between Sept. 2 and Oct. 17. During the same period the Teamsters won 83 elections and 11 others went "no union."

Overall, the UFW won 56 percent of the elections, compared with 39 percent for the Teamsters and 5 percent for no union.

Of the total votes cast, the UFW received 15,959, or 49 percent, to the Teamsters' 8,643, or 26 percent. Another 5,019, or 15 percent, voted no union.

The ALRB also reported that 3,100 ballots have been challenged since the farm labor elections have been under way.

As a result of the elections decided, the UFW represents 13,776 workers, or 56 percent, the labor board said. The Teamsters will represent 9,488, or 38 percent.

UFW President Cesar Chavez refuted the claim of Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons that the IBT has made no efforts to confront the Farm Workers in a number of elections.

"They have been trying," Chavez stressed, "but they haven't been able to get enough signatures to get on the ballots on any ranches except where they have made backdoor deals with the growers."

Meanwhile, the UFW scored another victory when Superior Court Judge Jay R. Ballantyne of Visalia upheld an ALRB order that about 300 workers on the White River Farm were ineligible to vote because they were not company employes.

The board honored a UFW unfair labor practice charge against the ranch after the ALRB investigation disclosed that 300 names were added to the payroll in an effort to head off an UFW election victory.

Fund Launched for Wayne Morse Chair

A nationwide committee has been formed to raise $500,000 for the recently established Wayne Morse Chair of Law and Politics at the University of Oregon.

The fund was started by contributions at the time of Morse's death in 1974. Among the initial contributors was the AFL-CIO.

Morse was dean of the university's law school for 14 years and was a leading mediator and arbitrator before his election to the Senate in 1944. The Morse chair is planned as an annual rotating professorship, to be filled by well-known public figures.

AFL-CIO President George Meany is a member of the fund-raising committee, which is headed by former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg.

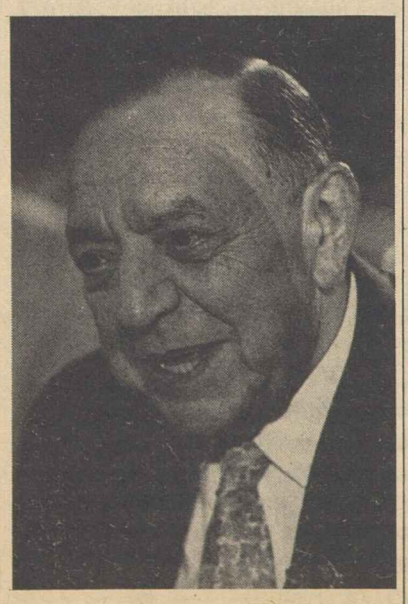
Peter Fosco Dies, Head Of Laborers Since '68

Chicago—Peter Fosco, president of the Laborers for the past seven years and a vice president of the AFL-CIO, died after a heart attack at his family home here Oct. 26.

Fosco, 83, was elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council in 1969, a year after succeeding the late Joseph V. Moreschi as president of the LIU. He also served as first vice president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

In a message to his widow, Carmela, Federation President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland expressed their sympathies to the Fosco family.

"He was a great trade union leader, a fine and decent man, who truly believed in fairness and justice and who devoted his entire lifetime to serving his fellow workers," Meany and Kirkland said.



PETER FOSCO

Fosco was born of Italian parents in an eastern Europe territory that is now Poland in 1892. He came to the United States in 1913 and began a career as construction laborer in Chicago.

After becoming active in Local 2 of the Laborers, he was elected financial secretary in 1916 and local president in 1920.

In 1936, Fosco was named manager of the union's Chicago region, which encompassed nine states and two Canadian provinces, the largest in the international.

Active in civic and political affairs of the Chicago area, Fosco served as a Cook County commissioner from 1938 to 1946.

Fosco was elected secretary-treasurer of the international in 1950, and held the post until he assumed the presidency of the union. During his tenure, he brought about the merger of the Mail Handlers with the LIU.

In addition to his widow, Fosco is survived by two sons and several grandchildren. Funeral services were held Oct. 29 in Chicago.

NEWSPAPER GUILD members march on the picket line in support of striking Washington Post pressmen, mailers and photo-engravers. The Washington-Baltimore Guild local reported that it has paid weekly benefits to 200 Post unit members who have refused to cross picket lines, even though the unit voted narrowly to continue work.

News Executives Train At 'School for Scabs'

The Newspaper Production & Research Center in Oklahoma City, despite its scholarly name, has little to do with the development of new technologies in the news publishing industry.

The center's key objective is the development of the "executive" strikebreaker.

Members of printing trade unions call it a "school for scabs," where management personnel receive cram courses in newspaper mechnical operations during strike situations and how to weaken the collective bargaining position of unions.

News stories in the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal described how the center operates.

Labor writer Damon Stetson reported in the Times article that 200 U.S. and Canadian newspaper publishers are members of the Southern Production Program, Inc., which operates the center.

Stetson noted that the corporation was originally founded in 1951. The stated purposes in its articles of incorporation were to improve the production of newspapers through "sound economical methods" and to assist members in newspaper production in "any emergency when normal means of production have failed or are unavailable."

The apparent reference to strike "emergency" situations was later dropped, Stetson reported.

But since the Newspaper Production & Research Center was established in 1967, a total of 2,333 newspaper executives, supervisors and other non-craft personnel have been trained in all phases of newspaper production. Center officials expect to instruct about 300 newspaper officials every year.

In addition to the operation of printing presses, instructions are given in stereotyping, photoengraving, offset plate-making, news and advertising paste-up of pages, and various composing room techniques.

Douglas Martin in the Wall Street Journal article noted the costs of the courses at the center range from $40 for two days of introduction to computer operations to $500 a student for offset press training. Some courses range up to four weeks.

"Graduates" of the center have been handling mechanical and production operations during the current strike at the Washington Post. The paper was struck by pressmen of the Graphic & Printing Communications Union Oct. 1 when their contract expired. Walkouts by the mailers of the International Typographical Union and photoengravers of the Graphic Arts International Union followed shortly.

Other craft unions at the Post have been honoring the picket lines of the three unions, along with about 200 members of the Newspaper Guild.

But even with the cross-trained supervisors, mechanical failures are a daily problem at the Post. A Post official, quoted in the Wall Street Journal story, referred to the executive pressmen as "couple-of-week wonders," and said that "every night we've had delays."

Despite the problems, the WSJ said publishers feel that the Oklahoma City school is a big asset to employers.

Supervisors trained at the school continued to publish at the Dallas Morning News and the Dallas Times Herald during strikes last year. Striking workers have since been replaced by nonunion employes at both newspapers. The Kansas City Star made similar use of the executive strikebreakers in 1974.

The center also conducts workshops for industrial relations executives involved in negotiating contracts with unions. Robert Spahn, who directs operations of the school, said in the Times article the seminars familiarize management negotiators with equipment, operations and production techniques for negotiations.

Spahn told the WSJ that he isn't disturbed by the "scab school" label given the center. "I don't take any offense," he said, "I've been called far worse than that."

Meany Scores Distortion of Busing Policy

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO's 11th convention in San Francisco.

"While individual union members certainly have every right to exercise their constitutional privileges of free speech," Meany said, "they have no right whatever to claim or imply that their actions represent the policy of the AFL-CIO, the Kentucky State AFL-CIO, the Louisville Central Labor Council or any other AFL-CIO organization."

Meany warned, "it is emphatically against AFL-CIO policy for the Kentucky AFL-CIO or any local central body to lend any aid or support whatever to those who seek to ignore or to pervert" federation policy.

Meany's letter, addressed to Joseph Warren, president, and Leonard S. Smith, executive secretary-treasurer, of the Kentucky AFL-CIO and to Herbert E. Hale, secretary-treasurer of the Greater Louisville Central Labor Council, noted the AFL-CIO has consistently supported both quality education and integrated education.

"We understand the emotionalism that has swept over your area as a result of the court's decision," Meany said in a reference to the Supreme Court's position on busing.

"But we recognize as well that that emotional response has been fanned into hysteria by members of the Ku Klux Klan, the American Nazi Party, discredited dissidents from the Boston area and other extremists who prefer to exacerbate hatred rather than seek sensible readjustments and resolution of legitimate grievances."

Meany said the labor movement's responsibility is to seek workable schedules, to minimize friction and to make the busing system work as it was intended to work: for the benefit of children who need and deserve the highest quality of education available, regardless of their race or color.

Meany added that it is the duty of the Kentucky AFL-CIO and all local central bodies to implement the policy of the AFL-CIO and to make sure that Kentucky union members are not misled by demagogues and that they understand and respect the law.

John Hall Named Aide To Musicians President

New York—John C. Hall, Jr., has been named assistant to President Hal C. Davis of the Musicians. He is a member of AFM Local 802 and formerly was on the staff of the Stage Employes.

Senate Urged to Block Blackburn Appointment

The AFL-CIO has asked the Senate not to confirm Benjamin R. Blackburn as chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said Blackburn opposed civil rights and fair housing legislation and was a strong supporter of anti-labor groups when he served in Congress from 1966 to 1974.

"The chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board should not be an individual who is opposed to basic civil rights and equal opportunity in housing which are supposed to be affirmatively enforced by the person in that position," Biemiller wrote members of the Senate Banking Committee.

"Nor would it be appropriate to have at the head of the most important home-financing regulatory agency of the government a man who has displayed an antipathy to organized labor and to low-income housing occupants," he added.

Biemiller said that Blackburn, when a congressman from Georgia, actively wrote letters in behalf of the anti-labor National Right-to-Work Foundation, and allowed his name to be used for solicitation of funds by that organization.

A Moral Crossroad for the UN

THE UNITED NATIONS General Assembly faces one of the gravest challenges in its 30-year history—a challenge that goes to the very roots of its existence as a humanitarian organization—the question of whether it will officially endorse anti-semitism.

There can be no other interpretation of the action of the UN's Third Committee in adopting a resolution that zionism is "a form of racism and racial discrimination." That resolution was adopted in the committee that deals with social and humanitarian issues by a vote of 70 to 29, with 27 nations abstaining and 16 absent.

The wide support that the UN has gained in the United States since its birth in San Francisco in 1945—support led by the labor movement whose representatives were involved in the organization's founding—is narrowing and the beginnings of a re-examination of the extent of the U.S. commitment is stirring.

General Assembly action supporting the position of the Third Committee would be a grievous and perhaps fatal error in the life of the UN.

In the debate in committee on the resolution brought before it by the Arab bloc nations, Leonard Garment, the U.S. representative, stated the issue clearly and concisely:

"This committee is preparing itself, with deliberation and foreknowledge, to perform a supreme act of deceit, to make a massive attack on the moral realities of the world.

"Under the guise of a program to eliminate racism in the United Nations, it is at the point of officially endorsing anti-semitism, one of the oldest and most virulent forms of racism known to human history. This draft explicitly encourages the racism known as anti-semitism even as it would have use believe that its words will lead to the elimination of racism.

"I choose my words carefully when I say that this is an obscene act. The United States protests this act. But protest alone is not enough. In fairness to ourselves we must also issue a warning. This resolution places the work of the United Nations in jeopardy."

THE RESOLUTION is the final result of the Arab campaign against Israel in the UN, a campaign that started in 1973 when the General Assembly's resolution on apartheid was amended by the Arab bloc and its allies to include a sentence on the "unholy alliance" between apartheid, colonialism and zionism.

The Arab campaign reached its peak this year—at the Women's conference in Mexico, the Conference of the African heads of state, the Conference of the Non-Aligned States and finally the current UN General Assembly session. The goal is to bring about Israel's expulsion from the UN or its suspension from the assembly. Failing at the moment to achieve either goal, the Arab nations have touched off the attack on zionism as a form of racism.

Garment makes the point that the UN throughout its 30-year history has been an important organization "because it had been thought that the nations of the world, assembled together, would give voice to the most decent and humane instincts of mankind."

This is the basis of the UN's moral authority and its influence on human affairs. This is the authority that must be preserved by an overwhelming defeat in the General Assembly of the resolution that would give the UN's blessing to anti-semitism.

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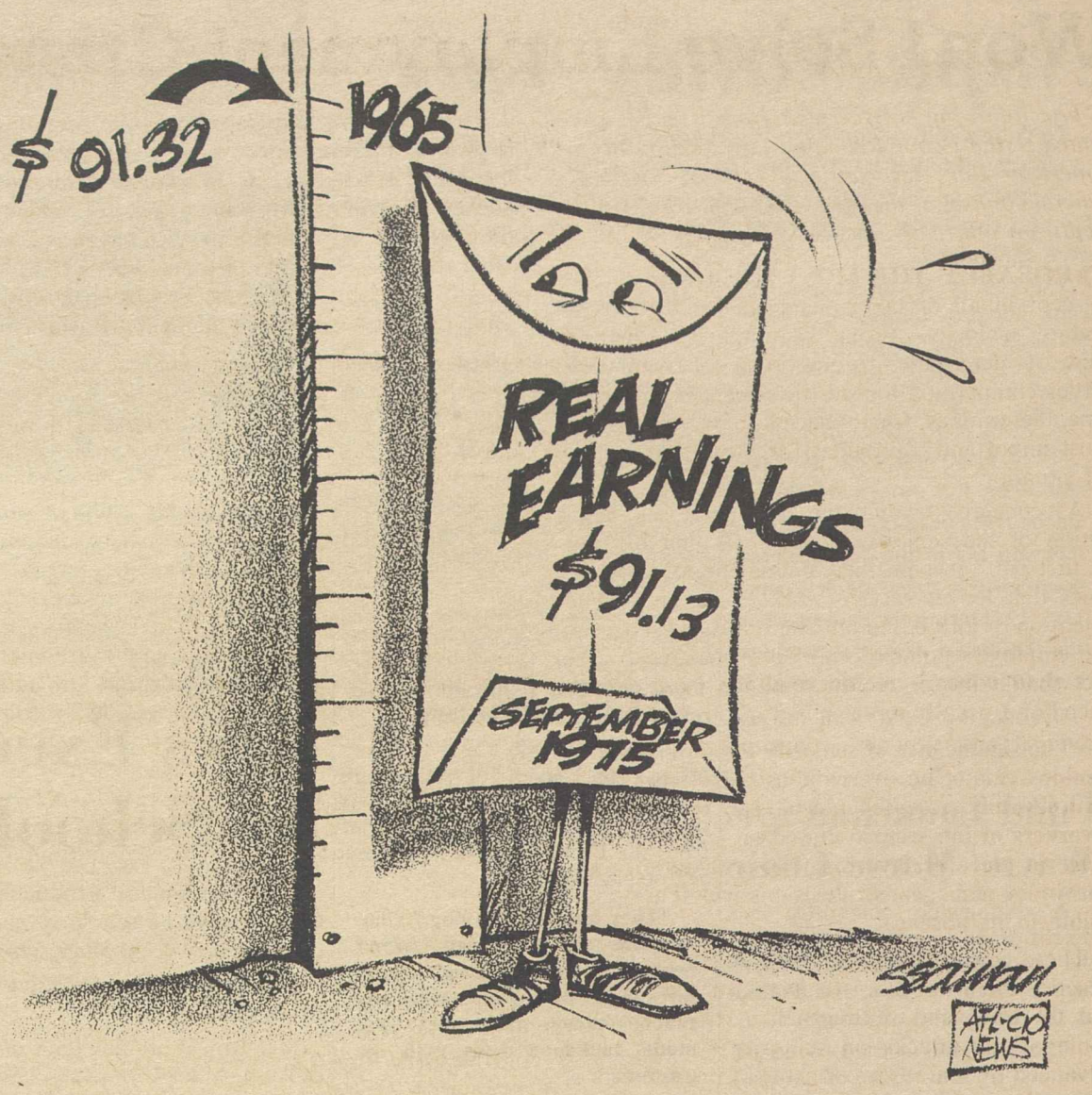


A Word Edgewise:

Overexpansion of Programs Backfires on Private Colleges

By John P. Roche

ADAM SMITH, the great proponent of "laissez faire," and Karl Marx, the prophet of "scientific socialism," were in full agreement on one proposition: the division of labor would be the key to attaining modern, enlightened society. Curiously, when you investigate the major problem in the private sector of American higher education, you discover that colleges and universities—theoretically strongholds of enlightment—have rejected that principle. Indeed, with few exceptions, they are the last stronghold of primordial individualism.

What triggered this thought was Columbia University President William D. McGill's announcement that "for all intents and purposes, the university's general endowment is gone." While other presidents have been less forthcoming, it is no secret that for the past decade many institutions have, in the old phrase, been eating their seed corn, that is, drawing on capital to meet operating costs. At the same time tuition has been increased to the point where any student without scholarship aid costs his or her family about $5,000 a year, room, board and textbooks included.

Obviously the combination of inflation and recession (and a staggering increase in heating bills since the OPEC cartel went into action) has played a significant role in this push toward bankruptcy. But other factors not beyond control also must be taken into consideration. As McGill pointed out, in the lush 1960s, when federal and foundation money was flowing freely, many schools expanded wildly. When the tap was turned off, they found themselves with programs, projects and, above all, personnel that required internal funding.

In many, if not most cases, those "dynamic, innovative" programs (to use the unpatented cliche) were nothing of the sort. They were simply replications of similar programs already in existence at other institutions. They were, in other words, gross violations of the principle of the division of labor. But when the music stopped, the university was committed to tenured faculty and also trapped by its own press releases. After all, how could you scrap the most "dynamic, innovative" graduate program in the country?

This is not 20-20 hindsight on my part. A depression kid, I have always had something of an economic catastrophe complex. (At the moment I'm worrying about how much of my retirement annuity is invested in "moral obligation" bonds. Who but John Mitchell would have put something like that over on flinty-eyed capitalists?) Thus when the big money began to flow into higher education, I was very leery. For years I tried to block the establishment of a graduate program in my former department, arguing that Harvard and three or four other universities in the area could handle the business. Ironically I was overriden when the National Defense Education Act threw some money at us. Once we had the money (which has long since disappeared), we had to have the program.

ANOTHER FACTOR that merits discussion is the vast increase in public higher education. With the annual fee at the City University of New York $110 (with a huge increase of $25 in the offing), private universities like Columbia and New York University are economically out of the running. The University of Massachusetts creates the same difficulty in the Boston area.

This has led some presidents of private institutions to denounce the growth. In my judgment this is a thoroughly reactionary view (although I believe some increase in fees for those who can pay them would be justified); private institutions should utilize, not criticize their public neighbors.

To be precise, if this is the year of the "dynamic, innovative" university without walls or Gaelic Studies Program and the state university sets one up, there is no need for all the private schools in the area to join the parade. The same ground justifies phasing out weak academic programs whenever the state or another private university has superior offerings.

The private college or university should not be an educational supermarket—it should honor the division of labor and do what it does best. It was hard to get a hearing for this rational viewpoint with all that money floating into the groves of academe. Now, when push comes to shove, it may have a chance.

Job Expansion Needed:

Destroying Seniority Principle Won't Solve Employment Crisis

The following is excerpted from a paper presented to the Labor Relations Law Section of the American Bar Association by Elliot Bredhoff, general counsel of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., on affirmative action and seniority.

PROBABLY THE MOST time-honored concept in all of labor-management relations is that of seniority. From the employes' point of view it determines promotional opportunities, settles competition for shift preferences and overtime, determines fringe benefit entitlement, and most importantly, provides for protection in layoff situations.

As concerns layoffs, the near-universal application of the seniority principle is that of "last in, first out." It is justified among employes on the basis that longer service workers are entitled to retention of jobs based on length of service. From the employe's point of view, it is justified by the fact that it means retention of the most experienced and usually most skilled of the work force.

The significance of seniority to employes and unions cannot be overemphasized. It provides a uniformly accepted mechanism for assuring workers of job security based on length of service in place of favoritism, discrimination and arbitrary management decisions which are possible in its absence.

These concepts are axiomatic to all of us who practice the art of labor relations. But it is essential to recall and reiterate them today because some of the attacks on seniority systems being advanced by zealous proponents of the interests of minorities and females would effectively destroy the seniority principle. They are blaming the seniority system for social and economic ills and for employer discrimination in hiring or assignments, despite the fact the system can in no way be held responsible for these problems.

The solutions they propose, namely, to grant junior minority and female employes artificial or fictional service credit to avoid layoffs, would destroy job security arrangements which are the lifeblood of industrial workers and their unions. And a significant number of minority group employes who have earned long years of service credit in American industry, would be as adversely affected as long service whites by such gimmicks.

It may be that these proponents of fictional or phantom seniority are not aware of the devastating impact their proposals would have on employes and unions. A union which cannot provide seniority protection to workers, particularly against layoffs, would not be worth its salt, and would quickly lose favor with the workers. This would result in a sharp imbalance in labor-management relations. It would be a step toward the days when unorganized workers were at the mercies of their employers. Such a retrogressive turn of events simply must be avoided.

The overriding imperative for our economy as well as for our objective of a balanced and integrated work force is to expand economic output. But until government policies achieve these results, it is to the overall advantage of all workers—minorities, females and whites—to utilize existing programs to place the optimum purchasing power in the hands of workers.

Generally speaking, devices such as work sharing reduce rather than maximize the number of dollars flowing to workers. The reason is quite simple. If a full employe complement shares a limited amount of available work, all employes involved suffer reduction in weekly hours of work and earnings. They all in effect share the poverty. On the other hand, if the junior employes are laid off, the remaining more senior employes will draw down the same amount of wages from the employer as would the full employe complement under a work sharing program. In addition, however, the junior employes will receive unemployment compensation from the government and, in many cases, supplemental unemployment benefits under private collectively bargained programs. Hence, the aggregate yield for the same group of employes is substantially greater in the layoff situation than the work sharing situation.

It is no wonder, therefore, that the labor movement is opposed to government-mandated work sharing programs. The cold, hard economic facts demonstrate the adverse impact of such programs on the work force as a whole.

While the labor movement opposes compulsory work sharing programs, it recognizes the existence and viability of many private programs which have evolved through collective bargaining. Under some of these private programs, senior employes are given incentives to elect lay off or early retirement, restrictions are placed on overtime, extended vacations and holidays are provided, and scheduled work periods are reduced. These and other arrangements under which the interests of the entire work force are safeguarded serve to provide additional work opportunities for junior employes.

It is through such voluntary private programs, as well as through expanded governmental unemployment and assistance programs, that the adverse effects on those who are laid off can be mitigated, while avoiding the destructive effects of fictional seniority or forced work sharing programs.

The only real answer to this problem, however, is to be found in an upturn in our economy, with its attendant expansion of employment opportunities for all. This of course can only be brought about by a government firmly committed to recognizing the problem and acting decisively thereafter. Unfortunately, our government thus far has failed to meet these vital needs.

Ford's Plan Assailed:

Propaganda Campaign Twists Debate on Food Stamp Reform

CHARGES OF WIDESPREAD waste, fraud and abuse in the food stamp program are part of a "vicious propaganda campaign" that is distorting the debate over reform of the system, Legislative Rep. Arnold Mayer of the Meat Cutters declared.

Mayer said that while there have been some administrative errors in the food stamp operations, it is a "very complicated program" that serves 18 million Americans in all parts of the nation. But, allegations of wholesale cheating, he asserted, are largely "half-truths and outright lies." Mayer appeared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Mayer said the food stamp plan that President Ford sent to Congress last week is really not reform at all, but an attempt to cut off 6 million people from food stamps and reduce benefits for several million others. He branded the Ford plan anti-union, pointing out that it would drop both unemployed and striking workers from the program's protections.

Workers pay a big share of the taxes in this country, Mayer said, "helping to pay for that program, and they should be able to benefit from it when they are in need." He pointed out that "a strike is a legal situation . . . employers get all sorts of government aid during a strike or during a walkout," and strikers too should get needed protections for themselves and their families against malnutrition and starvation.

"I thought we had given up years ago the idea that strikers should be starved back to work," as the Ford proposal would do, he declared. He said the push to ban food stamps for strikers and their families is "an effort to cut down the strength of workers, rather than an effort to change the food stamp program."

Reporters questioning Mayer were Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE BASIC PROBLEMS of New York City, Philadelphia, Atlanta, New Orleans, St. Louis, Indianapolis, San Francisco and other cities are national rather than local and require a national remedy.

New York used to be not only part of the United States, but the gateway to a land of opportunity. More than 16 million people came to escape poverty and political and religious oppression. In seeking and making a better life, they built railroads and toiled in mines and mills and factories.

We are a nation of immigrants, according to anthropologist Margaret Mead. In case anybody had forgotten, Franklin D. Roosevelt opened his address before the Daughters of the American Revolution with the words: "My fellow immigrants." He was never invited back.

The quest for a better life revealed itself in the world's most mobile population. Americans moved out of the South to the North and West, to shipyards and defense plants in World War II and to booming manufacturing centers in peacetime. The nation became highly integrated in its transportation, commerce and communications.

In recent decades, however, the large cities suffered a deteriorating economic base as people and industry moved to the suburbs and, regionally, to the Southwest and West.

More recently, the Administration's decision to fight runaway inflation by accepting a prolonged period of high-level unemployment has aggravated the social and economic problems of the cities.

New York City's fiscal problem was thoroughly examined in an excellent study by the Congressional Budget Office headed by Dr. Alice M. Rivlin.

Between 1970 and 1975, New York City lost a total of 380,000 private sector jobs while the population remained relatively constant, according to the study. Due to immigration from the South, the shift to the suburbs and the aging of residents, New York City found itself with a larger proportion of people dependent on city services—the poor, the uneducated, the aged, the non-English speaking.

The city's welfare-related expenditures total some $3.5 billion or about one-third of its current spending. One billion dollars of this is borne alone by New York since it is a city-county. If New York were part of a large county, as are Los Angeles, Chicago and Newark, the county would share the cost.

WHILE EMERGENCY ACTIONS can help meet the present crisis, the CBO said, it is probable the underlying problems facing New York and other large, aging cities can be dealt with effectively only by the states or federal government. New York City would be "aided immensely" if the state or federal government assumed the city's welfare burden, CBO concluded.

President Ford's moralizing about New York perhaps reflects his quarter-century in Congress representing a homogenous Grand Rapids, Mich., district of Dutch-Americans—stubbornly honest, hard-working, strongly religious and conservative. He wants New York to repent and mend its ways.

Treasury Secretary William Simon, campaigning for a rollback in social programs and federal spending, also exploits the anti-city bias by calling the food stamp program "a well-known haven for chiselers and ripoff artists." Yet the Agriculture Dept. found that fraud amounted to less than 1 percent among 19 million recipients.

After the orgy of moralizing tapers off, and the greatest amount of sacrifices in social service cutbacks, layoffs and other concessions are wrung out, congressional hearings may turn the spotlight on hard realities and lay a factual basis for effective aid.

As the AFL-CIO convention declared in October, what is needed is not only emergency aid for New York and other cities but a range of basic actions—"countercyclical" federal aid to states and localities, reform of welfare costs and revenue-sharing and increased grants to meet social needs.

DEBATE OVER REFORM of the food stamp program is being distorted by a vicious propaganda campaign, Legislative Rep. Arnold Mayer of the Meat Cutters charged on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Ann McFeatters of Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Tom Joyce, right, of Newsweek magazine. The program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Rollcall on Federal Workers' Rights

Before the House passed a labor-supported bill lifting Hatch Act restrictions, it rejected by a 260-147 vote an amendment which would have continued nearly all of the prohibitions that have kept federal employes from participating voluntarily in the nation's political life. The vote was taken Oct. 21.

On the AFL-CIO's scoreboard, right votes (R) were cast by 225 Democrats and 35 Republicans who voted against the amendment. Wrong votes (W) for continuing harsh restrictions were cast by 40 Democrats and 107 Republicans.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; A—Absent.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) R
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) R
7. Flowers (D) R

ALASKA
AL Young (R) R

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) A
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Mills (D) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) A
16. Talcott (R) W
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) R
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) R
27. Bell (R) W
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) A
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) A
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) R

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) W
2. Dodd (D) A
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) W
5. Sarasin (R) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) A
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) R
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Haley (D) W
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) R
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) R
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) R
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) R
9. Landrum (D) W
10. Stephens (D) R

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) R
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) A
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) R
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) A
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) A
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) R
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) W
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) W
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) A
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) A
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) R
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) W

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) A
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) A
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) R
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) A
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) R
2. Bowen (D) R
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) R
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) W
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) R
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) R
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) R

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) A
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) A
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) R
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) R
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) R
4. Andrews (D) R
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) R

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) R
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) R
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) W
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) W
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) A
23. Mottl (D) W

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) A
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) R
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) A
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) A
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) R
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) W
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) R
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) R
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) A
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) W
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) A
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) R
4. Evins (D) A
5. Vacant
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) A
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) R
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) A
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) R
14. Young (D) R
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) R
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) R
20. Gonzalez (D) W
21. Krueger (D) R
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Milford (D) A

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) W

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) W

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) W
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) W

New Legislation Needed:

Health Crisis Tied To Manpower Use

The lack of comprehensive health manpower legislation is a major cause of the nation's health care crisis, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman testified.

Seidman identified four major health care problems before the Senate Subcommittee on Health. He cited:

- Maldistribution of physicians by geographical areas.
- Maldistribution of specialties.
- Increased reliance on foreign medical graduates.
- Lack of uniform licensing and relicensing standards among states.

While no single bill being considered by the subcommittee meets all these problems, Seidman suggested "that by taking the best provisions from each, Congress can enact excellent legislation."

Seidman told the subcommittee that the "maldistribution by geographical area is two-fold—it exists among various regions and states within the U.S. and it exists in the lack of physicians and other health care manpower in inner city and rural areas." He pointed out that while New York State has a ratio of 2.36 physicians per 1,000 persons, in the poverty areas of New York City, the ratio drops to 0.65 per 1,000.

Citing an overconcentration in medical specialties, Seidman noted that eight out of 10 medical students went into general practice in 1940. Now, he said, nine out of 10 go into specialty training.

Seidman said that over 20 percent of the active physicians in this country are foreign medical graduates and yet no standards exist which insure that the quality of their work is comparable to graduates of American medical schools.

The AFL-CIO favors consolidating all of the current scholarship programs into the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Training Program, Seidman said. Medical students would be required to provide one year of service in a shortage area for each year of such financial assistance with a minimum requirement of two years.

Seidman supported federal grants so that health profession schools could begin or expand programs in understaffed fields.

He urged uniform testing programs for alien doctors, taking into consideration the problems of maldistribution of medical resources.

There should also be national licensing standards for doctors, he said, with the competence of all physicians reviewed at least every six years.

AFL-CIO members, as consumers, Seidman told the committee, realize that America is experiencing a health care crisis when they cannot obtain needed medical care they can afford even though they are covered by negotiated health benefit plans.

Shortchanging On Paychecks Shows Rise

(Continued from Page 1)

result of investigations prior to this fiscal year.

The Labor Dept. said that the major reason for the discrepancy between the amount of money found due to the workers and what was actually restored is the refusal of employers to pay back wages in cases considered unsuitable for litigation by the department's lawyers. In these instances, the workers may initiate a private suit, but wages recovered in this manner are not reflected in the statistics.

The Labor Dept. earlier reported $108.8 million in illegal underpayments to 472,404 workers for fiscal 1975.

New Mexico Renews Public Bargaining Bid

Carlsbad, N.M.—The New Mexico AFL-CIO reaffirmed its goal to win collective bargaining rights for public employes throughout the state at its 20th anniversary convention and elected two new executive officers.

A convention resolution urged Gov. Jerry Apodaca to have the public employe bargaining measure placed on the state legislature's agenda at a special budgetary session convening later this year.

Labor-supported legislation providing for public employe bargaining was approved by the House in the last session of the legislature, but died in the Senate with adjournment earlier this year.

Neal Gonzalez was re-elected to a fifth two-year term as executive secretary-treasurer.

The 150 delegates elected Toby Pacheco of the Laborers to succeed Carl Smith as state federation president. Smith, who withdrew from the election after nominations, will continue to serve on the executive board representing the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters.

C. M. Norris of the Machinists was elected first vice president. Incumbent Nowell Ricer of the Steelworkers did not seek re-election.

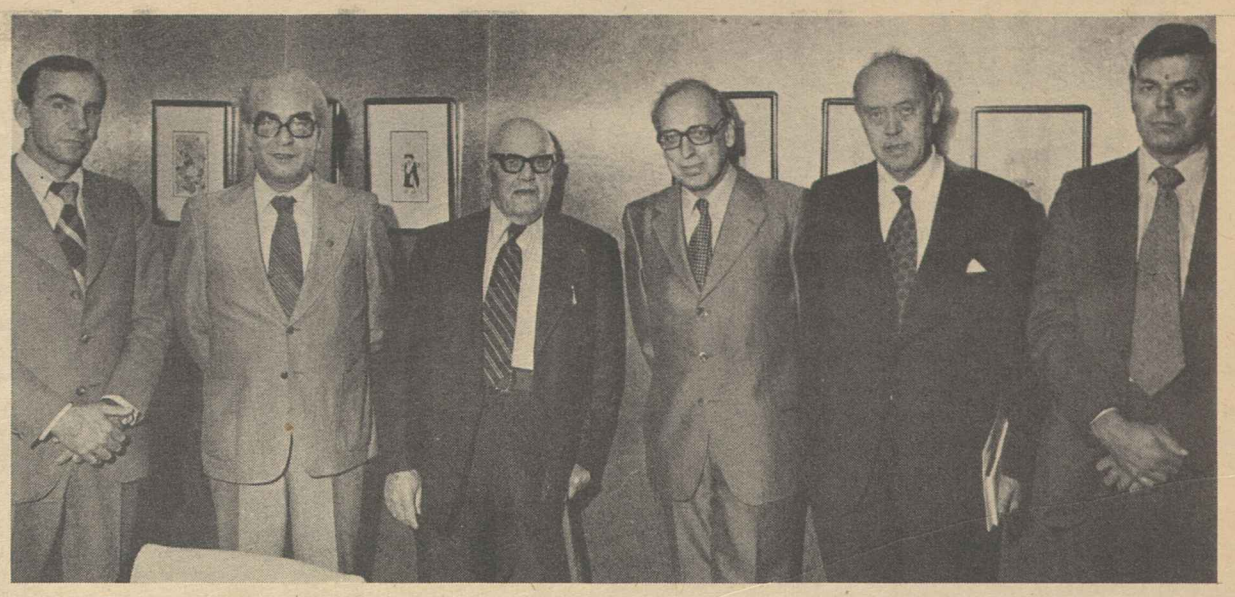
Major speakers at the three-day convention included Gov. Apodaca, Sen. Joseph M. Montoya (D-N.M.), Rep. Harold Runnels (D-N.M.), Atty. Gen. Toney Anaya, Assistant Director John Perkins of COPE, AFL-CIO Regional Director Nicholas Kurko and Margaret Thornburgh, western area director of the AFL-CIO Women's Activities Dept.

Senate Sidetracks Coors Nomination

The Senate Commerce Committee has refused to approve President Ford's appointment of Joseph Coors to the board of directors of the Public Broadcasting Corp.

Coors, a brewery executive who set up his own television news service, was associated with extreme right-wing ideologies and the AFL-CIO had opposed his appointment as a threat to the integrity of public broadcasting.

The Senate panel voted 11-6 to table the nomination, a move that is usually considered equivalent to rejection.



TOP LEADERS of the Swedish trade union movement visited with AFL-CIO President George Meany in Washington to discuss common problems. From left are Lars Westerberg, vice president, Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO); Gunnar Nilsson, president of LO; Meany; Sven Fockstedt, international secretary, Swedish Central Organization of Salaried Employees (TCO); Thorbjorn Carlsson, international secretary LO, and Lennart Bodstrom, president TCO.

Major Contract Settlements Show Wage Gains Running Above '74

The average first-year wage increase in major collective bargaining agreements during the first nine months of this year was 10.3 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The figure represents a pickup over the 9.8 percent average first-year gain for all settlements concluded in full year 1974.

The BLS report, which is based on 612 collective bargaining agreements covering 2.4 million workers, noted that annual average gains over the term of the contracts came to 7.8 percent for settlements reached in the first three quarters of 1975. This compares with a 7.3 percent average increase over the life of all contracts reached in 1974.

BLS's data are drawn from agreements covering 1,000 or more workers. The settlements were primarily in the construction, railroad, apparel and wholesale-retail trade industries.

In larger contracts—those covering 5,000 or more workers each — increases in wages and benefits combined averaged 11 percent in the first year, up slightly from the 10.7 percent average first-year increase in 1974. Over the life of the agreement, pacts concluded in the first nine months of 1975 provided a 7.9 percent average annual wage and fringe gain, compared with 7.8 percent last year.

BLS noted the 1975 figures exclude possible increases under cost-of-living escalator provisions.

During the third quarter of this year, average first-year wage increases totaled 10 percent, well below the 11.2 percent gain for the corresponding period of 1974. Annual increases over the life of the contract averaged 7.9 percent in third-quarter 1975, only slightly above the 7.7 percent gain in settlements reached in the same quarter a year earlier.

Other highlights of the government report:

- Contracts with COL clauses, covering 34 percent of workers under major agreements concluded in the first nine months of 1975, provided for annual increases averaging 7.2 percent, excluding any COL increases. Contracts without escalators provided average annual boosts of 8.2 percent.
- First-year gains alone under contracts with escalator clauses reached in the January-September period averaged 12.8 percent, considerably higher than the 9 percent first-year average increase provided by contracts without COL provisions. When cost-of-living gains are combined with negotiated general increases, first-year gains amounted to 13.2 percent.
- **New escalator provisions were adopted in 76 settlements reached during the first three quarters of the year. The provisions cover 586,000 workers, mostly in the railroad industry. COL provisions now cover 58 percent of all workers in major bargaining units, BLS noted.**
- In the manufacturing sector, some 630,000 workers received average first-year gains of 10 percent under contracts negotiated in the first nine months of 1975, compared with 8.7 percent in all of 1974. Wage increases over the life of the contract came to 8.2 percent, compared with 6.1 percent last year.
- First-year average increases for some 1.7 million non-manufacturing workers amounted to 10.4 percent, compared with 10.5 percent last year. The over-term increase amounted to 8.9 percent annually, up from an average of 8 percent in 1974.
- First-year increases for about 768,000 workers in the construction industry reflected a sharp decline in the first three quarters of this year. The average was 7.9 percent compared with 11 percent in all of 1974. Over the life of the contract, annual increases averaged 7.4 percent compared with 9.6 percent in 1974.

The average length of contracts concluded in the first nine months of 1975 was 27.2 months, compared with 22.5 months when the same agreements previously were negotiated, BLS noted.

Oil Monopoly Assailed On Energy Policy Grip

The United States should break up the monopoly position enjoyed by the big oil companies in order to restore competition to the oil industry and establish a workable energy policy, President Jesse M. Calhoon of the Marine Engineers said.

Calhoon testified before a Senate Antitrust subcommittee in favor of legislation that would require oil-producing firms to divest themselves of retail and other functions.

"The oil companies have made a discovery far more valuable than any new oil deposit: they have learned that they can spend less money, produce less oil, and still make far higher profits because consumers have no choice but to pay the high prices they set," he said.

"Even more important, the high degree of economic concentration within the oil industry allows those companies to determine what our national energy policy is going to be.

"They decide how much domestic oil to produce, and, therefore, how much oil we must import. They decide what lands will be explored for new oil and how fast new deposits will be developed," he said.

Also, he told the panel, "because oil companies control such a large share of other forms of energy, they decide how much we will have to depend on oil in the years to come and how fast we can develop alternative sources of energy."

Calhoon pointed out that the oil companies enjoy higher rates of return and lower effective tax rates than many other types of business.

He noted that "the largest American oil companies control 85 percent of the nation's oil refining capacity, 95 percent of proved oil reserves and half of domestic natural gas production. They own 50 percent of our uranium reserves, 30 percent of domestic coal reserves, and are responsible for 77 percent of the domestic motor gasoline market."

"This excessive economic concentration works to the detriment of our economy and to the detriment of the national energy interest," Calhoon said.

18.3 Million Jobless in '74

(Continued from Page 1)

In the 1961 recession year, 18.4 percent of the workforce had a period of unemployment. The 1974 tally was the highest since then.

In 1974, the proportions of workers having some unemployment were highest among those under the age of 25 and lowest among those 45 and over. As in past years, a higher proportion of black workers than whites was unemployed at some time last year, the BLS report noted.

AFL-CIO Tells Congress:

Immigration Policy A Growing Concern

The operation and administration of the nation's immigration laws is a matter of "growing concern" to the AFL-CIO and there is a need for comprehensive overhaul and reform, Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller told Congress.

There is a specific need, he told the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, for swift passage of a bill reported out by the full committee in September which would provide criminal penalties for employers who knowingly and willingly employ aliens.

Illegal aliens, Biemiller noted, "have for years been taking jobs from American citizens and legal immigrants" and working at substandard wages and under substandard working conditions. There is, in addition, the increasing problem of temporary non-immigrant aliens depriving American workers of jobs.

He expressed the hope that the subcommittee would give careful attention to abuses of the immigration laws by a number of government agencies and would draft a comprehensive approach in line with AFL-CIO policy.

Biemiller's statement dealt with a number of points raised by various committee bills.

He noted that the AFL-CIO has consistently opposed any amendment of existing law that would allow temporary alien workers to take jobs which are permanent in nature. If the job is a permanent one, the person should apply for permanent entry, the statement said, because the temporary worker is all too often "wholly at the mercy of his employer."

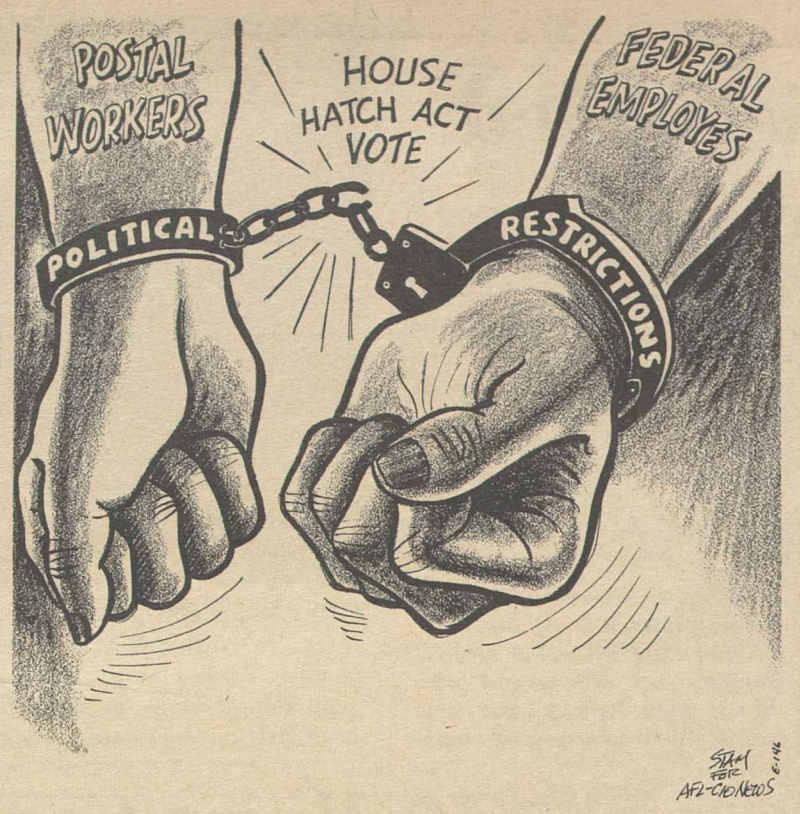
On the question of applying the preference system under the immigration act to the western hemisphere, the statement said the federation would support any reasonable recommendations to have such a preference system and that the special treatment set up in the 1965 act is no longer valid.

At the present time a ceiling of 12,000 is fixed for immigrants who may be admitted from the western hemisphere and they are admitted without reference to any limitation with respect to their country of origin or any of the established preference quotas.

On applying the preference system to the western hemisphere, the AFL-CIO said, consideration will have to be given to the fact that the largest proportion of the 120,000 come from Canada and Mexico. The overwhelming number comes from Mexico and some adjustments may have to be made. Any solution must keep in mind the special problems posed by Mexican commuters and those who enter the country illegally.

On the question of labor certification, the statement declared the AFL-CIO opposes any modification in the present law that requires the Secretary of Labor to certify that aliens are allowed in only if there are not sufficient workers available and qualified and that employment of the aliens will not adversely affect wages and working conditions of U.S. workers.

Biemiller pointed out that the labor certification requirement was written into the 1965 act "upon insistence of the labor movement." Any change would reduce the authority of the Secretary of Labor to protect the job opportunities of American workers, he added.



Wage Base Up $1,200 On '76 Social Security

Persons earning more than $14,100 during 1976 will pay more in social security taxes than they did this year, and will also be increasing their future retirement or survivorship benefits.

An escalator provision in the social security law, tied to changes in average wage rates, will raise the taxable wage base from the current $14,100 to $15,300 next year. The new maximum will affect an estimated 18 million persons, about one out of five persons covered by social security.

Since there is no change in the tax rate, persons earning less than $14,100 are not affected by the higher wage base.

The payroll tax rate paid remains at 5.85 percent of covered earnings for workers and their employers, and at 7.9 percent for self-employed persons.

Thus, a person earning $15,300 or more will pay a total of $809.05 during 1976, up $70.20 from the current maximum. The increase will be $94.80 for a self-employed person.

Another feature of the escalator provision, however, will enable persons drawing social security retirement payments to earn more during the year without reduction of benefits.

Presently, benefits are reduced by $1 for every $2 earned in excess of $2,520 a year, or $210 a month.

During 1976, the amount of earnings allowed before a reduction in benefits is made will rise to $2,760, or $230 a month.

An estimated 1.3 million beneficiaries will receive higher payments with the rise in exempt earnings.

For workers affected by the rise in the taxable wage base to $15,300, the Social Security Administration noted the silver lining:

"In return for the increase in taxes," Social Security Commissioner James B. Cardwell said, "these affected workers will have greater protection because a larger amount of their earnings will be credited toward benefits than before. This will mean higher benefits for them and their families in the event of retirement, disability, or death, than would have been possible without an increase in the base."

SL-1-11

Retirement Payments Lowest for Women

A task force studying the adequacy of social security protection for women reported that "a retirement income crisis now affects millions of aged and aging women and threatens to engulf many more."

The Senate Special Committee on Aging, chaired by Sen. Frank Church, set up the six-member task force which released a working paper containing immediate and long-range proposals to strengthen social security protection for women. Lawrence Smedley, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, was a member of the task force.

The working paper — "Women and Social Security: Adapting to a New Era"—served as the focal point of two days of committee hearings on the higher degree of deprivation among aged and aging women.

The report noted that older women are nearly twice as likely to be poor as men of the same age, primarily because more women have worked in part-time and low-paying jobs.

These employment patterns produce considerably lower social security benefits for retired women workers, since monthly payments are wage-related, the study noted.

Average monthly benefits for retired women workers now amount to $180, compared with $225 for male retirees.

"The differential reflects an economy in which women are disproportionately found in low-pay and part-time occupations, even when they are the mainstay of family support, and that their working careers are commonly interrupted," the task force observed.

In a preface to the working paper, Church noted that "the tide of questioning and criticism related to sex discrimination under social security is markedly on the increase. It must be recognized, and it must be understood."

Among the recommendations for women and their families were the following:

- A 12.5 percent increase in workers' benefits to help assure that couples with working wives will not receive lower monthly payments than a couple with a nonworking wife when both couples have identical earnings.
- Additional dropout years — now limited to five low-earnings years—to relate benefits to more current earnings.
- Benefits for disabled spouses of covered workers.
- Elimination of the dependency requirement for a husband or widower to qualify for benefits on the basis of a wife's earnings.
- Extension of social security coverage to dependent close relatives, such as a sister, living in the home of an insured worker.
- Provision for social security benefits for disabled widows and disabled divorced widows at any age—instead of 50 as under present law—and without any actuarial reduction in payments.

Unions Retain Rights On Health Plan Choice

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman welcomed the change and said it makes it easier for organized labor to continue to promote the development of HMOs.

The regulations affect companies employing 25 or more workers. Under the Health Maintenance Organization Act of 1973, if an employer provides a health benefits plan for his employes he also must provide an option for membership in a federally qualified HMO.

Labor has sponsored and supported "consumer-oriented HMOs," but there are also some bad HMOs run by unscrupulous entrepreneurs out to make a quick profit, Seidman said in protesting the earlier regulations bypassing the union.

The AFL-CIO's position was supported by the Labor Dept. and the National Labor Relations Board's general counsel. The support of the two government agencies helped bring about the HEW revised regulations, Seidman noted.

Seidman also said that the final HMO rules would allow for the maintenance of employe-employer trust funds to finance health and welfare programs.

Jeffery Cohelan, executive director of the Group Health Association of America, described the final HEW regulations as a major step toward reform of the health delivery system.

Ford Rejects Financial Aid To New York

(Continued from Page 1)

"unique" financial problem of New York was caused by the inescapable obligation to provide services and help for a vast number of poor families in a period of recession, high unemployment and staggering interest costs.

Albert Shanker, president of the United Federation of Teachers and its parent national organization, the American Federation of Teachers, criticized as "simplistic and fundamentally untrue" the view that New York City's problems stemmed from extravagant spending programs.

Shanker, whose union's trustees on a pension fund helped avert the city's default on Oct. 17, attributed much of New York's financial difficulty to "gross mismanagement of our economic affairs on the federal level."

Jerry Wurf, president of the State, County & Municipal Employees, cited a recent, non-partisan study of New York's fiscal crisis prepared by the Congressional Budget Office which showed that the salaries of New York city workers are well in line with those paid in other major cities.

Victor Gotbaum, executive director of AFSCME's New York City district, accused the Ford Administration of trying to "punish" the city. Shanker told the panel that Ford had "turned on national hatred for one city."

The Senate Banking Committee defied the President's veto threat and voted 8-5 for a bill that would provide a $4 billion loan guarantee for New York City. But there were indications that opponents of federal aid were prepared to filibuster to keep the Senate from voting on the measure.

Federal aid to New York and other financially troubled cities was urged in resolutions adopted by the AFL-CIO at its convention in San Francisco last month.

In his speech, Ford said he doubted that a New York City default would cause a financial panic since the money markets "have already made a substantial adjustment in anticipation" of such a development.

Peter Walther Named to Seat On NLRB

President Ford has nominated Peter D. Walther, a Philadelphia attorney who once worked for the National Labor Relations Board, to fill a vacancy on the NLRB.

The appointment of Walther, a Republican, will keep the five-member board political alignment at three Republicans and two Democrats. If confirmed by the Senate, he will succeed Ralph S. Kennedy, who resigned on July 30.

Walther, 47, has been a partner in a Philadelphia law firm since 1962, representing management in labor relations matters.

A native of Elizabeth, N.J., Walther served as an attorney in the NLRB's regional offices in Detroit and Philadelphia from 1955 to 1962. He is married, with two children, and has been residing in Malvern, Pa.

NLRB Chairman Betty Southard Murphy described Walther as an able attorney with outstanding experience in labor law who "will bring the board to full strength at a time when our docket contains a number of important cases."

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Health Security Price Put Within Present Care Cost

LABOR'S CASE for National Health Security legislation was made by AFL-CIO President George Meany before a House Ways & Means subcommittee headed by Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), second from right. AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, left, and Social Security Director Bert Seidman took part in the discussion.

Site Picket Bill Facing Filibuster

By David L. Perlman

The construction site picketing bill—one of labor's major legislative goals—moved to the Senate floor where opponents are prepared to filibuster to prevent a vote.

It passed the House, 230-178, in late July and carries the near-unanimous endorsement of the Senate Labor Committee. President Ford has indicated he will sign it if it reaches his desk along with a union-endorsed construction industry collective bargaining bill that is next on the Senate agenda.

Supporters are planning an early move to impose cloture and limit debate.

This will require the votes of 60 senators—three-fifths of the total membership of the Senate. Until the rules were changed this year to make it somewhat easier to shut off a filibuster, two-thirds of senators present and voting were needed.

In a letter sent to all senators, AFL-CIO Presiden tGeorge Meany said the prohibition on peaceful picketing at an employment site "abridges" free speech and denies to the building trades "a right accorded to all other unions in a labor dispute."

Meany strongly urged senators to support the bill and oppose delaying tactics.

The legislative battle has stretched over more than two decades.

A 1951 Supreme Court decision, based on what union attorneys considered a faulty understanding of the close relationship between a general contractor and the subcontractors he hires to work at the same jobsite, prohibited picketing a common construction site in a dispute with one of the subcontractors.

In the case at issue, the Denver Building & Construction Trades Council was held to have engaged in an illegal secondary boycott when it picketed to protest the use of a non-union electrical contractor who paid his workers 42 cents an hour less than the union scale.

The Senate Labor Committee report, with only Sen. Paul D. Laxalt (R-Nev.) dissenting, said the picketing ban "ignores the economic reality" of the close relationship between contractors and subcontractors "and imposes greater restrictions on the union right of concerted action in the construction industry than in other areas of employment."

That point was made also in testimony supporting the site picketing bill by Industrial Union Dept. President I. W. Abel and in the resolution adopted at the AFL-CIO convention.

(Continued on Page 2)

Meany Bids Congress Act on Bill

A comprehensive Health Security program for all Americans could be financed with the money now being spent for an inefficient medical care system, AFL-CIO President George Meany told Congress.

Meany acknowledged that the $100 billion-a-year price tag on the labor-endorsed Health Security bill appears a staggering sum—to most people "an incomprehensible figure."

But the nation's health expenditures amounted to more than $118 billion in fiscal 1975, Meany told the House Ways & Means Subcommittee on Health.

"Health Security would take the same money that is being spent today by individuals, insurance companies and governments to purchase health care for some individuals and use that money to purchase health care for everyone."

As federal expenditures for health care increase, he stressed, other expenditures for health care would be reduced. "The pie is the same $100 billion. The difference between all national health insurance proposals is how that pie is divided up."

To settle for a "worthless catastrophic program" with a $2 billion price tag, or the $8 billion cost of the Nixon-Ford program "would be like pouring money down a drain," Meany said.

The cost factor was also highlighted by Leonard Woodcock, who testified as head of the Health Security Action Council as well as president of the Auto Workers.

(Continued on Page 8)

UN's Future Periled By Zionism Libel

The United Nations General Assembly will outrage public opinion and jeopardize United States participation in the UN if it condemns zionism as a form of racism, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned.

"Real racism" is a major world problem, Meany said. But he termed it "ludicrous" to apply the term to the concept of a Jewish homeland—an ideal that became a reality ony after the ashes of Hitler's death camps.

The goal of the Arab sponsors of the anti-zionism resolution, "with the cynical backing of the Soviet Union," is to expel Israel from the UN, Meany said. He noted that the supporters include

(Continued on Page 2)

AFL-CIO Backs Move:

U.S. Serves Notice Of ILO Withdrawal

By James M. Shevis

The AFL-CIO strongly endorsed the government's formal notice of its intention to withdraw as a member of the International Labor Organization.

At the same time, the federation expressed the hope that the United Nations agency would stop being a political organization and get back to its original purpose of helping to raise workers' living standards.

"The ILO is not doing the things for the little people of this world that it was set up to do," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared at a Labor Dept. news briefing announcing the U.S. action.

Meany added that the ILO must now decide whether to resume its role as an instrument for improving the conditions of life and labor for the world's working people or to continue to "degenerate as an arena of empty rhetorical and ideological warfare."

Notification of U.S. intentions to quit the ILO came in a letter from Sec. of State Henry A. Kissinger to the organization's director general, Francis Blanchard of France.

The notice was in accordance with the ILO constitution requiring member nations to give two years' notice of withdrawal. During that period, a country intending to pull out must continue to pay its dues and it can also change its mind.

Organized labor has been unhappy over ILO policies for a number of years, but "the last straw" was the admission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to official observer status at a conference of the ILO at its Geneva headquarters last summer, Meany said. Meany referred to the PLO as "the leading symbol and practitioner of terrorism and race hatred in the world today."

If events continued at this rate, Meany charged, "the next move will be to kick Israel out of the ILO." The PLO is an umbrella group that refuses to recognize

(Continued on Page 7)

Labor Denounces Ford's Rejection Of New York City Plea for Support

The AFL-CIO's top leadership assailed President Ford for callousness to New York City's financial crisis, and for a double standard that justifies bailouts of corporations and assistance to hostile nations.

AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed a "fervent hope that Congress will have the guts to defy the President of the United States and give to the City of New York . . . the federal backing for its bonds that it must have" to gain time to resolve its financial problems.

To Meany, Ford's indifference to New York is consistent with:

- "His vetoes of legislation designed to improve the welfare, health and education of the American people. . . .
- "His unrelenting war against the food stamps program. . . .
- "His vetoes of any and all legislation designed to put people back to work. . . ."

Meany's blast at Ford was made at a New York City dinner honoring Max Greenberg, president of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

At a Washington, D.C. function, a collective bargaining dinner held by the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland spoke in a similar vein:

"President Ford says there will be no federal help to New York City. Let it go bankrupt, he says. And Arthur Burns promises the banks that if they get in trouble as a result, the Federal Reserve will bail them out.

"No help for New York City. No help for the people. But the banks . . . will be taken care of," he said.

(Continued on Page 6)

Delays Seen Frustrating Labor Law

The record of the National Labor Relations Board has been "commendable" and "consistently far better than most" federal agencies, but legislative reform of the board's statutory base is sorely needed, AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

The National Labor Relations Act, signed into law in 1935, "is not working as well as it should, and that's why we are asking the Congress to study what has been done and come up with a better way of achieving the goal of encouraging the practice and procedure of collective bargaining,"

(Continued on Page 7)

Foes Prepare To Filibuster Site Picketing

(Continued from Page 1)

Both the House and Senate bills would require a local union to give a 10-day notice of its intent to picket a common construction site, and to obtain the approval of its parent national union.

In his lone dissent to the bill, Laxalt complained that construction workers are overpaid and said allowing common site picketing would weaken state "right-to-work" open-shop laws.

In other congressional developments:

- The House moved into a second day of debate on a union-supported Administration-opposed bill to establish an independent agency to represent consumers.
- A long-stalled House-Senate conference committee moved somewhat closer to agreement on energy policy legislation which would combine some continued curbs on the price of domestic oil with measures to hold down consumption.
- Another conference committee, on an appropriations bill carrying funds for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, remained deadlocked over a school busing rider but agreed on other matters. One tentative decision was to drop a Senate-passed rider that would have excluded establishments with fewer than four workers from enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

Angelo Fosco Elected Head Of Laborers

Chicago—Angelo Fosco, a vice president of the Laborers and manager of the LIU Chicago region, was elected president of the union at a special meeting of the executive board here.

He succeeds his father, Peter Fosco, who died Oct. 26, for the remainder of the term running through October 1976.

Fosco had been associated with Laborers Local 2 in Chicago a number of years before his appointment as an international representative in 1951.

He was named assistant manager of the Chicago region, the largest in the international, in 1964. The region takes in several midwestern states and two Canadian provinces. He became manager of the region in 1968, the same year he was elected an LIU vice president. He also serves as a trustee of both the Laborers' National Pension Fund and of the union's Pension Fund of Central & Eastern Canada.

A resident of Chicago, Fosco has three children and three grandchildren.

ANGELO FOSCO

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE salutes the Ladies' Garment Workers, celebrating their 75th anniversary, with the presentation of a scroll at the JLC's convention in New York. From left are JLC President Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Clothing Workers; Harold Ostroff, president of Workmen's Circle, which also was honored on its 75th anniversary; ILGWU President Sol C. Chaikin, and ACWA President Murray H. Finley.

Jewish Labor Group Marks Anniversaries

New York—The Jewish Labor Committee marked the twin 75th anniversaries of the Ladies' Garment Workers and the Workmen's Circle with a special tribute at the JLC's biennial convention.

Citing the ILGWU's "leading role in the fight for social and economic justice" and the Workmen's Circle's "broad and humane vision," the JLC saluted both organizations for the prominent role they had played in the struggle to establish a strong labor movement in the fight for civil rights.

In his keynote address, JLC President Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Clothing Workers, noted that as both groups had worked together in the civil rights movement of the 1960s, "so must we provide the spark for achieving social and economic justice today and in the future."

In accepting the citations, ILGWU President Sol C. Chaikin and Workmen's Circle President Harold Ostroff both pledged continued support for the ideals and goals of the JLC, "which encompass the best interests and the highest hopes of humanity."

Featured speakers at the convention were Jacob Clayman, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., and Donald Slaiman, deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. Both are JLC vice presidents.

In discussing the effect of imports, Clayman pointed out that "no catalogue of ills besetting our economy is complete without listing multinational corporations."

American workers, he declared, are the direct victims of multinational expansion. First, their jobs are transported overseas along with the technology necessary for the work. Then this transferred technology helps boost the productivity of other countries, and the products that result end up in worldwide markets in competition with U.S. goods.

Commenting on the present state of the U.S. economy, Slaiman charged that "while the labor movement was warning of the dangers of unemployment, the economists—liberal as well as conservative—were paying major attention to inflation. This has led to the present situation in which inflation and unemployment are increasing together. And the President's call for a balanced budget is not the way to solve the problem."

Other discussions at the convention sessions focused on the prospects for peace in the Middle East, contributions of the Yiddish culture to American life and the problems of working women.

Charles S. Zimmerman, retired vice president of the ILGWU and chairman of the JLC's National Trade Union Council for Human Rights since its formation, announced at the convention that he would not be a candidate for re-election. He was warmly greeted by the delegates, who lauded his long years of service to the labor movement and to the JLC.

The JLC was formed in 1933 to rescue the victims of Nazi and fascist brutality and to provide a bridge between the Jewish community and the labor movement.

Meany Warns Sponsors:

Slander of Zionism Perils UN's Future

(Continued from Page 1)

rulers who "can scarcely conceal their admiration" for Hitler and nations that have persecuted both religious and national minorities within their own borders.

The resolution, endorsed in a General Assembly committee by the "automatic majority" that the Arab and Communist blocs can muster, is clearly anti-Jewish as well as anti-Israel, Meany said.

Meany, a former member of the United States delegation to the UN, praised U.S. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan and delegation members Leonard Garment and Clarence Mitchell, Jr., for "eloquent resistance" to the "disgraceful drift" away from the UN's original ideals.

The new majority, he said, "seems determined to steer the UN towards self-destruction."

A delegation of trade union leaders called on Moynihan in New York to endorse his "courageous defense of freedom" and his denunciation of the attempt to link zionism to racism.

Harry Van Arsdale, president of the New York City Central Labor Council, termed the anti-zionist resolution "repugnant to us as Americans and as trade unionists." He praised Moynihan, Mitchell and Garment for speaking out when the UN makes "a mockery of its own principles."

"We who cherish the ideals of freedom and social justice will stand taller now, knowing that we are represented in the UN by a courageous and articulate spokesman," Van Arsdale said.

The 24-member labor delegation included union Presidents Thomas W. Gleason of the Longshoremen, Albert J. Shanker of the Teachers, Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers, Alex Rose of the Hatters, Carl Scarbrough of the Furniture Workers and Ben Feldman of the Leather Goods Workers; Secretary-Treasurers William DuChessi of the Textile Workers Union of America and Alvin E. Heaps of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, along with President John J. Driscoll of the Connecticut AFL-CIO.

Meany's statement in Washington termed it "high time" that President Ford make it clear "to the despots who currently wield a voting majority at the UN" that:

1. "The United States pays a disproportionate share of the UN's bills only with the consent of the American people, and

2. "Our government, unlike most of those represented in the General Assembly, cannot indefinitely conduct itself in defiance of the popular will."

Meany said adoption of the resolution would "set back" the struggle against racism, which "can only be weakened and disoriented when the term racism itself loses meaning."

As for zionism, "the Israelis will surely continue to build their society along democratic lines. . . . All this outrageous resolution will do is add to the legitimate fears of the Israelis and thus contribute to an atmosphere of distrust and tension that can only prevent a durable peace in the Middle East."

Ford Names Wage & Hour Administrator

President Ford has nominated Ronald J. James, an attorney for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's regional litigation center in Chicago since 1973, as administrator of the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division.

James, 38, would succeed Betty Southard Murphy, who left the post last February to become chairman of the National Labor Relations Board. His appointment is subject to Senate confirmation.

Prior to going to the EEOC, James was a trial attorney for the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Federal Agency Sharply Reduces Cost of Handling Medicare Claims

The Social Security Administration is questioning the conclusions of a General Accounting Office study that fails to focus on the government's 66 percent cost reduction in processing claims for Medicare payments since 1973.

The government's unit cost on claims is now substantially lower than that of private insurance carriers and even below most of the Blue Cross plans which provide narrower processing services than the government and private carriers.

Between 1973 and fiscal year 1975 the SSA's Division of Direct Reimbursement (DDR) cut its cost per claim from $12.39 to $4.11. During the same period, private insurance firms lowered unit costs from $7.28 to $5.46.

But the GAO report issued Sept. 30 emphasizes findings based on fiscal data going back to 1973 when the processing costs of private insurance firms were below those of the government's reimbursement division.

The GAO report is likely to have broad implications on the role of the government and private carriers in the administration of a national health insurance program.

In 1973, DDR was still processing claims manually. Based on the two-year-old data, the GAO study shows that while the reimbursement division was charging $12.39 per claim, unit costs of Travelers Insurance Co. were $7.31 and Mutual of Omaha's rate was $7.28.

Two Blue Cross plans providing limited processing service charged even less in 1973—Blue Cross of Chicago, $3.81, and Blue Cross of Maryland, $3.55.

GAO concluded in its report to the House Ways & Means Committee that "higher salaries and lower productivity appear to be major reasons for higher costs of the division, which, unlike the private intermediaries, had no production standards."

However, the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare has taken issue with the GAO report, claiming that the results of the study were more dependent on methodology than on actual operations of the division.

"It reflects neither the improvements that have been made in our direct reimbursement operations, nor the very substantial changes in workload that have occurred since 1973," HEW said.

HEW officials also pointed out that the report tends to distort the various cost factors in 1973 when the division was going through a transition period from manual to automated processing of Medicare claims.

Thomas M. Tierney, director of HEW's Bureau of Health Insurance, also noted that the GAO report fails to stress the increased productivity of the DDR staff. Since 1973, the number of claims handled by the division rose from about 500,000 to more than 1 million without an appreciable increase in personnel.

Tierney said that another major problem area of the report is GAO's failure to consider the element of quality.

"The study addresses only the mechanical handling of bills and no aspect of quality in claims-processing or any aspect of the intermediary or DDR operation," HEW noted. "The result," HEW said, "does not constitute a valid review of performance."

Per Capita Doubled:

N.Y. Labor Mounts State COPE Drive

Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.—The New York State AFL-CIO convention voted solidly to double the present five-cent per capita payment to assure a maximum state COPE operation in the 1976 elections for President, U.S. senator, 39 Congress seats and 210 in the state legislature.

More than 1,700 delegates representing over 2 million union members, with State AFL-CIO President Raymond R. Corbett in the chair, approved constitution changes making three cents of the higher per capita effective Jan. 1 and the remainder effective a year later. All of the two-stage increase was earmarked to set up and operate a year-around COPE program.

That program, titled The Spirit of '76, calls for a staff of eight to ten, a new publication to be mailed to New York union members in ethnic, youth and other groups with aims in line with labor's, annual statewide and periodic area COPE conferences, voter registration drives and get-out-the-vote phone banks.

Beginning next year, state conventions will be held biennially instead of annually, under another constitution change adopted.

The convention voted an appropriation of $20,000 to aid the United Farm Workers in their representation election campaign in California and Corbett announced the state federation would seek enactment of a similar law at the legislature in January.

With a roaring chorus of "aye" the delegates also voted to "condemn as reckless and inhuman" President Ford's announced decision to let New York City default and go into bankruptcy rather than provide the federal guarantee of city securities in line with federal insurance of bank deposits and home mortgages.

Such a guarantee, it was noted, would restore the city's credit and give it time to complete drastic reforms already well under way to balance its budget and solve its own money problems, without asking for funds or "bailout" from the federal government.

Cutbacks in city spending have, already forced dismissal of more than 30,000 full-time civil service workers, with 40,000 more slated to go, and cut construction funds to a point that threatens to boost the city's building trades jobless rate to 35 percent or more.

Gov. Hugh L. Carey (D) brought the delegates cheering to their feet when he told of the many projects spelling thousands of jobs that hang in the balance "unless we can get help from Washington." Carey insisted that New York does not want a handout, "just the credit we deserve." He paraphrased Sen. Hubert Humphrey's demand of "not a nickel for Zaire, not one nickel for foreign aid unless you recognize the state of New York."

Carey said that as a descendant of the Irish he likes "a fair fight" but asserted that Ford's insistence on default and bankruptcy for New York City "isn't a fair fight," adding:

"When the President of the United States hauls off and kicks the people of New City and New York State in the groin, I fight back. And we're going to fight back and we're going to win."

Without exception, every major convention speaker emphasized repeatedly that the basic solution to the nation's economic ills is employment and they scored Ford as "veto-happy" for killing the numerous bills Congress has passed to expand employment.

President Sol C. Chaikin, of the Ladies' Garment Workers told the delegates he was "delighted to hear of the efforts being made" by the New York State AFL-CIO to develop an ongoing COPE program "that'll be effective, that'll fight and one that will work for your best interests."

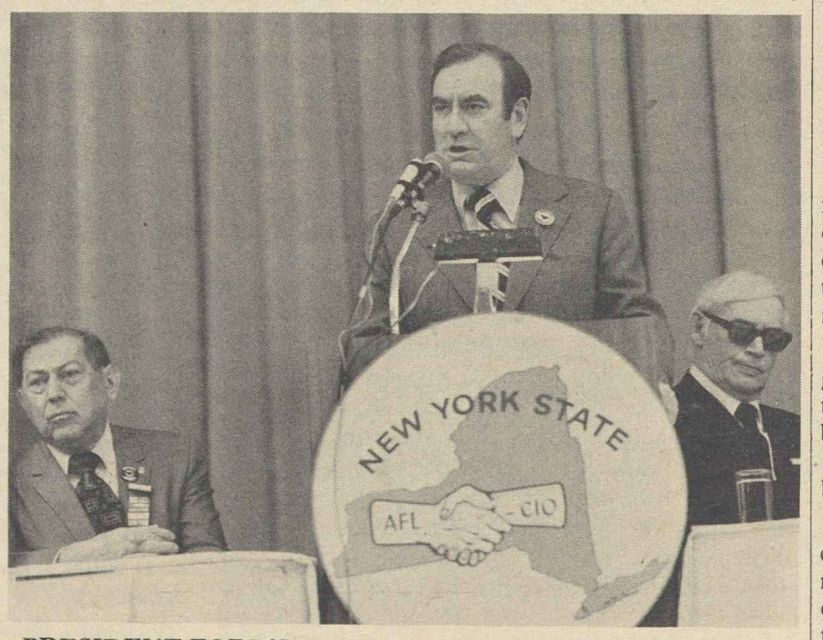
Referring to Administration leaders who have said they expect high unemployment to continue possibly into the beginning of the 1980s with jobless percentages of 7 percent to 8 percent, Chaikin cited the action in France when the unemployment rate hit 3 percent.

"France immediately put $6 billion to work in government projects in order to employ their unemployed. And at that rate we should have allocated at least $20 billion to rebuild America. In Germany when the unemployment rate reached 2.5 to 3 percent, it was a national calamity and they gave employers bonuses to hire unemployed workers so they could become wage earners and consumers."

Alfred Barden, the U.S. Labor Dept.'s assistant regional director for occupational safety and health for the New York area, reported on the operations of the job safety law in the state since the federal agency took over administration last July 1. He asked the union leaders to call to his attention any shortcomings and to take full advantage of their rights under the law.

In other actions the convention adopted 189 resolutions outlining the organization's legislative and COPE policy for the coming year, calling especially for improvements in the social insurance laws because New York's benefits lag so far behind scores of other states.

The delegates voted unanimous approval of a call for repeal of the harsh prison penalties allowed under the state's Taylor Law for striking public employes. The action occurred on the day eight leaders of striking teachers were jailed in the Buffalo suburb of Orchard Park. More than 40 other teachers are fighting similar sentences or face trial for rejecting the Taylor Law's ban on strikes by public employes.



PRESIDENT FORD'S reaffirmed opposition of federal assistance to New York City was described as a "kick in the groin" by Gov. Hugh L. Carey in his address to the New York State AFL-CIO convention. Seated are State AFL-CIO President Raymond R. Corbett, right, and Vice Pres. Sam Kovenetsky, the governor's special assistant for labor affairs.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION is needed to extend full collective bargaining rights to all workers in the public sector, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland stressed in an address to a Government Employees dinner. He conveyed the AFL-CIO's strong support for the AFGE's drive for a new law to replace the presidential Executive Orders that currently govern federal employe labor relations.

Kirkland Pledges All-Out Support In Drive for Public Employe Rights

A collective bargaining law and lifting of Hatch Act restrictions on political activity are needed to achieve "first-class citizenship" for federal workers, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland declared.

Kirkland pledged the "full resources" of the AFL-CIO to the twin goals in a speech to a collective bargaining dinner sponsored by the American Federation of Government Employees and attended by more than 1,200 AFGE members.

At the same time, Kirkland reminded the AFGE that the collective bargaining achieved by the postal workers—which brought them a 15 percent raise when federal salary increases were being held to 5 percent—came only after the eligible workforce was solidly organized.

"You get what you are strong enough to get," he stressed.

Kirkland said public employes have taken "a lot of bum raps" recently, but "have been fighting back" and winning "a great deal of public support" in the process.

"The American people are not stupid; they can tell greed from need," he said.

"They can tell real justice from window dressing. They can tell grievance from propaganda. And they understand very well that the more human beings are kicked around, the more determined they become in the fight for justice."

Encouraging AFGE members to continue to mobilize their united strength to bargain for what they want and need, Kirkland said the key to trade union strength is collective bargaining.

He noted that the AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco last month unanimously supported collective-bargaining rights for public employes. AFGE members should be able to negotiate with their employer — the federal government — on every aspect of their wages, hours and working conditions "in exactly the same manner as workers in the private sector of the economy do," Kirkland said.

Extension of collective-bargaining rights to government employes would be no more than an extension of the nation's 40-year-old policy under the National Labor Relations Act to accord workers justice in their relations with employers, he observed.

"That policy has been translated into a way of life for practically every group of workers in America with one glaring exception: the employes of government itself," he said.

Kirkland was introduced by AFGE President Clyde M. Webber at the dinner gathering, which touched off the final leg of AFGE's drive to obtain a collective bargaining law for government workers. The House Post Office & Civil Service Committee is expected to open public hearings in the next few weeks on a bill to replace the presidential Executive Orders regulating federal employe labor relations with a law setting up a system parallel to that in the private sector.

AFGE Vice President Joseph D. Gleason, who chaired the committee that planned the dinner, warned Congress and the Ford Administration in his opening remarks "to listen and act, not to react, as has been the case of late," to the union's efforts to better present conditions in the federal service.

Committee Cuts Back Tax Reform Provisions

Tax reform advocates in the House are seeking a way to restore revenue-raising provisions to a two-part bill approved by the House Ways & Means Committee.

There was general agreement—at least on the Democratic side—on extending for another year the job-stimulating income tax cuts enacted last spring. The committee bill would ensure that purchasing power wouldn't be choked off by a sudden rise in withholding taxes in January.

In sticking close to the present formula for both individual and business taxes, the committee rebuffed President Ford's tax proposals which included a demand that Congress agree to cut spending on a dollar-for-dollar trade-off for tax reductions.

But the final version of the tax reform provisions of the bill was only a thin shadow of the loophole-closing reforms that had been on the committee table during two months of deliberations.

At one time, the committee had given tentative approval to reforms that would have brought in $2.6 billion a year in new revenue. In its final version, the bill would bring in only about $650 million.

To take the issue to the floor, committee liberals are seeking to modify the no-amendment rule under which tax bills are usually sent to the full House.

The labor-supported amendments would tighten restriction on tax shelters, increase the minimum tax that the wealthy must pay on income otherwise exempt from taxation, and close off the tax-deferment loophole in the Domestic International Sales Corp. (DISC) program.

House action on the tax bill is expected to come before the Thanksgiving holiday recess.

Iron Workers Win Dismissal Of ABC Case

The National Labor Relations Board has dismissed all charges of violence and coercion brought against the Iron Workers two years ago by the Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc.

The charges were part of a highly publicized consolidated complaint against the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and its 17 affiliated unions filed by the nonunion contractor group.

ABC accused the construction unions of engaging in a "national conspiracy of violence and coercion" over a six-year period, and alleged 170 instances of coercive picketing and violence.

In June 1974, however, the NLRB dropped all charges against the BCTD and all but four of its affiliates—the Iron Workers, Roofers, Carpenters and Laborers.

Silencing an Effective Voice

PRESIDENT FORD'S dismissal of James Schlesinger from his post as Secretary of Defense raises very disturbing questions.

Amidst the lingering atmosphere of Watergate, Schlesinger has shown himself to be a government servant of rare integrity, principle, and courage. He was one of two members of the President's Cabinet who accepted our invitation to the AFL-CIO banquet honoring Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

Schlesinger, who addressed our recent convention in San Francisco, had become the Administration's most effective voice for a strong national defense. This voice, we felt, served as a necessary counterbalance to the wishful rhetoric of detente generated by the Secretary of State, who now apparently emerges as the unchecked, all-powerful voice of American foreign policy.

As Secretary of Defense, Schlesinger demonstrated that he was not prepared to play down our real national defense needs in the interest of political expediency in an election year. All thoughtful Americans must now wonder whether President Ford really wants, or will henceforth receive, national security advice that is candid and free of politics. This question is especially urgent now, in light of the dangerous and complex issues at stake in the current SALT II negotiations.

George Meany

The Role of the ILO

THE AFL-CIO SUPPORTS and endorses our government's letter of intent to withdraw from the International Labor Organization. We concur fully in the statement of considerations—arising out of years of adverse developments within the organization—leading to that decision.

Those developments reached a culmination at the last annual conference of the ILO in June of this year, with the admission of the PLO—the leading symbol and practitioner of terrorism and race hatred in the world today—as an official observer and participant in the affairs of the organization.

The International Labor Organization, its officers, and its member states must, in the months ahead, decide whether the founding principle of tripartitism lives in fact as well as form, or continues to be smothered in the suffocating spirit of accommodation with totalitarianism of the left or right.

They must decide whether the ILO will resume its proper role as a practical instrument for the improvement of the conditions of life and labor for working people, or will continue to degenerate as an arena of empty rhetorical and ideological warfare.

Member states—particularly those who have asserted the most vocal concern for the preservation of the ILO—must decide now whether opportunism, evasion and abstention are honorable responses to plain issues of freedom, justice and due process.

The response to these fundamental decisions will determine whether or not continued membership in the ILO serves any useful purpose upon the expiration of the two-year notice initiated by the United States letter of intent.

—From the AFL-CIO statement on U.S. letter of intent to withdraw from the ILO.

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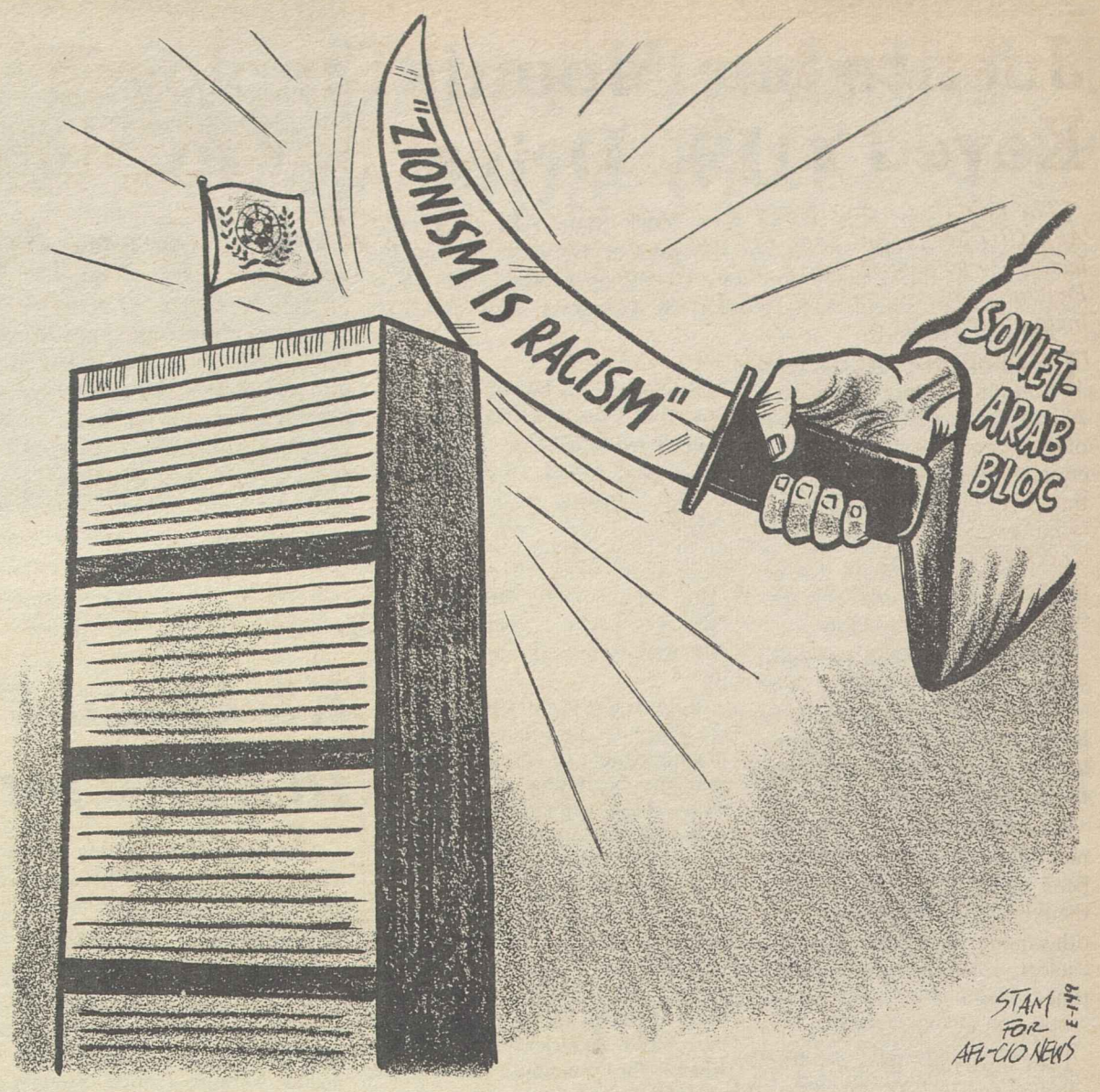

A Word Edgewise:

New York Needs Federal Aid Like Any Other Disaster Area

By John P. Roche

HAVING BEEN RAISED by my maternal grandfather to believe that the saddest day in the history of Brooklyn occurred in 1898 when the independent city agreed to become part of New York, I have been a bit ambivalent about the "Perils of Pauline." The "Bankers' Limited" keeps roaring down the tracks and, just as the poor girl is about to be run over, a rescuer appears with $150 million and hauls her to safety.

However, whatever my reservations about Manhattan (or for that matter, the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island) the time has come for solidarity against the hicks and their suburban allies, those who—in Ron Nessen's quaint phrase—consider New York "a wayward daughter, hooked on heroin."

It is now perfectly clear that the struggle to save New York's finances has achieved the status of an armageddon between pious, upper-middle-class America and the forces of evil incarnate in Sodom on the Hudson.

You get the impression, for example, that a number of figures in the Administration—probably nephews of George Babbitt—are licking their chops at the prospect of a New York default. To date nobody has suggested that minefields and automated machine guns be installed—on the East German model—around the city limits, but there is a good deal of obscene chuckling at the prospect of letting the Big Apple die of rot.

The irony of this Black Mass was pointed out with characteristic perception by Howard K. Smith. As a nation, he said, we owe an immense historical debt to New York (and he could have extended this to other big cities suffering similarly) because so many of our ancestors came from poor urban environments. It was there that they got their starts and eventually made enough to move to the suburbs, where they felt free to close their memories and let the latest wave of poor immigrants (mostly black and Hispanic-Americans) stew in their own juice.

Undoubtedly New York is responsible for a number of its fiduciary problems. Former Mayor John Lindsay was a one-man disaster area, and Mayor Abraham Beame in his former capacity as city controller set a number of traps which are now snapping shut on his ankles. But in objective terms we have had a very nasty economic slump which has radically decreased the flow of cash and required increased borrowing to meet even minimal services. In short, just as unemployment and underemployment has increased the demand for succor from misery, the tax revenues required have fallen drastically.

Take as a case in point real property taxes: whole sections of New York are littered with houses abandoned by owners (mainly big operators) in preference to paying tax arrears. (These arrears, however, are carried on the city's books as assets—technically correct, I suppose, but practically absurd.) In Boston 55 percent of the city's land is off the tax rolls entirely; it is owned by various governments, churches, and educational institutions.

In realistic terms New York and Boston have been hit by earthquakes. In desperation such cities turn to nuisance taxes, most of which are nickel-and-dime operations, but cumulatively regressive. New Yorkers are reputed to be the most highly taxed inhabitants of the country, a consideration which leads those who can afford it to join the suburban exodus.

THE POINT OF THIS IS that the citizens of New York City—even admitting their responsibility for some financial eccentricities—have been hit by a long-term natural disaster over which they have had virtually no control. Doubtless it could have been (and probably was) predicted by some lonely voices, but then the same proposition applies to the national energy crisis of 1973.

There is a simple but politically impossible rational response: metropolitan government which would bring the affluent suburbs back into the tax base. Since this would launch a civil war, the alternative is to turn to the federal government for equivalent relief.

Sticking with the natural disaster metaphor, it is quite common for the national government to rush aid to states (e.g., Alaska) hit by earthquakes, or floods, or droughts, or tornadoes. Why should the plight of New York City (and other cities in the same historical bind) not fall into this category? This will not appeal to those waiting to dance on the grave of the city of sin, but it is in the best tradition of American compassion, one of our most admirable characteristics.

'Time for Action' by Congress:

Justice for Federal Employes Keyed to Collective Bargaining

The following is excerpted from an address by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the Collective Bargaining Dinner held by the American Federation of Government Employees in Washington.

THE MOST IMPORTANT KEY to trade union strength is collective bargaining. The AFL-CIO is also committed, by unanimous action of the convention last month, to fight for your equally fundamental right to organize and negotiate with your employer—the federal government—on every aspect of your wages, hours and working conditions, in exactly the same manner as workers in the private sector of the economy do.

Obviously you are ready to fight for that right, and I think you're going to win it.

It is ironic, in a way, that public officials who have done so much to repress public employes have also contributed so much to the very militance they deplore.

It's plain to see that at every level of government, all across the land, public employes have been chosen as scapegoats for mistakes made by their bosses. Teachers, policemen, firefighters and other government employes of all kinds have been "selected" as the sacrifices to the politics of hard times.

But public employes have been fighting back. They have been organizing, they have been protesting, and—when they have been driven too hard—they have been striking. They have struck in the teeth of laws that deny them the rights of free men and women—the right to withhold their labor when they are being exploited.

And despite all the efforts to paint them as greedy exploiters of the public treasury, holding the public welfare to ransom, they have been getting a great deal of public support.

The American people are not stupid. They can tell greed from need. They can tell real justice from window dressing. They can tell grievance from propaganda. And they understand very well that the more human beings are kicked around, the more determined they become in the fight for justice.

And the pressure for collective bargaining is nothing more or less than a demand for justice; for the machinery to resolve grievances in an orderly manner; for a forum to present and discuss human goals and hopes, and to arrive at realistic compromises that both sides can live with.

Of course, public employes are not the only workers who have been legislated out of the right to collective bargaining. Farm workers are in every state except California. There, under a state law, after 40 years of oppression and exploitation, they have collective bargaining rights. To date, the administration of the California law is far from perfect but the farm workers are on their way.

Just last year Congress put two million workers in nonprofit health-care facilities under the protection of the National Labor Relations Act. And what happened? Did the industry fall apart under a wave of strikes? Of course not.

In the first nine months after health-care workers won the right to organize, Bill Usery, the federal mediator, reports 1,100 labor-management contracts were negotiated. There were exactly 31 strikes, all of them short. Organizing campaigns are continuing all across the land, and the results have been good for the workers, good for the industry, good for the patients and good for the social policy of the United States.

And let me remind you that that policy—now 40 years old—is to promote and protect the rights of workers to join unions of their choice in order to bargain collectively with their employer.

That policy has been translated into a way of life for practically every group of workers in America with one glaring exception: the employes of government itself.

OF COURSE you made great strides toward that goal under the Executive Order promulgated by President Kennedy. It was an early and courageous act on the part of the late and great President. And it was strengthened by another great friend of labor, President Johnson.

But it is not good enough. And we all know that what one President can establish by Executive Order, another President can rescind. I don't say President Ford would try to rescind it, but given his political statement—about federal workers—why take a chance?

So now it's up to Congress to finish the job by passing HR 13, a bill to give federal employes the right to organize and bargain collectively with their employer.

The hearings have been held in both houses of Congress. It's time now for action. It's up to you and me and all of us to see that Congress faces up to the question of justice in public employment.

I can assure you that the AFL-CIO is going to do everything it can to insure that public employes have first-class citizenship. But you have a job to do, too, and you have to tackle it in exactly the same way as every other union has done.

This union has made tremendous strides in membership in recent years, against heavy odds. Now is the time for every member of this union to redouble his and her efforts and enlist every federal worker under the union banner.

Bicentennial Focus:

Wider Recognition Pressed For Workers' Role in History

FILLING THE VOID in public education that most often gives only surface treatment to the role of workers in the development of this nation is a key aim of organized labor's year-long bicentennial effort, AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis said on Labor News Conference.

Many of the major accomplishments that Americans now take for granted became realities only with the strong backing and push provided by the trade union movement and working people, Davis stressed. He listed social security, Medicare, the eight-hour day and free public education as among the most important milestones this country has reached, and said that labor played a major role in all of those drives.

"Few people in America know that our whole system of free universal public education was brought about by working people in the 1830s. . . . That doesn't appear in the history books, but that's what happened," he declared.

Davis said the AFL-CIO is preparing materials that spell out labor's views on a number of topics "chosen as of great interest to the American people . . . by the American Issues Forum," which is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. He said that the materials also will be used by young people taking part in the Bicentennial Youth Debates that will center on the American Issues Forum topics. He said Bicentennial Youth Debates are already scheduled for some 10,000 schools in all parts of the country.

A great many state and city central labor bodies, as well as a large number of international unions, will be organizing and sponsoring their own bicentennial programs, he said.

The programs will include professional theater, music and other entertainment, live craft and skill demonstrations, and radio and television productions. Davis said the interest and enthusiasm of local labor about being involved in the bicentennial is encouraging, and he predicted it will grow even more in the months ahead.

Reporters questioning Davis were Donald Barnes of Press Associates, Inc. and Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs. Labor News Conference is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

By Press Associates, Inc.

A SENSE OF HISTORY was revived in the nation's capital when the National Labor Relations Board sponsored a gathering to mark the 40th anniversary of the Wagner Act.

Though the Wagner Act is sometimes referred to as labor's "Magna Carta," the law actually stands as a tall landmark in the extension of industrial democracy to millions of workers in the basic and mass production industries.

The Wagner Act provided the tool—legal protection of the right to organize and bargain collectively—and labor did the job. In one of the bloodiest periods of American history, workers organized and cracked the great concentrations of power in the steel, coal, auto and rubber industries.

The long and never-ending struggle of workers to secure the benefits of freedom dates to colonial days. Tradesmen, artisans and mechanics were the rank and file of the Sons of Liberty. Historians say their militancy kept the revolutionary movement alive when the more conservative lawyers and merchants faltered.

American workers have banded together ever since to defend their craft and seek greater opportunities for themselves and their children. They adapted their unions to meet changing circumstances and survive chronic recessions, employer attacks and hostile laws and injunctions.

An era of escape and unreality preceded the Wagner Act. The speakeasy, silk shirts, flappers and flivvers. Babe Ruth. Tunney vs. Dempsey. Rockne. Lindbergh. Valentino. Heroes and fads.

For most workers, however, these were what one historian called "the lean years." An Australian observer remarked that "America is an employer's paradise." The manufacturer-endorsed "American Plan" called for blacklists, labor spies, "yellow-dog" contracts, injunctions, company unions. "The business of America is business," declared President Coolidge.

As the nation slid into the Great Depression, President Hoover optimistically announced that the worst was over. Unemployment meanwhile rose to an estimated 15 million when Hoover left office.

In his inaugural address, Franklin D. Roosevelt declared: "This nation asks for action and action now." Out of the "alphabet soup" of reforms came NIRA—the National Industrial Recovery Act—and its famous Section 7(a) which put the force of law behind the right to organize. But judicial nullification of New Deal reforms increased and NIRA was declared unconstitutional.

A STRONG RESURGENCE of union organizing and a rise in company unionism and industrial turmoil required prompt federal action. The White House finally joined the AFL and others in backing the Wagner bill, and it was signed into law in July 1935.

This victory for human rights in the workplace was endorsed by the Supreme Court in 1937 in a narrow 5-4 vote.

Chief Justice Hughes, speaking for the majority in NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Co., declared: "Employes have as clear a right to organize and select their representatives for lawful purposes as the respondent has to organize its business and select its own officers and agents. . . . Long ago we stated the reason for labor organizations. We said that they were organized out of the necessities of the situation; that a single employe was helpless in dealing with an employer, that he was dependent ordinarily on his daily wage for the maintenance of himself and his family . . . that union was essential to give laborers opportunity to deal on an equality with their employer. . . ."

What followed is history. Despite the private armies and spies employed by "blue ribbon" corporations and the bloodshed of the "Memorial Day Massacre" at Republic Steel, unionism swept through most industries and membership quadrupled to 11 million by 1941.

But the law is one thing, its exceptions and implementation another. Today, some two million farm workers and over 12 million public employes remain outside the protection of the law. They are demanding democracy in the workplace. It's an old American tradition.

LABOR'S BICENTENNIAL effort will focus on telling the story of workers in the development of the nation—a point often missed in public education, AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Donald Barnes, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs. The AFL-CIO produced public service program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

HISTADRUT DINNER honoring Max Greenberg, president of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, was the occasion for an announcement of forthcoming changes in the RWDSU leadership. Greenberg, center, who has headed the union since 1954 will retire on Jan. 1, 1976. Succeeding to the presidency until the union's 1978 convention, will be Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps, right. The RWDSU board designated Vice President Frank Parker, left, the union's southern area director, to succeed Heaps.

Specialty Steel Imports Pose New Job Threats

Record imports of specialty steels are threatening the livelihood of thousands of American workers, the Steelworkers warned in calling for mandatory quotas on shipments to U.S. markets.

USWA President I. W. Abel said in testimony to the U.S. International Trade Commission that quick action is needed to assist laid-off workers and others facing layoffs in the nation's specialty steel industry.

He said that heavy layoffs in stainless and tool steels "constitute an urgent warning signal of the serious injury being imposed on both the American steel workers and the specialty steel industry."

Abel called for a long-term solution that includes mandatory import quotas and a system of binding international safeguards.

He also urged the commission to grant immediate and effective relief under the 1974 Trade Act to workers who already have lost jobs to the increasing steel imports.

Imports of stainless steel are presently running at an annual rate of 225,000 tons and tool steel at nearly 30,000 tons, Abel reported.

Because of the record flood of foreign steels, he said, stainless imports have captured 20 percent of the U.S. market and foreign tool steel accounts for 28 percent of the domestic market.

"When imports of specialty steel products remain this high and continue to increase, serious harmful injury is inflicted on American workers—they lose their jobs," he declared.

The flow of imports for the first four months of 1975 was equivalent to 10,000 jobs to add to previous layoffs and higher unemployment rates, he told the Trade Commission.

Abel said a comparison of working time between the last quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of 1975 shows that the drop in man-hours in some stainless steel production ranged from 21 to 54 percent. Comparable reductions were recorded in U.S. tool steel production, he said.

Industry officials echoed similar warnings at the Trade Commission hearings. Richard P. Simmons, president of Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp. said that unemployment in some sectors of the industry is currently as high as 40 percent.

Simmons noted that foreign producers—often heavily subsidized by their governments—don't operate under the same rules as American producers.

He charged that foreign steelmakers have formed cartels to sell their products below cost in the effort to meet economic and political goals of their countries.

In the past decade, Japan has expanded its stainless steel capacity 400 percent, the commission was told. And while West Germany, France and Italy increased production capacity about 200 percent, the United States was able to boost capacity only 40 percent.

Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.) warned that the combination of shrinking U.S. production and increasing imports could affect the entire American economy. He said that thousands of workers in Pennsylvania and other steel-producing states have already been thrown out of work because of the imports.

Labor Costs Drop:

Strong Gain in Productivity Sends Corporate Profits Up

A strong rise in productivity leading to a decline in employers' labor costs greatly improved the profits picture for many American firms in the third quarter.

The earnings improvement was partially reflected in a Wall Street Journal survey showing a 4.9 percent rise in corporate profits from the second to the third quarters of 1975.

While still 12.1 percent below last year's record profits, the quarter-to-quarter gain "is leading analysts to suggest a turnaround in profits is under way," the Journal reported.

A major factor in the improved profits situation was the sharp increase in worker productivity, or output per man-hour. It jumped at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.5 percent in the July-September period—the largest increase since the first quarter of 1971, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Unit labor costs, meanwhile, fell 2.4 percent in the third quarter, the first decline since the second quarter of 1972 and the largest drop since the third quarter of 1965, BLS said.

Productivity fell steadily during 1973 and 1974. After a six-tenths of 1 percent decline in the first quarter of this year, however, output per man-hour turned up in the second quarter, rising 4.2 percent.

The explanation for the rise in productivity is that while production rose in many industries in the July-September period it was accompanied by only a very small relative increase in employment, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger observed. Companies are slow to recall laid-off workers or add to their workforce until they are confident of future gains in demand, he noted.

"As a result, industries whose production and sales have been increasing in recent months have seen their profits margin go up sharply," Goldfinger said.

But while an upturn in production may be under way, unemployment continues to rage at high levels. In its latest reporting period, the Labor Dept. noted 5,423,800 persons were receiving jobless insurance benefits in the week ended Oct. 18, an increase of 241,000 from the previous week.

In addition, the government reported 404,500 initial claims for benefits were filed in the week ended Oct. 25, an increase of 44,400 from the week before.

On the price front, the latest report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that the government's wholesale price index jumped 1.8 percent in October. If prices were to continue to rise at that pace for a year, the increase would mean an inflation rate of 21.6 percent.

The October increase, which is expressed in seasonally adjusted terms, was the largest monthly rise since October 1974. Increases in wholesale prices soon are passed on to consumers in the prices they pay for retail goods and services.

Contributing the most to last month's jump in wholesale prices was a hefty 1.2 percent rise in the prices of industrial commodities. Farm prices were up, too—2.2 percent—but they tend to fluctuate from month to month. Industrial commodities make up 70 percent of all items measured in the monthly BLS survey.

While price increases were posted across the board, especially sharp rises were registered for new 1976 model automobiles, steel and other metals, textile goods and lumber products.

In other economic news, the Commerce Dept. reported a decline of nine-tenths of 1 percent in its composite index of leading indicators in September, the first drop in seven months. The index is designed to anticipate future economic trends.

Six of the 11 indicators available for the September report registered declines, Commerce noted. The series contributing most to the overall decline in the index was a smaller rise in liquid assets, the government observed. The layoff rate in manufacturing, an inverted index, also showed a decline over the month.

Other declines were posted for contracts and orders for plant and equipment, new orders for manufactured consumer products and materials, stock prices and the money balance.

The five indicators showing increases were vendor performance, average workweek, net business formation, building permits and change in sensitive prices.

Another government report showed the buying power of household heads dropped 5.7 percent between 1973 and 1974, the second successive year-to-year decline.

BLS said the drop in purchasing power—after-tax earnings adjusted for price changes—was attributable to an 11 percent jump in consumer prices which more than offset a 5.2 percent rise in gross earnings.

Gross median annual earnings for all household heads last year came to $8,865, BLS said.

Meany Assails Ford Hostility To New York

(Continued from Page 1)

Kirkland suggested: "Perhaps that's the best way to describe President Ford's theory of government—take care of the banks and to hell with the people."

Meany noted that Ford, with "obsequious echoes" from Federal Reserve Chairman Burns and Treasury Sec. William Simon, has "scolded and castigated" the city because it tried "to meet the basic needs of its citizens."

The President's "philosophy of the moment," he said, appears to be that "spending to meet the social needs of the little people of America is in some ways basically sinful."

Ford's moralizing "sounds odd coming from the Administration that finds millions of dollars to bail out American corporations . . . and billions of dollars for unfriendly foreign nations in the name of detente," Meany suggested.

Congress appeared still far from a consensus on what, if anything, to do to help New York City meet its financial crunch. Bills proposed by Senate and House committees were unacceptable to many supporters of help to the city, and President Ford's veto threat continued to hang over the deliberations.

New Regulations on Granting Credit Aimed at Ending Sex Discrimination

New federal regulations aimed at ending discrimination on the basis of sex or marital status in the granting of credit took effect on Oct. 28. A year after Congress passed the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, and following public hearings and a tug of war between lenders and consumer groups over draft language, the Federal Reserve Board issued rules implementing the law.

Aimed primarily at protecting women, the law covers banks, finance companies, department stores and all companies that issue credit cards.

A key provision, which would also benefit men, would require a creditor to give the reasons, on request, for terminating or denying credit. However, reflecting compromises in drafting the rules, the creditor does not have to provide the reasons in writing. Consumer groups support a bill proposed by Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D-Del.) that would require a creditor to put in writing the reason for denying credit. Other major regulations provide:

- A ban on the use of sex or marital status in credit scoring systems.
- A ban on creditors inquiring into birth control practices or into childbearing capabilities or intentions or assuming from her age that an applicant or applicant's spouse may drop out of the labor force or have income interrupted due to childbearing.
- A creditor may not discount part-time income, but could examine the probable continuity of an applicant's job.
- A creditor may ask to what extent an applicant relies on alimony or child support or maintenance payments to repay the debt, but the applicant must first be told such disclosure is not necessary if this income is not relied on to obtain credit.
- As of Nov. 1, 1976, creditors must identify for reporting purposes those accounts that both spouses may use or be liable for so that a credit history can be established for each spouse.
- No later than Feb. 1, 1977, the creditor must inform holders of existing accounts of a right to have credit history reported in both names.
- Effective Nov. 30, 1975, creditors must keep applications and other materials, including any written allegations of discrimination, for 15 months following the date the creditor gives notice of action to an applicant.

The regulations define discrimination under the law as treating "an applicant less favorably than other applicants on the basis of sex or marital status."

The law provides that an aggrieved applicant may sue creditors for actual damages and for punitive damages up to $10,000. In class actions, penalties up to $100,000 or one percent of the creditor's net worth, whichever is less, may be assessed.

Enforcement of the law and regulations is vested primarily in the Federal Trade Commission. Other agencies also responsible include the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., the Comptroller of the Currency and a number of other agencies which oversee industries providing credit to consumers.

2 Join AFL-CIO Research Staff

John Zalusky, for the last four years research director of the Allied Industrial Workers, has joined the staff of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research.

Zalusky will specialize in the areas of collective-bargaining issues and trends, worker job satisfaction, industrial engineering, the Service Contract Act and related matters.

Earlier, William Cunningham, an AFL-CIO intern in 1971-72, joined the federation's research staff. Formerly with the State, County & Municipal Employees, Cunningham handles matters pertaining to energy and productivity.

'Unfair, Unworkable':

Canadian Unions Hit New Controls Policy

Ottawa—The Canadian Labor Congress denounced the Trudeau Government's newly imposed economic controls and called instead for an action program to revive the nation's economy.

Effective policies to spur the economy, create jobs, and provide for equitable income would make controls unnecessary, the CLC stressed.

CLC President Joseph Morris warned that Prime Minister Trudeau's anti-inflation plan would fail to control the rise in prices, interest rates and corporate income, "but would effectively put the lid on wage increases."

The plan was imposed Oct. 14 under emergency powers provided in the Canadian constitution. But further enabling legislation is facing stiff opposition in Parliament.

As presently written, the controls would limit wage increases to 10 percent the first year, 8 percent the second year and 6 percent the third year.

Prices, which have been climbing at an annual rate of 11 percent, would be limited to increases justified by increased costs.

Morris called the Trudeau plan "unfair, inequitable and unworkable."

"Wage controls without corresponding price and profits restraints will reduce the purchasing power of wage and salary earners," he said.

The CLC has launched a nationwide educational campaign to increase pressure in Parliament for the defeat of the controls legislation.

Meanwhile, labor officials are urging unions to persue their bargaining goals as usual despite the mandatory guidelines.

Workers affected by the new wage controls include those employed by large corporations with more than 500 employes, construction firms with more than 20 employes, and all workers in the federal and public sector. Professionals, such as doctors, lawyers, engineers and others who charge fees for services, are also affected by the guidelines.

Because the number of persons covered by the wage controls totals only 4 million—slightly less than half of the nation's labor force—critics of the Trudeau plan have cited serious doubts as to its effectiveness.

They also have pointed to the ineffectiveness of wage-price controls instituted by the Nixon Administration in the United States.

Trudeau himself had cited the failure of U.S. economic controls in his last election campaign, speaking out against the Progressive Conservative Party, which advocated mandatory wage and price curbs.

The CLC's action program to spur the nation's economy stresses the development of full employment policies, regulation of fuel prices, home mortgage subsidies and a negative income tax. It also calls for an increase in old age pensions, rent controls, and tax incentives for corporations to create jobs.

Florida Labor Focuses on Jobs Issues

Jacksonville, Fla.—The high unemployment plaguing Florida was the chief focal point of the State AFL-CIO's 19th annual convention here.

Florida's jobless rate is 12.4 percent. The four-day convention renewed its commitment to the AFL-CIO's Action Program to get the nation's economy moving again. The 350 delegates also zeroed in on issues affecting job security, education, taxes and other matters.

The delegates also elected 16 district vice presidents and heard several speakers. Election of executive officers — president, secretary-treasurer and first vice president — is held every four years and is not slated again until 1977.

The convention adopted resolutions pledging the State AFL-CIO to work for passage of an agency shop bill in the Florida legislature. Florida is an open-shop state.

Other resolutions called for immediate implementation of the state's public employe bargaining law, congressional repeal of the airline industry's so-called mutual aid pact that provides benefits to struck carriers, and exemption of local union properties from the state's ad valorem tax.

Among the convention speakers were Rep. Claude D. Pepper (D-Fla.), Gov. Reubin Askew, President R. H. Semon of the Florida State Building & Construction Trades and Robert Uhrig, a nuclear scientist with the Florida Power & Light Co.

FORTY YEARS of collective bargaining developments under the National Labor Relations Act are reviewed at an anniversary banquet which brought together R. Heath Larry, vice chairman of U.S. Steel Corp., AFL-CIO President George Meany and Chairman Betty Murphy of the National Labor Relations Board.

'Happy Birthday—You Look Rundown!'

Reform of Labor Law Pushed to End Delays

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany told a dinner marking the board's 40th anniversary.

All too often, he observed, the NLRA frustrates and impedes the fulfillment of its original promise: to assist workers in exercising their basic right to organize and bargain collectively.

Citing "needless" delays built into the board's election and unfair labor practice machinery, Meany declared:

"The right to bargain collectively has no meaning if it is afforded a year, two years or even more after it is sought. . . . The time has come to act on, rather than merely give lip service to, the principle that justice delayed is justice denied."

Also speaking at the commemorative dinner were Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop and R. Heath Larry, vice chairman of United States Steel Corp. President Ford sent a congratulatory letter. Betty Southard Murphy, the first woman to chair the NLRB, made brief introductory remarks.

In his address, Meany noted that even in the most simple of cases—a petition for a representation election—it takes an NLRB regional director about six weeks to issue an election notice. In cases that go to the full board, the median time is 89 days.

He added that as of last April the median time from the filing of an unfair labor charge to issuance of a board decision was 385 days—one year and 20 days.

"And then, of course, the employer can take the matter to court and consume an additional year or two before any relief is afforded the employes whose rights the act is supposed to protect," Meany pointed out.

"We want a law that provides even-handed remedies, not one that allows the J. P. Stevenses of this world to thumb their noses at the board and the courts and still receive luscious federal contracts," he said. "We want a law that mandates a prompt resolution of disputes."

Meany noted the difficulties the NLRB faces in handling an increasingly heavy caseload with a limited budget and staff and said the AFL-CIO would continue to support larger appropriations for the agency.

Dunlop warned that increasing tension between government regulation and collective bargaining faces the nation. He said he hoped some way would be found to make the two systems "less antagonistic" and more compatible.

U.S. Steel's Larry called for efforts to achieve greater mutual understanding of business and labor. He said the present condition of the national economy and its competitive posture in the world underscore more than ever "the need to cultivate our sense of interdependence."

U.S. Serves Notice Of Intent to Quit ILO

(Continued from Page 1)

Israel's right to exist as a nation.

Founded in 1919 as part of the now-defunct League of Nations, the ILO is a specialized agency of the UN composed of 126 member nations. The U.S. has been a member since 1934 and pays one-quarter of the ILO's budget, an assessment of $11.3 million this year.

Until about 15 years ago, Meany noted, the ILO had been doing its job. But in recent years it has not performed its functions of improving working conditions, promoting human rights and providing technical assistance to developing countries, he charged. It has been particularly neglectful in the area of human rights, he said.

"The greatest human right is the right of workers to get together and associate in a free trade union," Meany declared. "This is denied to workers in many countries in the ILO and the ILO closes its eyes to this."

Over the next 24 months, Meany said, the U.S. government, in concert with labor and management, "must decide whether the ILO is really important enough to our objectives in the world." The United States, along with other member states, is represented in the UN agency by a tripartite delegation that speaks for labor, management and government separately.

The AFL-CIO's strong dissatisfaction with the performance of the ILO was echoed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Charles H. Smith, Jr., chairman of the chamber's executive council as well as the U.S. employer delegate to the ILO, told reporters at the press briefing:

"The origin of much of this dissatisfaction can be found in the willingness of a growing number of member states to use the meetings and conferences of this organization to pursue political objectives."

Smith and Meany also agreed that "the present system in the UN is deteriorating rapidly." Asked if the U.S. notice to withdraw from the ILO might be construed as a warning to other UN organizations, Meany said:

"I would consider it a warning to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization) and other UN organizations that have become politicized."

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop told the news conference the U.S. would seek to bring about internal reforms within the ILO over the next two years but added "if things deteriorate further, I don't see all that much purpose in staying with it."

"If they don't change," Meany added, "we're out." He noted too that he doubted Congress would vote for funds to keep the U.S. in the ILO unless there is a change.

Kissinger's letter to ILO Director General Blanchard was delivered in Geneva by U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland Francis Dale. The letter read, in part:

"The United States does not desire to leave the ILO. The United States does not expect to do so. But we do intend to make every possible effort to promote the conditions which will facilitate our continued participation. If this should prove impossible, we are in fact prepared to depart."

Kissinger noted that President Ford planned to create a Cabinet-level committee to consider how the U.S. might help the ILO return to its basic principles. Dunlop announced the panel would include the Secretary of Commerce, the director of the National Security Council, and the assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs, with Dunlop as chairman.

New Structure Approved by Telegraphers

Quebec — The Telegraph Workers' quadrennial convention here approved a major reorganization program under which 70 locals of the Western Union Division will become directly affiliated with the international union.

The measure approved by the 150 convention delegates is designed to consolidate equipment and work duplication. It calls for the Western Union Division to relinquish its charter and abolish its national office, with the international assuming its "assets, liabilities, authority, and responsibilities."

Per capita payments from the Western Union locals would flow directly to the international.

The delegates re-elected D. J. Beckstead as president and chose Jerry Grim to succeed T. T. Freeman, who retired as secretary-treasurer. As a result of the absorption of the Western Union locals, a new position of international vice president was created and R. C. Brockert was elected to the post.

Although the convention did not increase the per capita payment to the international, per capita to the union's divisions was boosted from 60 cents a month to $1.60.

The UTW is now made up of five major divisions — Associated Press, Radio Officers' Union, United Press, Canadian Press division and the Canadian Telecommunications Union — along with the 70 directly affiliated Western Union locals.

Meany Tells Congress:

Nation Can Handle Health Security Cost

(Continued from Page 1)

Without the cost controls and budgeting of Health Security, Woodcock warned, the nation's health bill would continue to outpace other rises in living costs without improvement of services. He cited an actuarial analysis indicating that when Health Security is fully in effect its cost would be about $11.6 billion less than the cost "of doing nothing."

Meany noted that he had testified for Health Security before the full Ways & Means Committee four years ago, and the legislation "is still at Square One."

Since then, he said, health expenditures have increased 50 percent but "the American people are not any healthier." And "the problems of access, cost, waste, duplication, poor quality —the undeniable health care crisis that exists in America—have become more critical."

The 13-member Subcommittee on Health, headed by Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), includes the principal House sponsor of the Health Security bill, James C. Corman (D-Calif.), and one of its co-sponsors, Charles A. Vanik (D-Ohio).

Pressing for action in this Congress, Meany noted that public opinion polls show "strong and growing support" for a comprehensive health care program. And he reminded the panel that many members of Congress had pledged support for national health insurance when they ran for office.

Meany outlined the "essential elements" of the labor-supported Health Security plan:

Comprehensive benefits. All needed services should be provided without deductibles or co-insurance, "which are barriers to preventive care, early diagnosis and treatment." Studies have shown that even a seemingly modest charge imposed on the patient keeps many people from seeing a doctor until an illness becomes acute and costly to treat. And, the AFL-CIO also noted, imposing a charge adds to administrative costs.

Universal coverage. Covering everyone, regardless of age, income or geographic location, under the same program would be another big factor in combining health protection with administrative savings.

Health care as a matter of right. Just as with public education, no one should have to go before a government agency and declare, "I am a pauper" before receiving help. With no income test or means test, there would be no need to waste money on elaborate policing to detect a handful of "chiselers" and the available money "would be used to purchase health care instead of red tape."

Cost control. The law of supply and demand doesn't work in the medical field, and areas with the highest ratio of physicians also often have the highest fees. The Health Security approach would be keyed to establishment of a national budget, allocated to health regions and in turn to health service areas.

Hospital budgets would be negotiated and physicians would have various options from group negotiations to payments based on the number of persons who elect their services.

Quality controls. A federal commission would have continuing responsibility for enforcing national standards for doctors and health-care institutions.

Reform of the delivery system. Health maintenance organizations would be encouraged, and the goal would be to replace "the profit-motive ethics of the marketplace" with "a primary commitment to improving the health of the American people."

Administrative costs. Without the waste of competing private insurance plans, determination of eligibility and adjudication of claims, administrative costs could be held to about 4 percent of outlays.

Financing. "Health security would be financed by a payroll tax matched by general revenues. Out-of-pocket expenditures by patients would be eliminated for physician and hospital services, and the flat premiums consumers pay under private health insurance would be abolished."

Consumer participation. For the first time, consumers of health services would be involved in decisions dealing with costs and services.

Meany concluded by telling the House panel that "Health Security makes economic, medical and humanitarial sense. It is a program whose time has come, and we urge speedy action on it."

FIRST CLASS of Navajo carpentry trainees to graduate from a program operated by the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute at Farmington, N.M., constructs a building form under the supervision of instructor Bernie Owens of the Carpenters. The HRDI also is training members of the Navajo nation as millwrights and operating engineers.

COPE-Endorsed Candidates Win Key State, Municipal Elections

COPE-endorsed candidates won two governorships in the 1975 elections and more than held their own in mayors' races across the country.

The governors were both Democrats, Julian Carroll in Kentucky and Cliff Finch in Mississippi, and their victories had more than usual significance for labor. Carroll overcame potential reaction to busing in the Louisville area and Finch aimed his campaign at jobs and economic issues, leaving behind the racial overtones.

Both were elected along with women lieutenant governors, each with COPE backing. They are Democrats Thelma Stovall in Kentucky and Evelyn Gandy in Mississippi.

In the mayors' races in the biggest cities, candidates endorsed by local COPE organizations won in Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia, and Salt Lake City and got into runoffs in San Francisco and Houston. The labor-backed candidates lost in Minneapolis and Indianapolis.

Both the Kentucky and Mississippi governors' races were to succeed Democrats, so the outcome and the earlier re-election of Democrat Edwin Edwards in Louisiana did not alter the nation's line-up of 36 Democratic governors, 13 Republicans and an independent in Maine. That line-up, achieved with a net gain of four Democrats in 1974, represents a complete turnabout in the 32-18 advantage the GOP had five years ago.

Carroll won his first full term after moving up from lieutenant governor when Wendell Ford ran successfully for the Senate in 1974. His GOP rival, Robert Gable, took a strong anti-busing stand and advertised the endorsements of a scattering of local union officers in Louisville.

Labor officials credited a concentrated COPE telephone canvas with clarifying that Carroll had the endorsement and helping him to a 350-vote edge in Jefferson County (Louisville), where Republicans have to run strong to do well state-wide.

Finch's unorthodox campaign in Mississippi featured handshaking tours and his working one day a week in various manual jobs. He disdained media campaigning and press conferences and pitched his campaign to jobs—including a pledge to make out-of-state companies pay the same wages in Mississippi as elsewhere.

He also departed from Mississippi patterns by openly seeking the COPE endorsement, going before the state convention to get it.

Busing was also an issue for one of the COPE-backed incumbent mayors who won, Kevin White in Boston.

Other incumbents who won with labor endorsement were Frank Rizzo in Philadelphia and William Schaeffer in Baltimore. Mayor Fred Hofheinz of Houston faces a runoff and incumbent Al Hofstede of Minneapolis was beaten by former Mayor Charles Stenvig, running as an independent.

Salt Lake City social services director Ted Wilson won the mayor's race with labor backing and COPE-endorsed State Sen. George Moscone faces a runoff in San Francisco after leading a field of 10. Former Democratic Gov. Robert Welch had labor's backing in his loss in Indianapolis to former congressman William Hudnut.

Women's rights suffered a setback when state equal rights questions were defeated in New York and New Jersey. Previously, both state legislatures had ratified the amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Backers of the labor-endorsed ERA had hoped victories on the ballots in New Jersey and New York would build momentum toward winning ratification next year. Only four more states are needed for the necessary 38, but 1976 is the last year in the time allowed for ratification.

No-Fault Auto Insurance Endorsed by House Unit

A no-fault auto insurance bill that carried a strong AFL-CIO endorsement won a 5-4 vote of support from a House Commerce subcommittee and now awaits action by the full committee.

The start of House action is important because last year a Senate-passed no-fault bill died with adjournment of the 93rd Congress without action by the House.

Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin (D-Calif.), chairman of the Consumer Protection subcommittee, sponsored the bill which would establish federal minimum standards for state no-fault auto insurance laws. A stricter federal plan would be imposed if states failed to meet the standards within three years.

The no-fault concept seeks to avoid costly litigation that jacks up auto insurance premiums and usually results in long delays before accident victims can be compensated for their expenses and losses. Vehicle owners would be required to carry insurance that would reimburse accident victims for medical and rehabilitation expenses, lost wages and other costs stemming from the accident — regardless of the party at fault. Civil damage suits would be limited to cases where the victim died, was permanently and seriously injured or disfigured, or was disabled more than 90 days.

A powerful lobby of trial lawyers who handle most of the litigation under the present system has worked to defeat or greatly water down no-fault legislation in Congress and in the state legislatures.

In a letter sent to all subcommittee members before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller termed national no-fault insurance standards a "vital reform" in an area in which "the states have clearly abdicated responsibility."

Unless Congress acts, he suggested, the "patchwork" of 50 differing state laws would be comparable to the situation which has developed in workers' compensation laws where the need for federal standards is finally being recognized.

A companion bill was approved by the full Senate Commerce Committee last summer, but has not yet been scheduled for floor action.

While most of the provisions of the two bills are the same, the House version has some additional labor-urged safeguards, including restrictions on cancellation and non-renewal of auto insurance.

Open-Shop Contractors Cited for 'Laugh of Year'

A letter sent by an open-shop employer's association to building trades unions could be "the laugh of the year" if it weren't so "hypocritical and self-serving," President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. suggested.

Georgine referred to a letter the president of the open-shop Associated Builders & Contractors sent to 12,000 building trades local unions. It contended that enactment of the construction site picketing bill—a major union goal for more than 20 years—would somehow be harmful to union members.

"The ABC telling building trades union members what is good for them is like the fox telling the farmer how best to lock his chicken coop," Georgine said.

11-8-75

Anti-Zionism Vote Shatters UN Image

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New Rise in Jobless Rate Refutes Recovery Claims

Meany Rips Arab-Soviet 'Mockery'

A "clearly anti-Semitic vote" by the UN General Assembly "has shattered the moral authority of the United Nations and raised clear doubts as to the value of its continued existence," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

Meany and other American leaders condemned in the strongest terms the General Assembly resolution that sought to brand Zionism — the ideal of a Jewish homeland in Israel — as a form of racism to be fought by the world community.

The Arab-sponsored, Soviet-backed resolution was "reminiscent of the days of Hitler and appeasement," Meany said. It "makes a mockery" of the UN's "supposed fight against racism."

Calling on Congress to "immediately re-evaluate continued United States participation in the UN," Meany asked:

"How long can the American taxpayer be expected to bear a disproportionate share of the UN's bills when it produces this kind of evil?"

Meany also asked that Congress take a hard look at continued economic and military support for nations that in the General Assembly "voted for this abomination."

When they seek aid, Meany said, many of these countries profess to subscribe to "America's goals of peace and freedom." But then "they voted with the despots."

On this "clear test of friendship," Meany said, "those who failed the test deserve no help from this country."

Seldom, in time of peace, has American opinion been so united. The day after the UN vote, both the House and Senate unanimously condemned the action and President Ford said the resolution "weakened" the United Nations and damaged its credibility.

A protest rally called by Jewish groups drew a vast throng of more than 100,000 to New York's garment center—filling every street and alley as far as the eye could see.

Religious leaders of all major faiths spoke out in protest, as did black civil rights organizations. Clarence Mitchell, Jr., long-time Washington representative of the NAACP, spoke out vigorously against the resolution as a member of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations. And the executive committee of the Leadership Con-

(Continued on Page 2)

MASSIVE RALLY in New York's garment center protested the anti-Semitic resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly branding Zionism as racist. An estimated 100,000 persons including thousands of trade unionists turned out for the demonstration, one of the biggest in the city's history.

Recession, Inflation Continue Unabated

By James M. Shevis

New government reports showing increases in both wholesale prices and unemployment "prove the Ford Administration statements that the economy is now out of danger are not based on fact," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

"No one can pretend that the recession is over or that inflation is contained," Meany said as the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported its wholesale price index shot up 1.8 percent in October—the biggest rise in a year—while the nation's jobless rate jumped three-tenths of 1 percent to 8.6 percent over the same period.

"Both sets of statistics prove that the twin evils of recession and inflation are still plaguing America," Meany noted, as he reiterated the federation's call for job-creating programs to end mass unemployment and restore the nation's economic health.

The rise in unemployment last month reversed a four-month downward trend in the jobless rate and returned the number of unemployed once again above the eight-million mark. BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin, appearing before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, acknowledged that the October jobless rate was "very high by historical standards."

The increase in unemployment last month was fairly widespread, with rises in many labor-force categories. The jobless rate for adult white women, for example, shot up by six-tenths of 1 percent over the month to 7.4 percent.

There were also increases in the jobless rates for teenagers, household heads and full-time workers.

(Continued on Page 8)

Site Picket Bill Clears First Test

By David L. Perlman

The Senate squelched a filibuster and agreed to take up the labor-supported construction site picketing bill.

With 60 votes required to limit debate, the Senate leadership mustered a convincing 66-30 majority to overcome the first stage of the filibuster—an attempt to block action on the routine motion to bring the bill to the floor for debate.

Another filibuster-breaking cloture vote is expected to allow the Senate to vote on the merits of the measure—the right of a union to picket a construction site even though its dispute is only with one of the subcontractors working on the job.

The legislation, a major goal of the AFL-CIO and its Building & Construction Trades Dept., is needed to remedy a 1951 Supreme Court decision that interpreted such pick-

(Continued on Page 8)

Passed by House:

Veto Threat Looms Over Consumer Bill

The House rejected a crippling anti-labor amendment and voted to establish an independent agency that would speak up for consumer interests within government and before the courts.

The legislation, similar to a bill the Senate passed last May, was strongly backed by both the trade union and consumer movements. But elation over its passage was tempered by a presidential veto threat that left only a faint hope that the bill can become law in this Congress.

Even though consumer supporters agreed to an assortment of amendments designed to increase votes for the measure, it passed by only a 208-199 margin—far short of the two-thirds that would be needed to override a veto. **(Rollcall on Page 6)**

The bill's chief opponent in the House debate, Rep. John N. Erlenborn (R-Ill.), said President Ford "has clearly indicated that he will veto this bill" and his "resolve" had not been weakened by the amendments adopted.

Foes of the consumer agency sought at one stage to kill the bill with an amendment that would have caused labor to withdraw its support. They sought to eliminate a section of the bill that made it clear that the consumer agency wouldn't be getting involved in labor disputes and proceedings of the National Labor Relations Board and the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Rep. Jack Brooks (D-Tex.) and

(Continued on Page 2)

Fair Farm Elections Tied to Enforcement

A special subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council branded enforcement of the new California Agricultural Labor Relations Act "generally slack and, in several instances, incompetent," and made 20 specific recommendations to improve enforcement of the law.

The subcommittee's report, released by AFL-CIO President George Meany, also urged the labor movement to provide increased legal, negotiating and financial assistance to the United Farm Workers. The report stated:

"The subcommittee is convinced that if the Agricultural Labor Relations Act is enforced fairly and aggressively and if the labor movement provides the assistance we have recommended to the United Farm Workers of America, then the ultimate victory for the UFW and for the workers themselves will be much closer at hand.

"This long struggle has reached a crucial stage," the subcommittee said. "Now is the time for all of us to redouble our efforts to assure victory to the UFW."

(Continued on Page 3)

More Layoffs, Cutbacks Add to New York Crisis

Bone-deep cutbacks in essential services, further layoffs of city workers, and a construction freeze throwing thousands of private sector workers out of jobs faced New York City as it struggled to avoid complete financial collapse.

Congress remained divided on what, if anything, should be done to avert bankruptcy by the nation's largest city — and a ripple effect that already was threatening to push New York state into insolvency.

Labor's position, expressed in Washington by AFL-CIO President George Meany and by union witnesses at a day of public hearings in New York City by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, was that a federal loan guarantee program is essential to give the city the financial breathing spell it needs.

Meany said New York deserves "the same financial consideration" that was given to the Lockheed Aircraft Corp. to enable that private firm to avoid bankruptcy — a loan guarantee "without any strings attached."

The type of legislation labor can't support, Meany stressed, involves penalizing city workers by unilaterally destroying collective bargaining agreements and slashing

(Continued on Page 8)

BOTH LABOR AND MANAGEMENT gave strong endorsements to the government's formal notice of its intention to withdraw from the International Labor Organization. AFL-CIO President George Meany charged the organization "has become a political sounding board to carry out propaganda." Joining him at a Labor Dept. news conference were Charles H. Smith, Jr., right, the U.S. employer delegate to the United Nations agency, and Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop.

Meany Calls UN Vote 'Clearly Anti-Semitic'

(Continued from Page 1)

ference on Civil Rights termed the anti-Zionist resolution "an appalling act" that hurts the real battle against racism.

"We recognize Zionism, itself, as part of the long fight against racism," the civil rights groups said. "For more than a century it has been a movement of the Jewish people to save themselves from discrimination by establishing, through peaceful means, a nation in the Middle East ready to live at peace with its neighbors."

At the UN General Assembly, Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan used some of the strongest language ever heard from a U.S. representative to declare that the United States "will never acquiesce in this infamous act."

The 72-35 vote, with 32 nations abstaining, loosed on the world "a great evil," he said. "The abomination of anti-Semitism has been given the appearance of international sanction."

Delegates from the Arab and Communist countries, and from most of the so-called Third World nations, form what has become an automatic majority in the 143-nation assembly. The vote, Meany said in his statement, reflected the pressures from "the military might of the Soviet Union and the economic strength of the Arab oil blackmailers."

Israel's ambassador to the UN, Chaim Herzog, said bitterly, that the United Nations "is on its way to becoming the world center of anti-Semitism."

He told the delegates that "Zionism is to the Jewish people what the liberation movements of Africa and Asia have been to their own people."

TWUA Mourns 2 Retired Leaders

Two former officials of the Textile Workers Union of America, John Chupka and Ralph J. Cline, died within hours of each other Nov. 4 and 5.

Chupka, 70, secretary-treasurer of the TWUA from 1953 until his retirement in 1968, died after a brief illness at his home in East Douglas, Mass.

Chupka had been active as a union organizer for a number of years before joining the CIO Textile Workers Organizing Committee in 1937. He later held a number of key posts with the TWUA, in addition to serving on the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. board and COPE operating committee.

Cline, 62, retired director of the TWUA synthetic and film division, died at his home in Fairfax, Va. Cline also had been on the CIO organizing staff and later was a TWUA joint board manager.

Meany Scheduled For TV Interview

AFL-CIO President George Meany will be the guest on ABC-TV's "Issues and Answers" program Sunday, Nov. 16.

The program will be broadcast live at 1:30 p.m. (EST), but may be shown at a later time on some stations. ABC affiliates should be checked for local broadcast times.

Public Sector Goals Pressed By Donahue

Overland Park, Kan. — Public employes all over the country are being offered up for sacrifice on the alter of the budget deficit, Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to the AFL-CIO president, told the Kansas AFL-CIO convention here.

Urging the 269 delegates to be conscious of the need for solidarity with public employes, Donahue declared that "the enemies of collective bargaining are doing all they can to convince the American people that public employes who stand up for their rights are the cause of all the government economic troubles and not the victims."

The convention described the state law governing public employe labor relations as an inadequate "meet-and-confer" statute and called for full collective bargaining rights for state and local government workers and "organizational security" for their unions.

The delegates approved an increase in per capita tax payments to the State AFL-CIO from 27 cents to 30 cents per month to finance a health and welfare program and a pension plan for headquarters staff, and elected 16 members of the executive board. The executive officers — President Carl L. Courter, Vice President H. J. Yount and Sec.-Treas. Ralph McGee — have two years remaining in their four-year terms.

Other major speakers included Harold J. Buoy, president of the Boilermakers; Frank Emig, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services; Earl McDavid, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.; Sen. James B. Pearson (R-Kan.); Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.); and Rep. Martha Keys (D-Kan.).

UN Vote on Zionism

Following is the roll call on the anti-Zionism resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly.

FOR—72: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, East Germany, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome-Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Soviet Union, United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, North Yemen, South Yemen, Yugoslavia.

AGAINST—35: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, West Germany, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Swaziland, Sweden, Britain, United States, Uruguay.

ABSTAIN—32: Argentina, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burma, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Zaire, Zambia.

NOT VOTING—3: Rumania, South Africa and Spain.

Clerks Cite Job Loss:

Coded Pricing Seen Blow to Customers

Federal legislation to require price-marking of consumer goods was urged by the Retail Clerks at Senate hearings.

Its aim is to head off an attempt, initiated in the grocery industry, to abandon marking prices on products in favor of an electronic code that can be deciphered only by a checkout counter scanning device.

Retail Clerks President James T. Housewright said consumers would be the losers if this were done.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller agreed. In a letter to Sen. Frank E. Moss (D-Utah), whose Commerce subcommittee is considering the legislation, Biemiller said price marking is essential for buyers to make "an educated choice" among competing products or brands.

He said substitution of a coding device would be "a step backward." Biemiller noted that the recent AFL-CIO convention opposed eliminating price markings.

Housewright told the panel that the RCIA "of course" is concerned about loss of jobs in supermarkets. He noted that some 400,000 of the union's 700,000 members work in the retail food industry.

But on this issue, he stressed, the fight is over "a basic consumer right—the right to know and be able to verify the price of our purchase."

In fact, Housewright told the subcommittee, it was consumer representatives who first sounded the warning of the dangers of removing prices from food and other products.

RCIA members, the clerks in the stores, are aware of "the intense pressures on individual store managers to produce profits," Housewright said. Under such pressure, he warned, store managers would be strongly tempted "to program increased prices into a computer" when sales are down in their stores.

Also, he added, "our people personally know that shelf prices drift around in their slots and that they are frequently not updated to reflect changed prices, sometimes deliberately."

He stressed that achieving the technical capability of eliminating price marking does not make it either "prudent or proper" to do so.

Housewright noted that the "hard sell" for conversion to electronic coding and elimination of price marking has come from "the billion dollar computer industry" which markets the equipment. One result, he suggested, might be a growing number of supermarket bankruptcies caused by large investments in expensive equipment that at best would save only pennies.

The costly new systems would, under proper conditions, provide greater accuracy, Housewright agreed. But he warned that they introduce additional risks. Thus, "while under-ring and over-ring errors will be virtually eliminated, computer programming errors will not."

Consumer Bill Passes House But Faces Veto

(Continued from Page 1)

other sponsors of the bill made clear the mischievous nature of the amendment and it was beaten, 233-175.

The closer vote on passage of the bill reflected the desertion of more Democrats than usually side with Republicans on liberal versus conservative issues.

Even though the strong lobbying against the bill has come from business organizations, the Administration's announced reason for opposition has been that a new agency would just add unnecessarily to an already swollen federal bureaucracy.

Enough House members thought their constituents were impressed by that argument so that the vote for passage was substantially less than the 293-94 margin of approval by the 93rd Congress in 1974. That year, the bill was killed by a Senate filibuster.

In this Congress, the Senate broke a filibuster in May and passed the bill, 61-28, a bigger margin than the two-thirds that would be needed to override a veto.

A House-Senate conference is expected to reach agreement on meshing the two bills, which would provide another test of support on final passage votes in the House and Senate.

Kathleen Nolan Elected Head of Screen Actors

Hollywood, Calif. — The Screen Actors Guild elected Kathleen Nolan president in a national referendum. She is the first woman to head the Guild in its 42-year history.

Nolan, first vice president for the past two years, was elected to a two-year term over four other candidates to succeed Dennis Weaver, who did not seek re-election. Weaver was elected to the Guild's board of directors for a one-year term.

The membership also elected five new vice presidents, 18 board members including Weaver, and re-elected Recording Sec. Elizabeth Allen and Treas. Gilbert Perkins.

Other top officers are First Vice President Bert Freed, Second Vice President Jessica Walter, Third Vice President Bob Kaliban, Fourth Vice President Kathleen Freeman and Fifth Vice President Eugene Francis.

Nolan, 42, has been in the performing arts all her life, beginning her career as a tot on a Mississippi River showboat. She performed in tent shows before moving to Broadway and Hollywood productions, including a major supporting role in the long-running television series, The Real McCoys. She also holds membership in Actors' Equity and the Television & Radio Artists.

She has been on the Guild's board for the past 12 years and served two terms as a vice president before her election as the first vice president two years ago. As a representative of the Guild, she also has been active in the Associated Actors & Artistes.

AFL-CIO Panel Reports:

California Farm Labor Act Hurt by Lax Enforcement

(Continued from Page 1)

In receiving the report from AFL-CIO Vice Presidents Paul Hall, Joseph Keenan and Paul Jennings, Meany said it indicated that the UFW is "doing an outstanding job in the face of tremendous adversity." He called on federation affiliates to implement the recommendations of the subcommittee.

Meany sent copies of the report to members of the federation's Executive Council, which had appointed the subcommittee on Oct. 1, to UFW President Cesar Chavez and John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO.

In a letter to Chavez, Meany called the report's conclusions "both distressing and heartening. I am distressed at the inadequate, at times incompetent, enforcement of the law. At the same time, the victories scored by the UFW in the face of tremendous adversity are very encouraging.

"As the elections swing into the vital Imperial Valley, please assure the valiant members of the United Farm Workers of the continued support and assistance of the AFL-CIO," Meany wrote.

As of Nov. 6, the ALRB had declared the UFW the victor in 154 elections giving it representation rights for 14,859 workers, compared with 95 for the Teamsters covering 10,219 workers. Another 12 elections went "no union," and the results of 44 elections are still pending.

The federation's organizing field staff also noted that 5,145 workers in 48 elections have voted to switch from the Teamsters to the UFW. There have been no switches from the UFW to the IBT.

Meany revealed that the federation's general counsel, J. Albert Woll, and its Dept. of Organization & Field Services were carrying out the specific recommendations of the Executive Council subcommittee.

Highlights of the conclusions reached by the subcommittee include:

- "There has been and is continuing a pattern of intimidation of workers that is so severe as to threaten the free atmosphere that must exist for elections."
- "Potential and actual physical violence on the part of the Teamsters, the growers and vigilantes permeates the atmosphere and makes free elections difficult or impossible."
- "While the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act is a good law, the enforcement of the law has been generally slack and, in several instances, incompetent. . . . The primary cause of an absence of aggressive enforcement is a lack of leadership on the part of the general counsel."
- "Naivete and an over-reliance on bureaucratic procedures initially swamped the board when the law went into effect. . . . To our amazement, we found that the general counsel was totally unprepared for the mountain of unfair labor practice charges and the tough, advocacy positions of all parties."
- "The committee was impressed and encouraged by the showing the UFW has made in the elections. . . . We noted an increased knowledge and use of basic organizing techniques and a more highly developed trade union sophistication."
- "Unlike the Teamsters, the UFW does not need any special collusive deals with the growers or anyone else, because the UFW has the support of the workers."
- "The effort the Teamsters made to divide the loyalties of AFL-CIO union members in California has been a failure. The Teamsters attempted to cajole, to bluff and to bluster, (seeking) at best support and at worst neutrality from AFL-CIO unions. They were not successful."

In its recommendations to Gov. Brown, the ALRB and the general counsel, the subcommittee urged intervention of board representatives where intimidation of workers is anticipated and immediate on-site investigations of unfair labor practice reports involving physical assaults or discharges.

Better use of the ALRB staff and more bilingual representatives to inform workers of all legal rights are vitally needed, the subcommittee stressed.

It also urged the board to make criminal penalties apply to false documentation of election petitions and false voter eligibility lists.

Investigators should be assigned to areas where there are large concentrations of economic strikers, the subcommittee said, rather than waiting for these strikers to come to hearing officers.

Increased board presence is also needed "in the fields before, during and after elections to insure fairness to all parties," the recommendations said.

The subcommittee urged that the UFW concentrate organizing efforts in the Imperial Valley and step up its staff training program in organizing techniques, labor board procedures and communications.

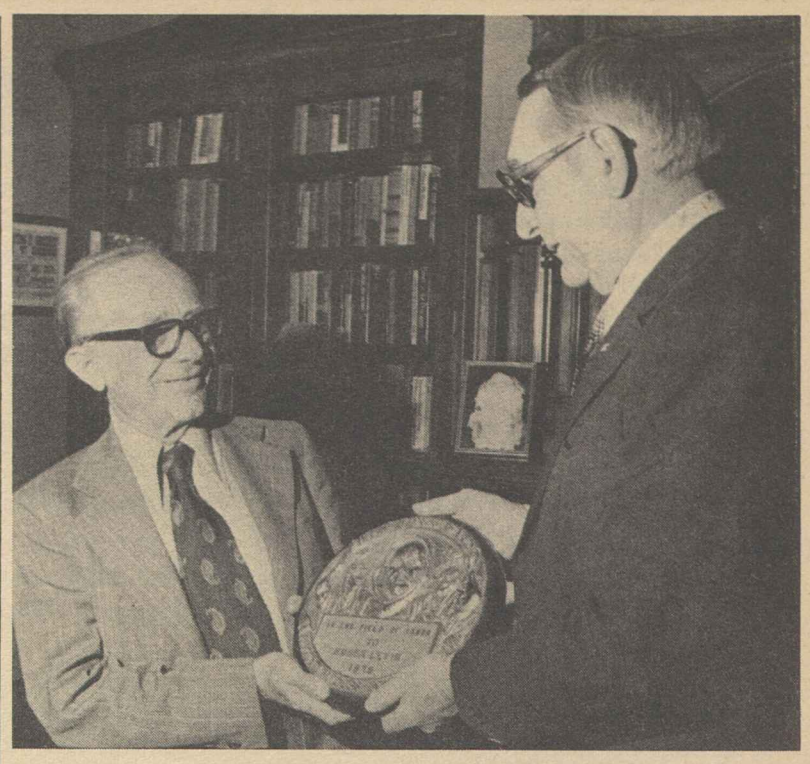
The UFW should increase and improve documentation of violations of the law, board regulations and inadequacies of board personnel to assist it lawyers in legal cases, the report recommended.

It also called for the UFW to enlist the aid of the California AFL-CIO in communications with the governor's office and the labor board while expanding communications with other labor groups throughout the state.

The UFW should make strong efforts to negotiate contracts immediately where elections are certified, the subcommittee recommended.

For the AFL-CIO and its affiliates, the subcommittee called for increased promotion of the UFW union label on lettuce, table grapes and other produce. It also urged legal and technical assistance from union lawyers and skilled negotiators.

Noting that the election campaigns have drained the UFW's financial resources, the subcommittee said contributions from affiliates are crucial.



EUGENE V. DEBS AWARD is presented to Ruben Levin, editor of Labor newspaper, by President Al H. Chesser of the United Transportation Union. The presentation was made at Debs's restored home in Terre Haute, Ind. Chesser cited the appropriateness of the award to Levin, whose paper is published by a group of railroad unions. Debs also was editor of a rail labor journal.

Debs Award Presented To Editor Ruben Levin

Terre Haute, Ind.—Ruben Levin, editor and manager of Labor newspaper, was honored here for helping to shape "a more equitable, humanitarian world" in the tradition of the late Eugene V. Debs.

Levin received the 1975 Eugene V. Debs award at a dinner attended by more than 300 union leaders, government officials and noted liberals. The occasion was connected with annual memorial observances for Debs, pioneer union official and socialist, whose lifelong home here has been restored and opened to the public by the Eugene V. Debs Foundation.

In making the presentation on behalf of the foundation, President Al H. Chesser of the United Transportation Union said that in honoring Levin "we honor at the same time the entire American labor press." The award citation observed:

"Nothing could be more appropriate than the election of Ruben Levin as recipient of the 1975 Eugene V. Debs award. Like Gene Debs, Ruben Levin is the editor of a railroad brotherhood newspaper.

"Like Gene Debs, Ruben Levin is first and foremost a humanitarian, a believer in the brotherhood of man."

Levin, whose newspaper career has spanned more than half a century, is the first labor press recipient of the Debs award. Previous recipients have been union and liberal leaders.

The tribute to Levin said he has provided "a brilliant example for the American labor press . . . in the tradition of Eugene V. Debs."

In his response, Levin appealed for broad, vigorous support for a move under way in Congress to restore Debs's citizenship, taken away when he was convicted and imprisoned for opposing America's entry into World War I. At its recent convention in San Francisco, the AFL-CIO adopted a resolution in support of the move.

Chesser, the keynote speaker, said he thought Debs's dream of one big union on the nation's railroads eventually would come true.

"This will not be a case of takeover, but a case of survival," Chesser said.

Levin, who is 72 years old, has been editor of Labor for the past 25 years. The newspaper is owned by 14 national unions in the railroad, airline and related transport fields.

Labor Pushes Broadening of GI Benefits

Too many veterans are still being priced out of educational and training opportunities under the GI Bill, the AFL-CIO said in letters to the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller termed underutilization of educational benefits "a significant contributing factor" to the high unemployment rate among Vietnam veterans, particularly those of college age.

He sent to the House and Senate committees the comprehensive resolution on veterans affairs adopted by the recent AFL-CIO convention.

Among its recommendations, he noted, were measures that would bring the post-Vietnam GI Bill closer to the educational benefits provided World War II veterans. Among these would be the option to compensate for high tuition costs by allowing veterans to accelerate payment of basic benefits—a means of obtaining higher payments over a shorter period of time that the convention noted would be especially useful "for those in less than four-year institutions, such as vocational training, or married veterans seeking to complete previously interrupted courses of study."

The convention resolution also urged Congress to consider providing some form of educational benefits for persons who serve in the present volunteer, peacetime armed forces—as a program that would serve a useful national purpose. The House earlier this year voted to end the GI assistance program for future veterans, but the Senate has not yet acted on the issue.

Railway Clerks' Accords Expand Job Options for Minorities, Women

Chicago—The Railway & Airline Clerks announced the signing of two agreements with the nation's major railroads that provide new opportunities for minority and women workers to transfer to other jobs.

BRAC said the pacts represent the first national agreements reached by a railroad union to provide for affirmative action covering equal opportunity conditions.

At the same time BRAC President C. L. Dennis declared in a letter to Chairman William H. Dempsey, Jr. of the National Railway Labor Conference that "our organization is not satisfied with the position taken by you and your committee relative to making necessary changes in the seniority system of the railroad industry."

Dennis said the union should not be held responsible for the hiring or promotion practices of the railways, either before or after passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. He pointed out that the union has made known to employers at various times during the past year its desire "to change our seniority system."

"We have reluctantly signed the seniority modification agreements presented to us by you and your committee, solely to afford to our members and other individuals affected by carriers' hiring and promotional practices an opportunity to secure the corrective measures the carrier is now willing to institute," Dennis said. He indicated that BRAC will seek appropriate remedial proposals for additional broadscale changes in the seniority system.

One of the two closely related agreements signed by BRAC and the carriers covers blacks, Spanish-surnamed individuals, American Indians and Orientals who have been continuously employed by the carriers since prior to Aug. 31, 1971, and who initially established seniority by working in any one of 30 named classifications. The other agreement covers women in a continuously employed relationship over the same span.

The agreements permit any employe covered by them to apply to fill a vacancy for which the employe is qualified and to use his or her earliest company seniority date in bidding to fill job vacancies under collective bargaining agreements.

The vacancy, according to the agreement, must be within 30 highway miles of the applicant's present job site or within the same or an overlapping seniority district of the craft or classification of the employe's old job.

The pacts provide that an employe shall retain seniority rights in the old job for a period of 90 days after transfer or after required probationary or training periods, so that the employe may return to the prior job in that time.

The carriers must notify each eligible employe of the right to transfer under the agreement. The employe has 180 days within which to notify the carrier of a desire to transfer.

The agreement takes effect in January 1976.

A Memorial to Hitler

THE VOTE IN the United Nations General Assembly adopting the "Resolution on Zionism and Racism" was a cowardly, reprehensible act, reminiscent of the days of Hitler and appeasement.

The military might of the Soviet Union and the economic strength of the Arab oil blackmailers combined to produce a monstrous, clearly anti-Semitic vote which makes a mockery of detente and the UN's supposed fight against racism.

This action has shattered the moral authority of the United Nations and raised clear doubts as to the value of its continued existence.

The U.S. Congress must immediately re-evaluate continued United States participation in the UN. How long can the American taxpayer be expected to bear a disproportionate share of the UN's bills when it produces this kind of evil?

The Congress must also re-evaluate, on an individual basis, continued economic and military support for those nations who voted for this abomination.

Many of those pretend friendship with the United States and claim to share America's goals of peace and freedom when they seek aid. But on Monday, through racism or fear they voted with the despots to besmirch the name and the character of the United Nations.

The Congress must realize that this was a clear test of friendship and that all those who failed the test deserve no help from this country.

—Statement by AFL-CIO President George Meany, Nov. 12, 1975.

The ILO Must Change

THE ILO WAS SET UP to improve labor standards, improve working conditions, and promote human rights. Now, the promotion of human rights has always been recognized as the promotion of the right of freedom of association—in other words, the right to have a free trade union.

For many years the ILO followed that principle quite rigidly until the Soviet Union and these blocs of other nations came in some years back, and the whole character of the ILO was changed. It became a political sounding board to carry out propaganda for these nations who are really not eligible to belong to the ILO. . . .

What I think the Kissinger letter says quite plainly is that there's got to be a change in the ILO. There's got to be equal treatment there. There can't be a double standard. They've got to at least make the effort . . . to see that workers are not denied their rights, that there is freedom of association. . . .

We do intend to make every possible effort to promote the kind of conditions which will facilitate our continued participation. If this should prove impossible, we are in fact prepared to depart.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany at a news conference, Nov. 6, on the government's formal notice of intent to withdraw from the International Labor Organization.

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'It's Time to Withdraw!'

A Word Edgewise:

Arab States Provide Crumbs In Aid to Palestinian Refugees

By John P. Roche

WHEN IN 1973 THE ARAB OIL embargo was clamped on, it created a near panic in western Europe and a full-fledged one in Japan However, the oil-producing states were good enough to lift it at an astronomical level of price increases. This made it possible for the advanced industrialized states to resume their consumption, but it was a devastating blow to the economies of the less-developed nations. The latter were reassured by vague promises that the Third World would be given a special break. With characteristic pessimism, I noted here at the time that they should not stand on one foot waiting for Santa Claus.

Alas for the people of these poor nations, my hunch was correct. The World Bank indicates that the price increase has added $8.5 billion to the liability side of the ledger for the emerging nations and kicked their projected economic growth rate from 4.5 percent annually (1973) to 1 percent in 1975. It has been the hope of Arab alms that led to the massive anti-Israeli votes in every available form from the United Nations down. But a number of African states finally seem to realize they have been played for suckers, which could lead to a somewhat different voting alignment in the future.

Well, the Arab oil cartel's 1975 take of $110 billion did not go to charity. Where did it go? Into arms purchases, domestic development and foreign investment. Not in Uganda, of course, but in the United States, Britain and the other "good risk" nations. About $4 billion came to the United States in the first six months of 1975 from the Persian Gulf states for arms, and next year we plan to sell $3.7 billion in advanced military hardware to Kuwait alone.

Official estimates for 1974 indicate that OPEC nations invested $11 billion in the United States. Needless to say, these investments are managed with great care; $6 billion went, presumably as a token of esteem for the stability of our regime, into government securities and another $4 billion into savings accounts and bills of credit.

Now let me make it clear that I do not expect Arab capitalists to be any more benevolent than their western counterparts. What surprises me is that others—particularly the less-developed nations who meretriciously joined the anti-Israel frenzy—assumed that these burnoosed devotees of Adam Smith would be the poor world's almoners. The Africans in particular might have gotten wisdom from a reading of their fellow African St. Augustine's analysis of human character.

BUT THERE IS ONE AREA in which it seems to me the Arabs have demonstrated more than usual capitalist malevolence, namely, in their contributions to the United Nations Relief & Works Agency (UNRWA) which is responsible for handling the problems of Palestinian refugees. Yasir Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Front received a roaring Arab welcome when he crashed the United Nations, but his constituents in the various UNRWA settlements have received only crumbs from their brothers. Israel, for example, contributed more ($1,138,000) than every Arab state except Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait—while shooting its $3 billion for American arms purchases—came across with $400,000 for UNRWA. The brothers-in-arms of the "Palestinian people"—Egypt and Syria—came up with a combined $117,000. The Persian Gulf states, also busy buying expensive military stuff, were a bit more generous: $360,000 was pledged by the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar. Saudi Arabia, which has raised the price of oil from $1 per barrel in 1970 to $12 in 1975, was the most generous. It promised the magnificent sum of $11.2 million. The United States, which has been paying the $12 per barrel has made a $42 million commitment; militant Libya, $600,000.

The figures may get boring, but to wind it up what you have is a situation where the rich Arab states have flatly refused to put their money where their mouth is, once again demonstrating that the poor Palestinian refugees are pawns in the game, meriting only crocodile tears.

Finally, comrades, it goes without saying that the Soviet Union, that great defender of the oppressed everywhere, has not promised a ruble. Without intending to sound mean, before I'll listen to another heartbreaking plea on behalf of the Palestinians, a lot of Arab players have got to fork up the ante. They have to earn the right to give us instructions in morality.

Drive for Quality Education:

Labor's Stand on Busing Hailed As Responsible, Courageous

By Bayard Rustin

BUSING, perhaps the toughest and most controversial issue in recent years, presents a dilemma for politicians and public officials alike. While white acceptance of integrated schools has continued to rise until even a majority of white parents in the South approve, there is widespread rejection of "forced busing" for integration.

In such cities as Boston and Louisville, resistance to busing has reached such proportions as to disrupt education and spark violent street brawls. An overwhelming majority of Americans support the constitutional and moral mandate to end segregation, yet the very instrument that is often required to integrate schools is resisted.

Regrettably, life is more complex than to permit us to conclude that every issue that is colored by racial tensions can be meaningfully discussed in black/white polarities. There have been unfair court decisions and even the most perfect busing program will cause inconveniences.

Moreover, much of the opposition to busing has been motivated not by racism, but by the legitimate concerns of parents for the quality of their children's education. But the great majority of court-ordered busing has been done with the firm intention of improving the education of all children.

How politicians and others have responded to the busing issue reveals a great deal. Some are quite simply running from the issue. Others oppose busing for legitimate reasons and are diligently seeking alternatives that would provide for both integration and quality education. Under the slogan of quality education, still others seek an end to the process of integration. Finally, there are those desperate extremists who exploit resentments to fan the flames of racial bigotry and hatred.

The American labor movement has been consistently vilified as racist. George Meany, the president of the AFL-CIO and the symbol of the labor movement, has been attacked in similar terms or, by his more charitable critics, as less than enthusiastic in the pursuit of racial equality. Yet Meany and the AFL-CIO have held firm in their support of quality integrated education, including the use of busing when ordered by the courts.

On Oct. 25, Meany released letters to the Kentucky AFL-CIO and the Louisville Central Labor Council declaring that it was against AFL-CIO policy for the Kentucky State AFL-CIO or any local central body to lend any aid or support to those who seek to ignore or pervert the AFL-CIO policy of support for busing when it would improve the educational opportunities of children.

SUPPORT OF BUSING is not an easy decision for the AFL-CIO to take. For this issue vitally concerns many of its members. A movement less committed to racial equality could have taken a more ambiguous position. A man less principled than Meany could easily have been content to rest on the pro-busing resolution adopted at the recent AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco, while giving tacit approval to the anti-busing demonstrations.

The AFL-CIO's support of busing has not only been courageous, it has been responsible. In its support for both quality education and integrated education, the AFL-CIO has opposed anti-busing constitutional amendments, fought for massive investments of federal funds to improve substandard schools, and supported legislation to achieve open housing as the most effective way to achieve integrated education.

Even while recognizing the difficulties that busing has caused in Louisville, the AFL-CIO has insisted that "it is the responsibility of the labor movement to make the busing system work as it was intended to work: for the benefit of children who need and deserve the highest quality education available, regardless of their race or color."

The AFL-CIO and George Meany deserve the gratitude and admiration of black Americans and all others committed to racial justice and improved education for their intelligent and principled support of quality integrated education. As the labor movement recognizes, the nation—and most importantly our children—cannot afford for quality education to become a code word for segregated schools.

For Younger Families:

Delays Threaten to Raise Cost Of Solving Housing Problems

FAILURE TO RESOLVE the nation's housing crunch could spell worse problems demanding even costlier solutions 30 years from now, the labor movement's top housing expert, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter, warned.

Young families need homes and want to buy them, but are blocked out of the market by historically high interest rates and escalating utility costs stemming from the energy crisis, Schechter stressed. The long-range threat, he said, is that younger families will reach retirement age and reduced income without the financial advantages that retired homeowners now have.

"The working family that is able to acquire ownership of a home 25 or 30 years before retirement is in a much better position, economically, and does not need assistance for housing when they are older," Schechter declared.

He said that was borne out by the recently completed AFL-CIO housing survey among its membership, which showed elderly-renter households spending 28 percent of their total income for housing, while those who own a home "free and clear"—85 percent of those age 65 or over surveyed—have a housing outlay of only 9 percent of total income.

Long-range fiscal responsibility would be better served by a fuller and more effective commitment to home ownership by young and growing families, and by heading off the bigger and harder-to-solve problem that is bound to result three decades or so down the road, Schechter asserted on Labor News Conference.

Schechter renewed the call for allocation of credit into housing and other high-priority public needs, and away from recreational land development, over-production of luxury items and other low-priority uses. He said that those looking for money for the low-priority luxury items "don't mind paying higher interest rates" and drain off a large part of available credit, creating a credit crunch for housing, public improvements and other "socially needed purposes."

Congress gave the President the authority to direct the Federal Reserve Board to implement more selective regulation of credit, and he should use that authority now, as Congress intended, Schechter urged.

He was questioned on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program by Sara Fritz of United Press International and Kenneth Harney of the Housing & Development Report, a publication of the Bureau of National Affairs.

Full Measure of Quality!

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS whether a news story that 100,000 American workers die each year from occupational illnesses is an accurate figure. No one, including the federal government, is sure whether the death figure should be 100,000 or 50,000 or 150,000.

The lack of an accurate national accounting of the extent of occupational illness is just one of the problems that confronts American labor, health professionals and employers in dealing with what has been called a "national scandal."

The man who calls this neglect a "national scandal" is well qualified to make that charge. He is Dr. Lorin E. Kerr, the immediate past president of the American Public Health Association. Kerr is a career-long public health physician who for 20 years was assistant to the medical director of the United Mine Workers health and retirement program and has been, since 1968, director of occupational health for the UMW.

The American Public Health Association's 103rd annual meeting in Chicago had as its theme "Health and Work in America," the first time a major professional health organization in America has devoted its annual meeting to this subject.

There can be no doubt that the health of workers on the job—and the effect of those jobs on workers' total health and well-being—is one of the nation's priority health problems today. Labor health professionals agree that the subject has been kept too long on the "back burner."

The passage of the Occupational Safety & Health Act of 1970 has focused public attention primarily on the more dramatic problem of job safety rather than occupational health. Safety hazards are easier to document and labor, management and government—with the statistics at hand—could then get down to the business of making the workplace safer.

But occupational health, too often, has seemed to be a problem of little concern. The worker has tended to regard occupational disease as a kind of necessary evil, which, if he is lucky, can be avoided. Dr. Kerr says there are still physicians in the coal fields who deny the existence of black lung as an occupational illness.

LABOR MUST BE ABLE to document to Congress the extent of occupational illness. To do this labor and "people-oriented" health professionals—as opposed to "company-doctor" types—must have the cooperation of such government agencies as the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare and such professional organizations as the American Public Health Association.

Many employers, and the "company-doctor" types, are not inclined to do much about occupational health until job illness starts cutting into profit margins.

Labor can expect to continue to get the classic response: "It costs too much" to many of its arguments in behalf of occupational health.

The human question, of course, is: "How much is too much; how much is a human life worth?"

That question was not answered at the APHA meeting. But there was a lot of public airing of the problem. Among the principal speakers were Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop and Dr. John Finklea, director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health. Scattered throughout the discussion sessions were a few representatives of organized labor who work in the field of occupational health.

That's a lot better than it used to be when labor had no voice in such matters. And as labor gets a firmer grip on the essential facts and figures more action can be expected in making occupational illness an unnecessary evil about which something can be done.

COSTLIER SOLUTIONS will face the nation in 20 or 30 years if it fails to resolve the current housing crunch, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter, center, warned on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Sara Fritz of United Press International and Kenneth Harney of the Bureau of National Affairs. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Key Votes on Consumer Agency Bill

There were two key votes on Nov. 6, when the House passed a labor-backed bill to establish an Agency for Consumer Protection.

Column I shows the 233-175 defeat of a mischievous amendment to inject the consumer agency into the proceedings of the National Labor Relations Board and the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. Its obvious intent was to kill the bill by forcing unions to withdraw their support. Right votes (R) against the amendment were cast by 204 Democrats and 29 Republicans. Voting wrong were 66 Democrats and 109 Republicans.

Column II shows the 208-199 vote to pass the bill. Voting right were 188 Democrats and 20 Republicans. Voting wrong were 80 Democrats and 119 Republicans.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	W	W
4. Bevill (D)	R	W
5. Jones (D)	R	R
6. Buchanan (R)	R	W
7. Flowers (D)	W	W
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	A	PW
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W
2. Udall (D)	A	PR
3. Steiger (R)	W	W
4. Conlan (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	W	W
2. Mills (D)	PW	PW
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	W	W
4. Thornton (D)	R	R
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	R	R
2. Clausen (R)	W	W
3. Moss (D)	R	R
4. Leggett (D)	R	R
5. Burton John L. (D)	R	R
6. Burton, Phillip (D)	A	A
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	R
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Ryan (D)	R	R
12. McCloskey (R)	R	R
13. Mineta (D)	R	R
14. McFall (D)	W	R
15. Sisk (D)	R	R
16. Talcott (R)	W	W
17. Krebs (D)	R	R
18. Ketchum (R)	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	W
21. Corman (D)	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Rees (D)	A	A
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Bell (R)	W	W
28. Burke (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	R	R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D)	R	R
32. Anderson (D)	R	R
33. Clawson (R)	W	W
34. Hannaford (D)	W	R
35. Lloyd (D)	R	R
36. Brown (D)	R	R
37. Pettis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	R	R
39. Wiggins (R)	W	W
40. Hinshaw (R)	A	PW
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	W
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	R
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R
2. Wirth (D)	W	PR
3. Evans (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	W	W
5. Armstrong (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	R
2. Dodd (D)	R	W
3. Giaimo (D)	W	R
4. McKinney (R)	W	W
5. Sarasin (R)	W	W
6. Moffett (D)	R	R
DELAWARE		
AL duPont (R)	W	R
FLORIDA		
1. Sikes (D)	W	W
2. Fuqua (D)	W	W
3. Bennett (D)	W	R
4. Chappell (D)	W	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	W	R
8. Haley (D)	W	W
9. Frey (R)	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	W	W
11. Rogers (D)	W	R
12. Burke (R)	W	W
13. Lehman (D)	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	A	PR
15. Fascell (D)	R	R
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	W	W
2. Mathis (D)	W	W
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W
4. Levitas (D)	R	W
5. Young (D)	R	R
6. Flynt (D)	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Stuckey (D)	W	W
9. Landrum (D)	PW	PW
10. Stephens (D)	W	W
HAWAII		
1. Matsunaga (D)	R	R
2. Mink (D)	R	R
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Metcalfe (D)	R	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	R
3. Russo (D)	W	R
4. Derwinski (R)	W	W
5. Fary	A	A
6. Hyde (R)	R	W
7. Collins (D)	R	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	R
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Mikva (D)	R	R
11. Annunzio (D)	PR	PR
12. Crane (R)	W	W
13. McClory (R)	W	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	W
15. Hall (D)	R	R
16. Anderson (R)	W	R
17. O'Brien (R)	R	W
18. Michel (R)	W	W
19. Railsback (R)	A	W
20. Findley (R)	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	R	W
22. Shipley (D)	R	W
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	W	R
INDIANA		
1. Madden (D)	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	R	W
3. Brademas (D)	R	R
4. Roush (D)	R	R
5. Hillis (R)	A	A
6. Evans (D)	R	W
7. Myers (R)	R	W
8. Hayes (D)	W	R
9. Hamilton (D)	W	W
10. Sharp (D)	W	R
11. Jacobs (D)	R	W
IOWA		
1. Mezvinsky (D)	R	R
2. Blouin (D)	R	R
3. Grassley (R)	W	W
4. Smith (D)	R	R
5. Harkin (D)	R	R
6. Bedell (D)	R	W
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Keys (D)	R	W
3. Winn (R)	W	W
4. Shriver (R)	W	W
5. Skubitz (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	R	W
2. Natcher (D)	R	W
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	W
4. Snyder (R)	W	W
5. Carter (R)	W	W
6. Breckinridge (D)	R	R
7. Perkins (D)	R	R
LOUISIANA		
1. Hebert (D)	PW	PW
2. Boggs (D)	R	R
3. Treen (R)	W	W
4. Waggonner (D)	W	W
5. Passman (D)	W	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	W	W
8. Long (D)	W	R
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	W	W
2. Cohen (R)	W	R
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	R
3. Sarbanes (D)	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	R
6. Byron (D)	W	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Gude (R)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	R	R
2. Boland (D)	R	R
3. Early (D)	R	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Tsongas (D)	R	R
6. Harrington (D)	R	R
7. Macdonald (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	R	R
9. Moakley (D)	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	R	R
11. Burke (D)	R	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	A	R
2. Esch (R)	W	W
3. Brown (R)	W	W
4. Hutchinson (R)	W	W
5. VanderVeen (D)	R	W
6. Carr (D)	R	R
7. Riegle (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W
10. Cederberg (R)	W	W
11. Ruppe (R)	R	W
12. O'Hara (D)	R	R
13. Diggs (D)	R	R
14. Nedzi (D)	R	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	R
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Quie (R)	R	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W
4. Karth (D)	R	R
5. Fraser (D)	A	A
6. Nolan (D)	R	R
7. Bergland (D)	R	R
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1. Whitten (D)	W	W
2. Bowen (D)	W	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Cochran (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Symington (D)	R	R
3. Sullivan (D)	R	R
4. Randall (D)	R	W
5. Bolling (D)	R	R
6. Litton (D)	R	R
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	A	W
9. Hungate (D)	R	R
10. Burlison (D)	R	W
MONTANA		
1. Baucus (D)	R	R
2. Melcher (D)	R	R
NEBRASKA		
1. Thone (R)	W	W
2. McCollister (R)	W	W
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	R	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	W	R
2. Cleveland (R)	A	A
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	W	R
3. Howard (D)	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	R
5. Fenwick (R)	R	R
6. Forsythe (R)	W	W
7. Maguire (D)	R	R
8. Roe (D)	R	R
9. Helstoski (D)	R	R
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	R	R
13. Meyner (D)	R	R
14. Daniels (D)	R	R
15. Patten (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	W
NEW YORK		
1. Pike (D)	R	R
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	R
4. Lent (R)	W	R
5. Wydler (R)	W	W
6. Wolff (D)	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	R
9. Delaney (D)	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	R	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	R
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	A	A
18. Koch (D)	R	R
19. Rangel (D)	PR	A
20. Abzug (D)	R	R
21. Badillo (D)	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (R)	A	PR
24. Ottinger (D)	PR	PR
25. Fish (R)	R	R
26. Gilman (R)	R	R
27. McHugh (D)	R	R
28. Stratton (D)	R	W
29. Pattison (D)	PR	A
30. McEwen (R)	W	W
31. Mitchell (R)	R	W
32. Hanley (D)	R	W
33. Walsh (R)	R	W
34. Horton (R)	R	R
35. Conable (R)	W	W
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	W
39. Hastings (R)	W	W
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	W	W
2. Fountain (D)	W	W
3. Henderson (D)	W	W
4. Andrews (D)	R	W
5. Neal (D)	W	R
6. Preyer (D)	R	R
7. Rose (D)	W	W
8. Hefner (D)	R	W
9. Martin (R)	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Taylor (D)	W	W
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	R	W
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	W	W
2. Clancy (R)	W	W
3. Whalen (R)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	W	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	W	W
7. Brown (R)	W	W
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	R	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton, J. William (R)	R	W
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Mosher (R)	W	R
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W
16. Regula (R)	R	W
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Hays (D)	R	R
19. Carney (D)	R	R
20. Stanton, James V. (D)	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	R	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	R	W
2. Risenhoover (D)	R	W
3. Albert (D)	Speaker	
4. Steed (D)	W	R
5. Jarman (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	R	R
2. Ullman (D)	R	W
3. Duncan (D)	R	W
4. Weaver (D)	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Barrett (D)	R	W
2. Nix (D)	R	R
3. Green (D)	R	R
4. Eilberg (D)	R	R
5. Schulze (R)	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	R	R
7. Edgar (D)	R	R
8. Biester (R)	R	R
9. Shuster (R)	W	W
10. McDade (R)	R	W
11. Flood (D)	R	R
12. Murtha (D)	R	W
13. Coughlin (R)	R	R
14. Moorhead (D)	R	R
15. Rooney (D)	R	R
16. Eshleman (R)	W	W
17. Schneebeli (R)	W	W
18. Heinz (R)	R	R
19. Goodling (R)	W	W
20. Gaydos (D)	R	R
21. Dent (D)	R	R
22. Morgan (D)	R	R
23. Johnson (R)	W	W
24. Vigorito (D)	R	R
25. Myers (R)	R	R
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	A	A
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	W	W
2. Spence (R)	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	W	W
4. Mann (D)	W	W
5. Holland (D)	W	A
6. Jenrette (D)	W	W
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Pressler (R)	R	W
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	W
3. Lloyd (D)	W	R
4. Evins (D)	W	R
5. Vacant		
6. Beard (R)	W	W
7. Jones (D)	R	W
8. Ford (D)	R	R
TEXAS		
1. Patman (D)	R	R
2. Wilson (D)	PW	PW
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	W	W
5. Steelman (R)	W	W
6. Teague (D)	W	W
7. Archer (R)	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	R	R
10. Pickle (D)	R	R
11. Poage (D)	W	W
12. Wright (D)	R	R
13. Hightower (D)	W	W
14. Young (D)	R	R
15. de la Garza (D)	R	W
16. White (D)	R	W
17. Burleson (D)	W	W
18. Jordan (D)	R	R
19. Mahon (D)	W	W
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	R
21. Krueger (D)	R	W
22. Casey (D)	W	W
23. Kazen (D)	W	W
24. Milford (D)	W	W
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	R	W
2. Howe (D)	R	W
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	R	R
VIRGINIA		
1. Downing (D)	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	W	R
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	A	A
2. Meeds (D)	R	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	W
4. McCormack (D)	R	A
5. Foley (D)	R	R
6. Hicks (D)	R	R
7. Adams (D)	R	A
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	R	R
2. Staggers (D)	R	R
3. Slack (D)	W	R
4. Hechler (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	R	R
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	R
4. Zablocki (D)	R	R
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Steiger (R)	W	W
7. Obey (D)	R	R
8. Cornell (D)	R	R
9. Kasten (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Roncalio (D)	R	W

Hatch Act Reforms Sought:

U.S. Workers Push Full Political Rights

By J. Gary DiNunno

Legislation to lift the restrictions of the Hatch Act against political activity by government employes would restore full citizenship rights to postal and federal workers while continuing to protect them against improper partisan pressure, President William H. McClennan of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. told the Senate Post Office & Civil Service Committee.

McClennan said enactment of the bill—similar to a measure already passed by the House—would cause "neither disruption of the normal civil service system nor jeopardy to the status of federal employes," concerns that led to the adoption of the Hatch Act 36 years ago. The fundamental question, he continued, "is whether the restrictions on political activity now in effect are warranted today to the same extent as in 1939."

Clyde M. Webber, secretary-treasurer of the department and head of the Government Employees, told the committee that federal workers are "fed up with being treated as second-class citizens." But they will never be first-class citizens, he said, or be able "to contribute to effective democratic government until they are free to run for any public office and to participate fully in the political activities which are lawful for all other citizens."

McClennan said the current law has led many federal workers to believe "that the safest course is to take no part whatever in the political life of the community, rather than risk the severe censures imposed by the Hatch Act and the criminal code." Rather than a philosophy that is completely negative, he asserted, federal and postal workers should be encouraged to participate in political work to the maximum extent possible.

Further indicating the need for change, McClennan pointed to the discouragingly low rate of voter participation in national elections and the lifting of most restrictions on political activity for state and local government workers.

"American history," McClennan said, "has been characterized by an effective, continuing broadening of the franchise." Property ownership, sex, race and age restrictions have been lifted or amended, he noted, and removing the Hatch Act restrictions would be another step in that direction.

Webber said the measure presently before the committee "will protect employes' right to freedom in the political arena without fear of either coercion or reprisal" and will prevent the establishment of a spoils system.

The bill to revise the Hatch Act also would create a Board on Political Activities of Federal Employees to investigate violations. The PED recommended that the board be a completely independent agency rather than part of the Civil Service Commission.

The Public Employee Dept. is made up of 29 unions with more than 2.3 million members who work for federal, state and local governments and the postal service.

UTU Opposes Bill For Coal Pipeline

Rail transportation of coal is "more efficient, economical and flexible" than transportation by a coal slurry pipeline, the United Transportation Union contended at House hearings.

UTU President Al H. Chesser urged the Interior Committee to reject legislation to facilitate construction of coal slurry pipelines.

Added to the cost of pipeline construction and operation, Chesser argued, should be the economic cost to the nation of the loss of railroad jobs.

Most Financial Issues Turned Down by Voters

A scattering of elections in which bond issues and other referenda were on local or state ballots found voters generally in a nay-saying mood.

Ohio voters overwhelmingly defeated a multi-billion dollar package of bond issues, coupled with sales and gasoline tax increases, that Republican Gov. James A. Rhodes had proposed. The State AFL-CIO had opposed all but one part of the package, terming it "a $10 billion boondoggle." But voters also rejected, although by a closer margin, a labor-supported housing program for middle-income and lower-income families.

In New Jersey, voters rejected a $922 million bond issue strongly backed by the state's labor movement, the governor and the legislature. It was designed to generate 118,000 new jobs in transportation, housing construction, social services and water resource projects.

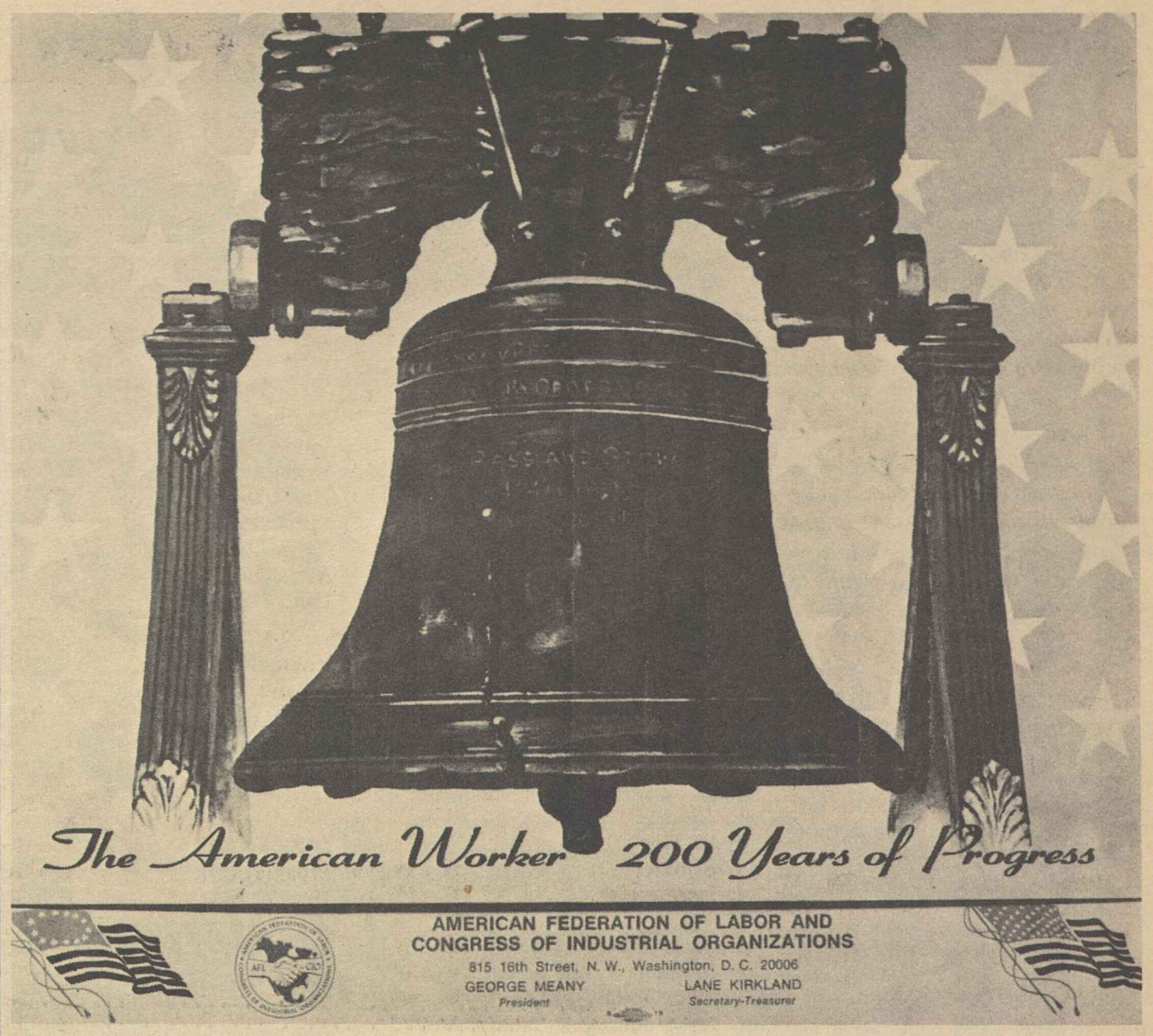
Gov. Brendan T. Byrne, a Democrat, said the shadow of New York City's financial crisis doomed the bond issues. He charged also that President Ford's "harsh treatment" of New York City's financial crisis had "clearly destroyed voter confidence in government borrowings of all kinds."

New York state, already reeling from the ripple effect of the city financial crisis, voted down a $250 million bond issue to finance housing for the elderly.

Relatively small bond issues were approved by voters in statewide balloting in Maine and Pennsylvania. And larger-scaled city bond issues won support in Columbus, Ohio, and in Philadelphia and Baltimore, among others. But most spending proposals were beaten.

A conservative mood also was reflected in San Francisco, where voters approved an amendment to the city charter that will mean lower pay for a number of blue-collar public employes. Their wages had been linked to prevailing craft rates, which generally ran higher than other municipal salaries.

San Francisco voters also adopted a series of measures generally regarded as punishing fire fighters and police for work stoppages last summer. The propositions adopted will curb future pay raises, allow readjustments of working hours, and set up machinery for firing police and fire fighters who strike.



BICENTENNIAL CALENDAR marking key events in American trade union history and depicting the role of workers during nation's first 200 years is being made available for distribution by AFL-CIO affiliates. The calendars are produced by Brown & Bigelow in cooperation with the federation's Dept. of Education. They cost $1 each.

New Calendar Cites Labor's Role in Nation

A bicentennial calendar commemorating key events in American trade union history during the nation's first 200 years is being made available for distribution by AFL-CIO affiliates and state and local central bodies.

The calendar, titled The American Worker—200 Years of Progress, depicts the role of working men and women and their unions in full color reproductions of 12 original paintings.

Among the notable achievements and places featured in the paintings are colonial craftsmen protesting unfair taxes in 1775, early organizing efforts following the Revolution, demonstrations for shorter workdays, parades of pickets for union contracts, and the AFL-CIO headquarters building.

The calendar also marks key dates in the development of the trade union movement and major labor achievements.

Director Walter G. Davis of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education said a number of unions are planning to use the calendars as Christmas cards and for distribution to members, government officials and to schools and libraries.

Davis noted that the calendars, costing $1 each, can be imprinted with the name of the union affiliate for an additional charge of $4.75 per order.

The calendars were produced by Brown & Bigelow, a major calendar manufacturer, in cooperation with the federation's Dept. of Education.

Davis said detailed information dealing with purchase orders is being forwarded to affiliates. All orders will be handled directly by Brown & Bigelow, 1286 University Ave., St. Paul, Minn. 55104.

Budget Ceiling Raised $1.1 Billion by House

The House approved a binding budget ceiling for the current fiscal year after adding $1.1 billion to the spending totals proposed by the House Budget Committee.

Of the added money, $235 million would be earmarked for what the AFL-CIO termed "badly-needed jobs and education programs." The largest item in this category is $125 million added for public service jobs.

Most of the increase, however, represents funds for the aid to Israel and Egypt program sought by the Administration to implement the Sinai agreement.

House Majority Leader Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., offered the amendment raising the budget total. It was approved by a narrow 213-203 margin, following several vote switches when it appeared at one stage that the amendment had been beaten by a single vote.

In a letter sent to all House members, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller had urged approval of the O'Neill amendment "as an important step in the right direction."

Biemiller stressed that the latest unemployment statistics "clearly demonstrate that the recession is far from over. The jobs and education part of the O'Neill amendment," he said, "will permit added economic stimulus without breaking congressional budget ceilings."

Following adoption of the O'Neill amendment, the budget resolution was passed by a 225-191 vote. Only 11 Republicans voted for it, even though its spending ceilings were closer in many areas to Administration proposals than to the increased economic stimulus that many economists have prescribed to get America back to work quickly.

As adopted by the House, it set a $378.9 billion ceiling on outlays and estimated the resulting budget deficit at $72.1 billion.

The figures won't be firm, however, until the House bill is reconciled with a Senate bill scheduled for action soon. Once a final version is agreed to by both bodies, all legislation must conform to its restrictions, with the Budget Committee empowered to rule in the event of a dispute over interpretation.

The AFL-CIO has been critical of the use of rigid budget ceilings that impose a dollar test rather than a need test on proposed legislation. In testimony earlier this year, AFL-CIO President George Meany prodded Congress to stop playing "budget one-upmanship" with the Ford Administration and do more to get America back to work.

In developing its deficit estimate, the House Budget Committee assumed that Congress will raise an additional $1 billion in revenue through tax reform as well as extend this year's tax cut through 1976. The tax bill drawn up by the Ways & Means Committee is substantially below that added revenue total, however.

In considering the budget resolution, the House voted down a Republican-sponsored amendment to reduce the spending totals by $4,67 billion. The vote was 259-157. It also defeated, 283-127, a resolution by a right-wing California Republican, Rep. John Rousselot, to cut $72 billion in order to achieve a balanced budget.

CORRECTION

An article in the Nov. 1 issue of the AFL-CIO News incorrectly listed the maximum social security tax that employes will pay during 1976, when the amount of wages subject to the payroll tax rises from the present $14,100 to $15,-300.

A person earning $15,300 or more next year will pay a total of $895.05 (not $809.05, as the story read). The article correctly noted that this is $70.20 more than the current maximum.

Filibuster Move Defeated:

Debate Limit Voted On Site Picket Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

eting as a Taft-Hartley Act violation.

While the Senate rebuffed the filibuster tactics its leaders had sharply denounced as "obstructionism," the votes on the merits of the bill—amendments as well as final passage—are expected to be closer.

Opponents are expected to seek to muddle the legislation through amendments to the point where its passage would become either meaningless or actually harmful to unions.

The House passed the construction site picketing bill by a 230-178 margin in July and President Ford has said he would sign the bill if it came to his desk along with a construction industry bargaining bill that also has passed the House with labor support.

One of the opponents of the site picketing bill, Sen. Paul D. Laxalt (R-Nev.) told the Senate after a meeting with Ford that the President told him he would sign the legislation only "with great reservations."

If they can't block enactment of the site picketing bill, anti-union employers are expected to press for delaying tactics and another filibuster to try to kill the bargaining bill.

Their reasoning is that blocking enactment of the collective bargaining legislation, drafted by Secretary of Labor John Dunlop in consultation with labor and management, could bring a veto of the site picketing bill.

In other congressional developments:

• A House-Senate conference committee dealing with comprehensive energy conservation and oil pricing legislation was putting the final touches on a compromise bill designed both to avoid a threatened presidential veto and prevent a sharp rise in oil prices after existing controls expire Nov. 15.

The committee, which has been working on the legislation since October 1, reached tentative agreement on a formula that would initially roll back the price of oil that is now uncontrolled—resulting in a reduction of about three cents a gallon for gasoline and heating oil. Prices would then be allowed to rise up to 10 percent a year, with controls ending after four years unless the President chose to retain them.

The bill includes mandatory fuel-efficiency standards for automobiles and other conservation measures including standby authority for the President to impose gasoline rationing.

There were indications, but no firm assurances, that the President would sign such a bill if Congress gives it final approval.

11-15-75

• The House voted 309-45 approval of a bill designed to correct some of the problems found in a 1973 law intended to spur the growth of health maintenance organizations (HMOs), which provide comprehensive care and emphasize preventive medicine. The changes are intended to allow HMOs to compete more easily with traditional health insurance programs.

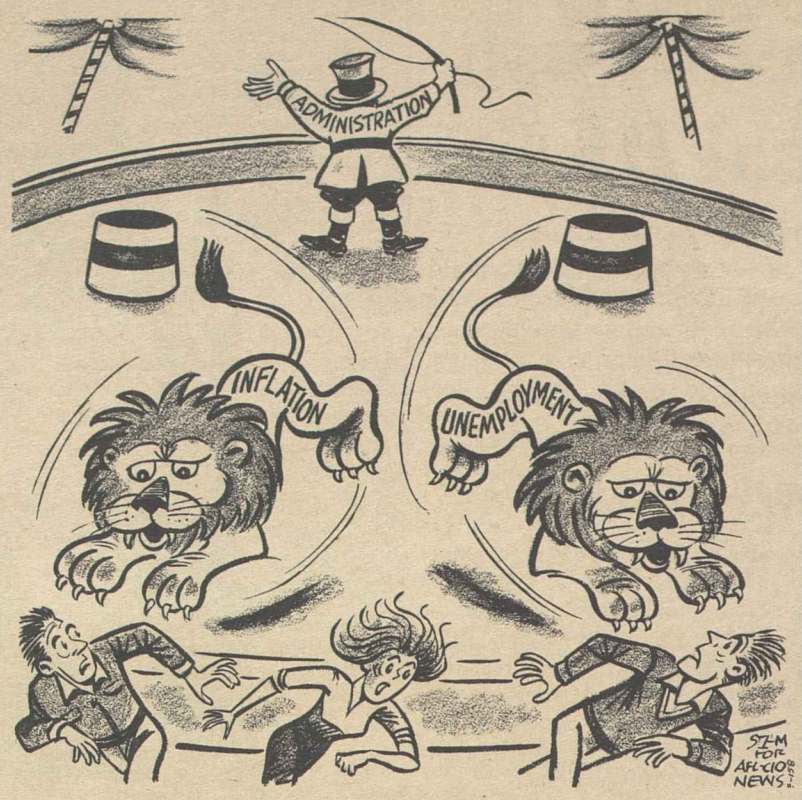
• A proposed amendment to the Occupational Safety & Health Act to set up a Labor Dept. program of on-site consultative services for employers is unnecessary and should be rejected, the AFL-CIO said.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said in a letter to House members that Congress has already provided funds to help states establish consultative programs and most states have done so.

Unions have expressed concern that dilution of the Labor Dept.'s key enforcement function would result from adding a "consultative" program.

• The tax bill drawn up by a divided Ways & Means Committee is expected to run into a buzzsaw of amendments when it reaches the House floor. There is relatively little controversy about extension of current tax reduction to avoid a sudden falloff of purchasing power. But the committee's watered-down proposals were under attack from tax reform advocates, while Administration supporters want to tie continued tax reductions to President Ford's proposal for a spending ceiling in the next fiscal year.

Running Wild



Recession, Inflation Continue Unabated

(Continued from Page 1)

"Most of the increased joblessness over the month resulted from persons re-entering the labor force following a period of labor-market inactivity," BLS said. The number of unemployed persons rose by 230,000 to 8,002,000, seasonally adjusted.

President I. W. Abel of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. viewed the two BLS reports, issued a day apart, as further gloomy news for the country.

"Here we go again," Abel commented. "More price increases, more unemployment, more human misery and insecurity for America's workers. We have an Administration with no plan and no constructive purpose."

The October rise in joblessness resulted from the addition of 252,000 persons to the civilian labor force, coupled with a slight increase of 23,000 in total employment. The total number of employed persons last month was 85,441,000 in an overall workforce of 93,443,000.

In a breakdown by occupation and industry, BLS reported the largest rises in unemployment occurred among clerical workers and persons in the finance and service industries, sectors that traditionally provide a large proportion of the jobs held by women.

Employment in contract construction declined by 30,000 over the month, after having stabilized somewhat since June, BLS noted. Employment in this industry has dropped by 730,000 from its all-time high in early 1974.

In manufacturing, employment rose by 110,000, with the largest gains posted in the apparel, food and textile industries. Substantial increases took place in state and local government.

The average duration of unemployment fell from 16.2 to 15.4 weeks in October, the first decline since it began its dramatic lengthening at the beginning of the year, BLS reported. There was also a decline in the number of persons unemployed for six months or more.

The average workweek in October edged up one-tenth of an hour to 36.2 hours.

More Layoffs, Cutbacks Add to New York Crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

promised pension rights.

City, state and union officials who testified before the Joint Economic Committee warned that the unemployment crisis that was instrumental in tipping New York towards insolvency is being fed by the drastic budget slashes the city has been compelled to make.

Victor Gotbaum, director of District Council 37 of the State, County & Municipal Employees, warned that default would push the city's current 11.9 percent jobless rate to a devastating 17 to 19 percent unemployment. He and Albert Shanker, president of the United Federation of Teachers and its parent national union, protested both President Ford's apparent vendetta against New York and bills in Congress that would void union contracts in return for federal loan guarantees.

Shanker said contracts between the city and its workers and retired workers are as much an obligation as its debts to banks and bondholders.

President Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers—with 50,000 members living in New York—said further cutbacks in city services and higher taxes would drive industry out of New York, adding intolerably to the loss of private industry jobs that has contributed heavily to the city's problems.

In addition to an emergency loan guarantee, Finley said, the federal government should assume costs of welfare, health care and a larger share of the education budget.

A New York Times article citing the views of economists on the ripple effect of city cutbacks noted that New York lost 100,000 jobs in the private sector last year and 370,000 since 1969.

The 37,000 city jobs already abolished as New York struggled to avoid bankruptcy will bring a further cutback of 15,000 private industry jobs, the article notes. And additional threatened cuts in city spending could boost the private sector jobs loss to 60,000.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, released a staff study warning that a default by New York City could hold down the gross national product for the entire United States.

Mayor Abraham D. Beame and Gov. Hugh L. Carey continued to try to counter President Ford's threat to veto any attempt to "bail out" New York City, and there were some indications they were making headway.

Beame reiterated in dozens of forums that a loan guarantee would not cost the federal government or the public anything, while default would "cost billions," directly and indirectly.

While Ford made no public retreat from his insistence that New York City must sink before the federal government can throw out a life preserver, some of his aides and congressional Republican leaders were taking a softer position.

In pressing for a "no-strings" loan guarantee, Meany said the financial crisis in New York City is "obviously" a greater danger to the national economy than was the risk of Lockheed's bankruptcy.

TWUA Sues J.P. Stevens on Pension Plan

New York—the Textile Workers Union of America has filed suit against J. P. Stevens & Co. under the Pension Reform Act. Purpose of the suit is to compel the nation's second largest textile manufacturer to amend its profit-sharing and retirement plan for hourly-paid workers in conformance with that law, according to Henry C. Woicik, TWUA's general counsel.

Woicik said the U.S. district court here is being asked to require Stevens to establish a "floor" under benefits to protect workers covered by the company's profit-sharing and retirement plan against declines of investment values in their individual accounts.

The suit seeks to have the company "put into writing" various guarantees it announced informally last January, Woicik said. It also asks the court to require J. P. Stevens to fund this new obligation from current assets, he added.

Woicik said the union, which is bargaining representative of Workers in eight Stevens plants, "intends to scrutinize the management or mismanagement of these invested monies." Some $20 million is involved, he added.

The District Court action is only one of a number of current litigations involving the firm and TWUA. These include two charges that the firm is in contempt of court orders to bargain.

Denials Top Approvals of Trade Act Aid

Fewer than half of the unemployed workers who filed for trade adjustment assistance under the law that went into effect last April have had their requests approved, the Labor Dept. said.

Between Apr. 3 and Sept. 24, 174 petitions were filed—mostly by unions—on behalf of 91,000 workers who lost their jobs in industries affected by imports. Of these, 57 petitions affecting 34,000 workers were approved, 41 affecting 38,000 workers were denied, and 76 petitions affecting 19,000 workers were still pending.

Assistance to unemployed workers under the 1974 Trade Act may include weekly payments that in most cases are higher than state unemployment compensation, training, testing, counseling, job placement, and relocation allowances.

The largest number of workers qualifing for benefits have been in the automobile, leather products, and electrical equipment industries, the Labor Dept. said.

Blackburn Turned Down For Home Bank Board

For the second time in a month, a Senate committee has refused to recommend confirmation of a presidential appointee.

The Senate Banking Committee voted 8-5 to reject the nomination of Ben B. Blackburn, a former four-term Republican congressman from Georgia, to head the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

Blackburn's nomination had been attacked by the AFL-CIO because of his strong hostility to civil rights and fair housing legislation in Congress, his disparagement of the poor, and his active fund-raising for the anti-labor National Right-to-Work Foundation.

Earlier, the Senate Commerce Committee had refused to approve Joseph Coors, a brewery executive associated with extreme right-wing groups, as a director of the Public Broadcasting Corp. That nomination also had been opposed by the AFL-CIO and other groups.

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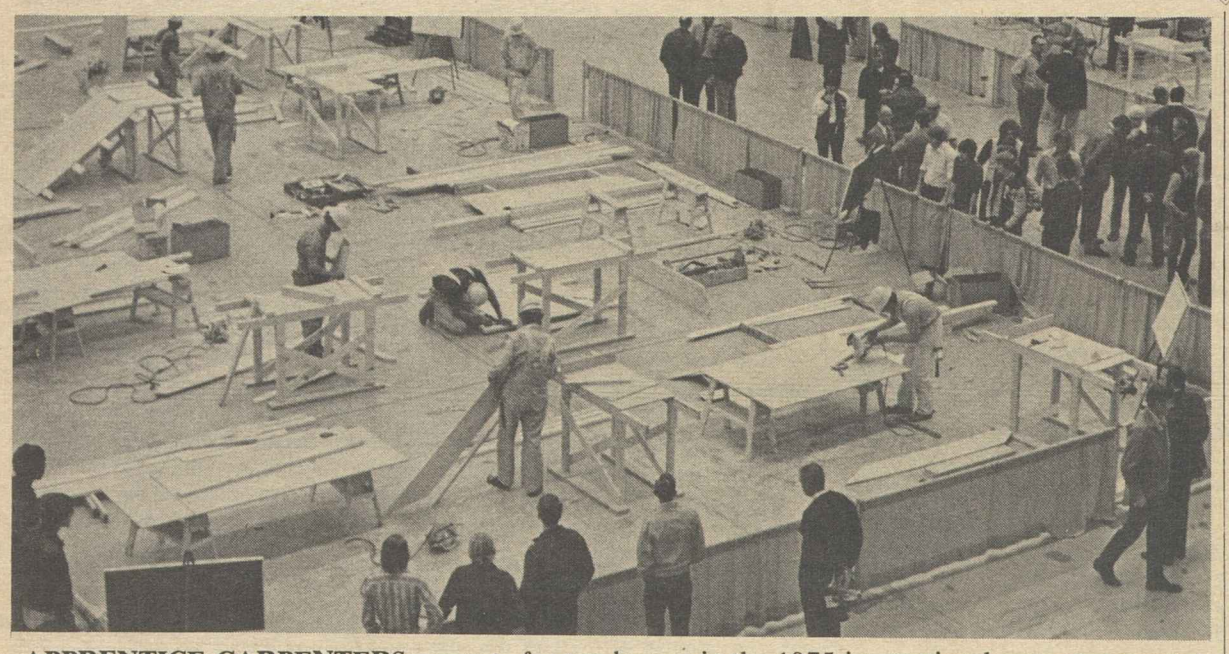
Site Picketing Right Voted As Senate Halts Filibuster



APPRENTICE CARPENTERS compete for top honors in the 1975 international carpentry contest held in Milwaukee, which drew 84 finalists who had won awards in earlier competitions in 32 states and five Canadian provinces. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Passage Climaxes 25-Year Struggle

By David L. Perlman

The Senate joined the House in passing a construction site picketing bill, climaxing a quarter-century campaign by building trades unions that had the support of the entire labor movement. The vote was 52-45.

Included in the Senate measure is the construction industry collective bargaining bill that the House had passed as separate legislation. It had the endorsement of the AFL-CIO convention as "a careful and conscientious attempt by individuals who know the construction industry" to develop procedures to make the bargaining process more effective.

Senate Labor Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) steered the legislation to passage with a bipartisan assist from Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.). Twice, the Senate had to invoke cloture in order to break a filibuster by hard-core opponents. (Rollcalls on Page 6.)

Before the legislation can be sent to the President's desk, a House-Senate conference committee will have to reconcile some differences between the two versions and both the House and Senate must then approve the final language.

President Robert Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. expressed confidence that the legislation, "approved so convincingly by the Senate and the House," will become "the law of the land." He noted President Ford's promise to sign the site picketing bill if it was accompanied by the bargaining legislation that had been initially drafted by Labor Secretary John T. Dunlop in con-

(Continued on Page 8)

Veto Threat Stalls N.Y. Aid Action

The House put off action on a compromise bill to help New York City stave off bankruptcy after President Ford said he would veto it.

Without a strong presidential endorsement, House Democratic and Republican leaders saw no chance of passing a loan guarantee bill.

Ford dangled the hope that he might relent if New York City follows up its layoffs and budget slashes with further economies, and if the state legislature approves a new package of city taxes.

The House Banking Committee bill would have provided loan guarantees of $3 billion over seven years — with fiscal stringencies to make it probable that the federal government would not lose on the deal. It had the personal endorsement of House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes (Ariz.), who had worked with Banking Commit-

(Continued on Page 8)

AFL-CIO Defends Program:

Facts Trip Administration In Battle Over Food Stamps

The AFL-CIO defended the food stamp program from attacks by the Ford Administration and congressional conservatives who want to cut it back sharply.

During this recession, the program has worked just as it is supposed to, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman testified at Senate hearings.

As unemployment rose, so did the number of families qualifying for and using food stamps, Seidman noted. "People who once thought that they would never need food stamps have had to resort to them. They have had to use them just to keep their families from going hungry."

When unemployment dipped somewhat after its high point last May, so did the number of food stamp recipients.

Persons who are suddenly without income shouldn't have to wait until they are completely destitute before qualifying for food stamps, Seidman said in an attack on the Administration bill and an even more stringent proposal by Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.).

When these people were working, their taxes helped finance the program "and now they are drawing on it to sustain their families during the worst recession since World War II."

Seidman told the Senate Agriculture subcommittee that the government's own figures refute the vehement criticism of the food stamp program leveled by Administration officials, particularly Treasury Secretary William E. Simon.

Simon's claim that families with incomes over $16,000 a year are receiving food stamps is contradicted by Agriculture Dept. figures for families of four showing none with incomes that high on the food stamp roster.

Further, 87 percent of all participants in the food stamp program had gross incomes under $6,000 a year, and "the great bulk" of those over that amount were in households of five or more.

As for Simon's charge that the food stamp program is a "haven for chiselers and rip-off artists," the Agriculture Dept. found fraud in only eight one-hundredths of 1 percent of food stamp households.

Seidman noted that Congress has already barred students claimed as tax dependents by their families from receiving food stamps.

Equally invalid, Seidman said, was the charge by the Secretary of the Treasury that the food stamp program "began as a small $14 million experiment in 1962" and could cost $6.6 billion next year," "a 47,000 percent increase."

What he "failed to mention," Seidman noted, was that only eight

(Continued on Page 2)

Ban on Jobless Benefits In Pregnancies Voided

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down a provision of Utah's unemployment compensation law that makes women workers automatically ineligible for jobless benefits during their last three months of pregnancy and the immediate six weeks following delivery.

The decision means the state may no longer deny unemployment benefits to pregnant women workers simply because it presumes their condition makes them unable to work. At least 14 states have laws almost identical to the Utah statute.

The Utah unemployment compensation system deems a woman ineligible for benefits "during any week of unemployment when it is found . . . that her total or partial unemployment is due to pregnancy."

Another provision of the state law amounts to a blanket disqualification for benefits during an 18-week period preceding and following childbirth.

The Supreme Court, noting the state's presumption often has been or could be inaccurate, observed in a three-page, unsigned ruling:

(Continued on Page 3)

Consumer Prices Jump, Real Earnings Decline

By James M. Shevis

The Labor Dept.'s consumer price index turned up again last month, rising by seven-tenths of 1 percent or as much as the increases in August and September combined.

The October rise in the CPI was outstripped this year only by increases of eight-tenths of 1 percent in June and 1.2 percent in July. Meanwhile, real spendable earnings—the buying power of the average worker — dipped slightly over the month while big corporations were reporting sharp increases in third-quarter profits.

The rise in prices was led by unexpected increases in grocery store items, the Bureau of Labor Statistics noted. Also contributing to the CPI increase were price hikes for a variety of consumer goods and services—particularly clothing, new cars, fuel oil, mortgage interest rates and auto insurance.

The seasonally adjusted increase of seven-tenths of 1 percent in overall prices lifted the CPI to 164.6 of its 1967 base. Put differently, goods and services that cost $100 eight years ago now cost consumers $164.60.

If it were to continue a full year, the October rate of increase would

(Continued on Page 8)

TOP WINNERS in the 1975 international carpentry apprenticeship contest are flanked by Carpenters President William Sidell, left, and First Vice President William Konyha. The first place winners are from left, Barry Krogh of Detroit, millwright; Lee Hoffseth of Watsonville, Calif., carpenter, and William Leupold of Philadelphia, mill-cabinet maker. The annual competition was held in Milwaukee.

Carpenter Apprentices Compete for Trophies

Milwaukee — California, Pennsylvania and Michigan took top honors in the 1975 International Carpentry Apprenticeship Contest here which drew the largest number of competitors ever.

A total of 84 state and provincial champions, representing 32 states and 5 provinces of Canada, vied for the trophies and prizes. The contestants — all fourth-year apprentices — underwent a four-hour written test and a grueling eight-hour manipulative test at Mecca, Milwaukee's new exposition hall.

While thousands of spectators watched, the carpentry contestants produced an elaborate wooden form for concrete steps in 20-foot square enclosures, while judges rated them under a point system.

Mill-Cabinet contestants produced hutch cabinets with adjustable shelves and with hinged doors on the base unit.

The 21 millwrights who competed performed a series of manual exercise designed to show their skills and knowledge—a floor plan for a monorail system, a layout for a chute on heavy metal plates, assembly of a rack-and-pinion device, and a demonstration of knots and cable rigging.

Hundreds of vocational students from Wisconsin schools were bused in to see the apprentices in action. Eleven Job Corpsmen undergoing pre-apprenticeship training at the Blackwell Job Corps center near Rhinelander, Wis., also were brought in to view the competition.

The top carpentry award went to 24-year-old Lee Hoffseth, a member of Local 771, Watsonville, Calif. His win marked the third time that California has taken top honors in the carpentry division.

William Leupold of Local 359, Philadelphia, took top honors in the mill-cabinet competition. He is employed by a building supply company in his home city while undergoing apprenticeship training.

The first place millwright was Barry Krogh of Local 1102 of Detroit. Krogh carried on a lively tradition to become the fifth Detroit millwright winner in the nine years of competition.

The contest was preceded by two days of seminars for coordinators, instructors, and sponsors under the direction of First Vice President William Konyha and Technical Director James Tinkcom.

The 1976 contest will be held in Philadelphia.

AFL-CIO Rebuts Attack On Food Stamp Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

counties in the United States were initially covered, while some 7.4 million persons in 1,741 counties were receiving surplus foods under the since-discontinued program, and the poor in 1,300 other counties had no federal food aid at all.

The inclusion of Puerto Rico in the food stamp program added 1.5 million persons, Seidman noted. And the tremendous increase in food prices—in part the result of the Administration's own economic program — significantly increased the total cost.

Under the Administration food stamp bill, Seidman said, most persons receiving food stamps would either be dropped from the rolls or have their benefits cut significantly.

It would drop from the program all households with a gross income more than $100 a month over the official poverty line.

A 90-day averaging formula to determine income would disqualify most of the recently unemployed. And even though it doesn't specifically bar strikers from receiving food stamps, the effect would be the same except in very long strikes.

The more openly anti-worker Buckley bill would disqualify even more workers, Seidman noted, and force many unemployed persons to choose between hunger for their families or giving up a car or home.

Not only would strikers be barred, but so would persons who refuse to help break the strikes of other workers, Seidman said. Also ineligible would be the family of a worker who had quit his job "without good cause."

Seidman said a bill introduced by Senators Bob Dole (R-Kan.) and George McGovern (D-S.D.) has a desirable feature in eliminating payment for food stamps, but also would disqualify many low-income families although not as "devastating" as the other bills.

Labor's position, he said, is that "this program which has served millions of families in need must not be permitted to be scuttled or slashed. Food stamps must be available to all Americans who need them to stave off hunger for themselves and their families."

Labor Center Memorializes Miles Stanley

Charleston, W.Va. — The West Virginia AFL-CIO headquarters building was dedicated in the memory of the late Miles C. Stanley during the 10th convention of the state labor federation.

Stanley was president of the state body from its founding in 1954 until his death last year. A bust of Stanley, unveiled by his daughter Terri at the dedication ceremony, was placed in the building lobby.

The 12-story Stanley Building also carries a bronze plaque presented by the AFL-CIO Appalachian Council and its co-chairman, President Harry Boyer of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO. Presidents of state federations which are members of the council attended the dedication.

The 470 delegates to the convention elected Joseph W. Powell president to serve out the two remaining years in Stanley's unexpired term. Powell had been appointed interim president by the executive board shortly after Stanley's death.

Also elected to fill unexpired terms as vice presidents were Vivian Sansom of the Glass Bottle Blowers and Don Clingerman of the Steelworkers.

In other action, the convention called for improvements in state job injury benefits, unemployment compensation and the minimum wage.

Maximum weekly benefits of workmen's compensation—including those for widows—should be raised to 70 percent of the claimant's average wage and minimum benefits to $200 a month, the convention resolution declared.

The state minimum wage, now $2 an hour, should be raised to $2.20 in July 1976 and to $2.40 in July 1977, the convention urged, while reducing the length of the workweek before overtime pay is required from the current 44 hours to 40 over two years.

Disability Benefits Held to 5% Boost

Disabled federal workers and coal miners receiving black lung disability benefits will get only a 5 percent adjustment in benefits this year, less than the rise in living costs.

Their disability payments are linked to the annual comparability salary adjustments for federal employes, which should have resulted in an 8.66 percent raise.

But President Ford cut the amount back to 5 percent, and both the House and Senate agreed to the reduction.

'Just a Lot of Wind':

Recovery Claims Assailed by Meany

President Ford's oft-repeated statements that the economy is recovering are Administration propaganda—"just a lot of wind"—AFL-CIO President George Meany declared on a nationwide television interview.

While there has been an increase in gross national product overall, "this doesn't indicate immediate recovery," Meany said on ABC's Issues and Answers.

"If you look back at the history of the Great Depression, which lasted from 1930 until at least 1939," Meany observed, "production started increasing nationally in March 1933 and we still had five years of deep depression ahead of us."

Meany said the end of the current recession — the sharpest downturn in the nation's economy since the 1930s—can be measured only in one way: when people go back to work.

"I don't know any other measuring rod that means anything," said Meany. More than 8 million workers are unemployed today, with the nation's jobless rate at 8.6 percent in October.

Also in the interview, Meany discussed the 1976 presidential-election campaign, the Paris economic summit, the removal of Defense Sec. James Schlesinger from the Ford Administration, New York's financial crisis, and detente.

He predicted little of substance from the economic summit conference in Paris, declaring that President Ford took with him to the meeting a negative attitude. Ford has consistently refused to do anything to beef up the American economy, Meany said.

"He is following the old theory that we have got to suffer unemployment, that sooner or later we will get out from under unemployment." But this hasn't happened, and joblessness continues to grip the nation, Meany observed.

On New York's fiscal difficulties, Meany expressed confidence the city would work its way out of the budgetary problems that now threaten it with bankruptcy, but would probably need federal loan guarantees.

"What we would like to see here is the Lockheed formula," he said. "Lockheed went out and borrowed $250 million in order to keep going, and they borrowed it because Uncle Sam was going to guarantee the principal."

The government didn't step in to run Lockheed, nor did it attempt to renegotiate the firm's contracts with labor, Meany noted, suggesting that the same tack should be used with New York City.

"I am opposed to giving the federal government control over our contracts and our pension funds in the city of New York," he stressed. "I am sure that the unions involved are opposed, and I am going to continue to oppose that approach."

Asked what he thought the recent firing of Defense Sec. James Schlesinger does to American foreign policy and to detente, Meany said "it was a great big plus for the Soviet Union." He added:

"The impression has gone forth all over the world that this was a decision made because Schlesinger would not follow the soft line vis-a-vis the Soviet Union — in other words, the Kissinger line."

Castigating the diplomacy of Sec. of State Henry Kissinger, Meany deplored "this policy of unilateral concessions to the Soviet Union, which is what detente adds up to."

On next year's presidential election, Meany said he would not want to make any forecast as to labor's choice of candidates "at this time."

"I will tell you that when the candidates get lined up next year," he said. "I don't know who is going to run. We have a lot of candidates." However, he reaffirmed his own opposition to Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace.

Meany also pointed out that it is still uncertain whether President Ford will be the Republican candidate in 1976.

BRONZE BUST of Miles C. Stanley, late president of the West Virginia AFL-CIO, is unveiled by his daughter Terri at the dedication of the state federation's headquarters building. Joseph W. Powell, rear, was elected to fill out Stanley's unexpired term.

Amendments Proposed:

Tax Reform Issues Set for House Vote

Liberal Democrats will try to inject a bigger dose of tax reform into a bill that will continue, with minor changes, the economy-stimulating tax reduction Congress enacted last spring.

Without an extension, individual income taxes will rise in 1976 and higher withholding taxes will take a bigger bite out of purchasing power, starting in January.

Combined with the tax reduction bill that is scheduled to reach the House floor in early December are the remnants of a once ambitious attempt by the Ways & Means Committee to raise additional revenue by closing some of the most notorious of tax loopholes for the wealthy and corporations.

After having given tentative approval during weeks of deliberations to $2.6 billion in tax reforms, a conservative coalition on the committee managed to knock out all but about $700 million from the bill before clearing it for the House floor.

The committee's liberal minority did win the right to offer a series of amendments to the bill that would about double the tax reform revenue. The House Rules Committee agreed to allow the five liberal-sponsored amendments and two other amendments to be voted on by the full House. This is a modification of the traditional no-amendment rule under which complex tax legislation is usually taken to the House floor.

The labor-supported amendments that will be in order during House consideration of the tax bill would:

- Tighten a section curbing real estate tax shelters.
- Eliminate a new capital gains loophole that was tailor-made to give a Texas millionnaire, H. Ross Perot, a $15 million tax break.
- Tighten the minimum tax that must be paid on income excluded from regular taxes.
- Restore the federal withholding tax on U.S. investments by foreigners.
- Begin cutting down special tax treatment for exports under the DISC program in three years, instead of five years.

Republicans sought, but were refused, the right to offer an amendment that would impose the spending ceiling demanded by President Ford as the price for his signature on a bill extending the tax cuts.

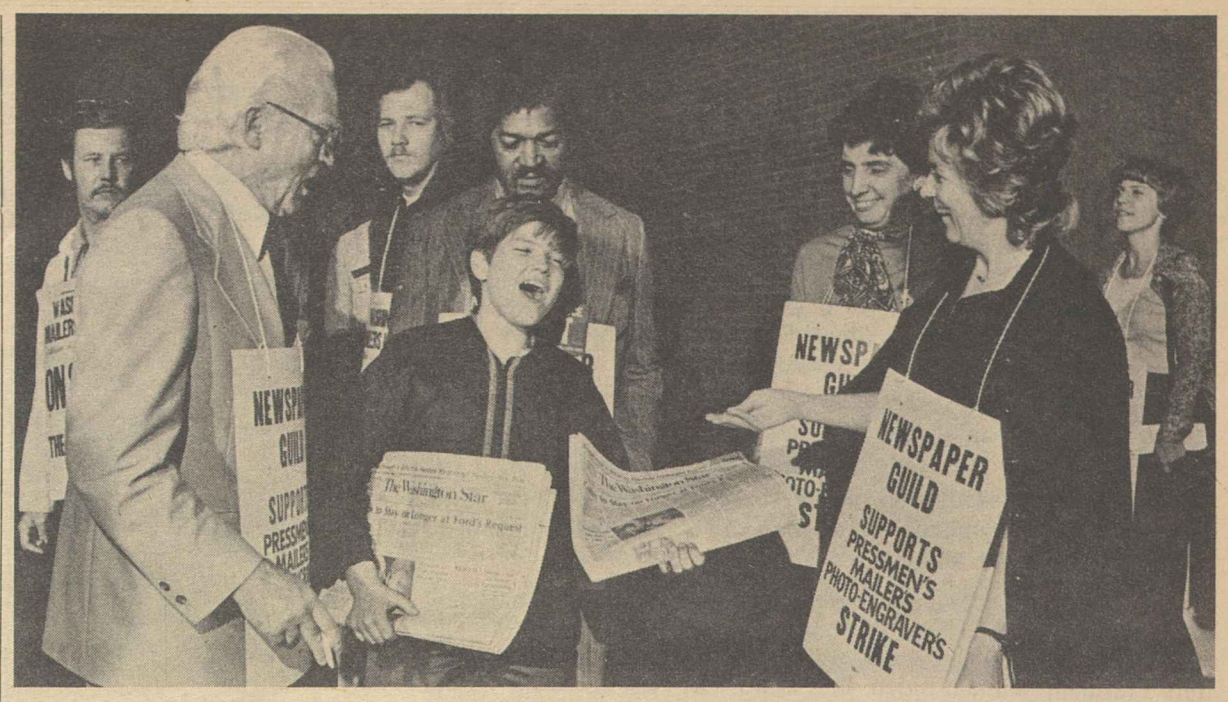
If the House succeeds in moving the controversial tax bill to passage, the Senate will be under heavy pressure to complete action during the remaining weeks of 1975. There are no restrictions on amendments when the Senate takes up tax bills.

In other congressional developments:

- The House ignored labor's objections and approved a bill authorizing the Labor Dept. to set up a program of on-site consultation to advise employers how to comply with job safety and health standards.

The AFL-CIO position was that Congress has already voted funds for states to set up such programs and the federal emphasis should be on enforcement. The bill passed on a non-record 115-15 vote.

- Disagreement over a Senate-added school busing amendment continued to block final agreement by a House-Senate conference committee on appropriations for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.
- The Senate approved a $90.7 billion defense appropriations bill, about $7 billion below the Administration budget request but $564 million more than the House had voted. It rejected, 55-38, a motion to cut the amount to the House-passed level.



SALES ARE BRISK for a Washington Star newsboy hawking the editions as "the only union paper in town" outside the struck Washington Post building. His customers are members of the Newspaper Guild executive board who joined striking pressmen, mailers and photoengravers on the picket line.

Teacher Jailings Spur Protests in New Haven

New Haven, Conn.—Members of the New Haven Federation of Teachers voted to suspend their 10-day-old strike to enable their jailed leaders to resume negotiations with city officials.

The vote followed a decision by custodial and other non-teacher workers to join the strike as a protest against the jailing of 77 teachers a day earlier.

The mayor subsequently ordered the closing of the schools as preliminary talks opened.

The school teachers were jailed Nov. 18 shortly after Connecticut Superior Court Judge George A. Saden found them guilty of contempt of court for not obeying his order to return to work.

At the same time, the union's 12-member negotiating team was ordered back to jail for refusing to call off the strike. Saden fined each member $250 a day, the union $5,000 a day, for the duration of the strike.

More than 900 teachers left their classrooms Nov. 9 after 12 months of fruitless talks over a new contract. The school board claimed the city does not have enough money to pay either raises or earned increments to the teachers.

The board also refused to extend the teachers' old contract, suspending the grievance procedure along with other contract provisions. The teachers' union is Local 933 of the American Federation of Teachers.

AFT President Albert Shanker, deploring the jailings and fines, said that "once again a judge has shortsightedly reacted to the strike rather than to the issues.

"It is utter folly to expect agreement to be reached on a contract while the teachers are in the local jail house," Shanker declared.

Support for the strike was solid among New Haven community groups. A consortium of these organizations accused the school board of bad-faith bargaining and demanded that the schools be closed for two days and the teachers released from jail so that an attempt could be made to reach agreement on a new contract.

President Vincent Sirabella of the New Haven Central Labor Council also strongly affirmed organized labor's backing for the walkout. In addition to the non-academic union members who voted to join the striking teachers, other unions in the 92-member council would be asked to become involved if the situation deteriorates, he declared.

Rail Crafts Push Back Strike Date

The four shopcraft unions of the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. agreed to move back their strike deadline against the nation's major railroads to Dec. 4. A walkout had been scheduled for Nov. 18.

Federal mediators asked for the later date so that a presidential emergency board could be reconvened to clarify its position on the disputed issue of subcontracting.

The four unions are the Firemen & Oilers, the Carmen, the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

E. J. Hickey, Jr., general counsel for the unions, said they felt the board was "clear and unambiguous" in recommending that the carriers not subcontract work "except when it's genuinely unavoidable."

In the past, the unions have charged that management has abused an agreement permitting the railroads to subcontract work under certain conditions, and the result has been erosion of the jobs of their members.

The contract dispute has exhausted all remedial procedures available under the Railway Labor Act. Both sides have been free to seek "self-help," including a strike, since Nov. 9.

The presidential emergency board, after investigating the dispute for a month, also recommended in October that members of the shopcraft unions be given an additional 2-cent-an-hour equity pay increase to put them on a par with machinists of operating unions.

Eleven other rail unions already have accepted new settlements with the carriers, but the shopcrafts refused to go along with the pattern, citing a number of special problems affecting their members, including the "fundamental issue on subcontracting."

U.S. Mediation Service Sets Up Seattle Region

Seattle—A new regional office of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service has been set up here to serve an eight-state area of the Northwest.

The new region is responsible for FMCS activities in Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and Utah. The states were previously under the region headquartered in San Francisco.

James L. Macpherson, director of the new region, has requested that all labor and management representatives in the eight-state area file statutory notices of contract reopenings with the Seattle office.

Ban on Jobless Benefits In Pregnancies Voided

(Continued from Page 1)

"It cannot be doubted that a substantial number of women are fully capable of working well into their last trimester of pregnancy and of resuming employment shortly after childbirth."

Indeed, the high court noted, the principal figure in the suit that prompted its ruling worked intermittently as a clerical employe for portions of the 18-week period during which she was conclusively presumed to be incapacitated.

Such a presumption thus violates the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, the court observed, and must be replaced by "more individualized means when basic human liberties are at stake."

The high-court decision evolved from the case of a young Utah woman, Mary Ann Turner, who was dismissed from her job in November 1972. She was due to give birth in June 1973.

Turner received unemployment compensation until Mar. 11, 1973—12 weeks prior to the expected date of the birth of her child. When the payments ended, she sued in the state courts, charging violation of her 14th Amendment rights. The Utah Supreme Court ruled that the law did not violate any of her constitutional protections.

"What she should do," the Utah Supreme Court suggested tongue in cheek, "is work for the repeal of the biological law of nature. She should get it amended so that men shared equally with women in bearing children.

"If she could prevail upon the Great Creator to so order things, she would be guilty of violating the equal-protection of the law unless she saw to it that men could also share in the thrill and glory of motherhood."

But the U.S. Supreme Court apparently was not amused. It vacated the Utah ruling and remanded the case for further proceedings.

The high court relied in its decision on a 1974 case involving a Cleveland school teacher who was forced by law to take a mandatory leave, without pay, five months before the date her child was due to be born.

The Utah case "is virtually identical" to the Cleveland litigation, and the challenged Utah statute is based on the same presumption found unconstitutional in the latter case, the Supreme Court noted.

Justice William Rehnquist dissented in the ruling, but did not file an opinion. Chief Justice Warren Burger and Justice Harry Blackmun objected to the majority's summary disposition of the case, saying they would have scheduled it for oral arguments before deciding it.

Ford Suffers Third Rebuff On Nominees

The Senate Commerce Committee rejected the nomination of Isabel A. Burgess for a second term on the National Transportation Safety Board by a vote of 11 to 7. She is the third appointee of President Ford's to fail to win confirmation in the past month.

A committee staff report raised serious questions of conflict of interest in citing her close ties with firms the board is supposed to police.

Mrs. Burgess was charged with failing to disclose publicly her stock holdings in Allegheny Airlines, as is required by law, and participating in board decisions involving Allegheny.

The report also said she had an "abnormally high absentee rate from board meetings and unusually high travel expenses in relation to other members of the board." It noted too that she had received free transportation and "other emoluments" from firms under the board's jurisdiction.

Two other Ford appointees turned down on confirmation bids earlier are Ben B. Blackburn, to head the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and Joseph Coors for a seat on the board of directors of the Public Broadcasting Corp.

Meanwhile, the full Senate confirmed the nomination of Donald Rumsfeld to be the new Secretary of Defense. Rumsfeld, a former congressman, had been a top White House aide.

The Senate also confirmed the nomination of Morton Corn as an assistant secretary of labor to head the Occupational Safety & Health Administration. Corn, a University of Pittsburgh professor, succeeds John A. Stender.

Transport Workers Elect Albert Terriego

New York—Albert Terriego has been elected a vice president of the Transport Workers and director of the TWU railroad division.

Prior to his election by the union's executive council, Terriego had been acting director of the railroad division. Earlier, he was an international representative and president of TWU Local 2001 in New York.

Food Stamps vs. Hunger

THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM, which currently serves 18.5 million needy men, women and children has come under severe attack from the Ford Administration and other conservatives in recent weeks.

During the current recession, the food stamp program has done exactly what it should have done. As unemployment rose from 5.4 percent in August 1974 to 9.2 percent in May 1975, food stamp participation increased by over 4 million recipients, from 15 million to 19.4 million. Since May unemployment has eased somewhat and the number of recipients has declined to 18.5 million.

Lower-middle and middle-income recipients have the right to use food stamps when they are in need. Their taxes supported the program over the years, and now they are drawing on it to sustain their families during the worst recession since World War II, a national economic crisis that is a personal economic catastrophe for each of them.

The increased participation in the program and the consequent changes in the composition of food stamp recipients have brought forth a heavy barrage of attacks from the Administration and other conservatives intending to severely cut the program. Some of these attacks have involved charges which are completely inaccurate.

The Dept. of Agriculture says not a single family of four earning $16,000 a year receives food stamps. The department's statistics show that the food stamp program is overwhelmingly a program for low-income families. A recent USDA report for July 1975 finds 84 percent of all participants below $6,000 gross income and 94 percent below $9,000 a year. USDA reported to the Senate in May that the percentage of households fraudulently receiving food stamps is 0.08 percent.

SO IF THERE ARE NO families of four with incomes of $16,000 to clear out of the program, a fraud rate of only 0.08 percent to contend with, and no middle class students eligible, just whom is the Administration really trying to hurt by its vicious attacks on the millions of needy Americans for which food stamps have been the only alternative to hunger, and by its proposal to slash the program?

The AFL-CIO considers the drive against the food stamp program, which follows on the heels of Administration policies that have saddled the country with both high unemployment and rapid inflation, a direct attack on workers and indeed the labor movement.

Workers do not want food stamps and they do not want welfare. They want jobs which will pay decent wages so that they can raise their families in dignity with an American standard of living. But if those jobs are not available, if programs to create work are scuttled, if the Administration's own predictions of massive unemployment for the next half-decade and beyond are allowed to come true, then workers and their families will not willingly go hungry. They will not be denied the benefits of the programs which they have so long supported with their tax dollars.

This program, which has served millions of families in need, must not be scuttled or slashed. Food stamps must be available to all Americans who need them to stave off hunger for themselves and their families.

—From AFL-CIO testimony before a Senate Agriculture Subcommittee.

AFL-CIO News

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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A Word Edgewise:

Sakharov's Message May Fail To Pierce Intellectual Deafness

By John P. Roche

THE LATEST BOOK by Andrei D. Sakharov, the great Soviet physicist and gallant spokesman for civil liberty, in some ways is a heartbreaker. "My Country and the World" is the testament of a highly rational man with high expectations that rational men elsewhere, once they know the facts, will speak out against Russian tyranny.

Where Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn uses a scourge and swings it with prophetic fury against the western intelligentsia, Sakharov makes his case calmly and logically. It is a devastating indictment of Soviet policy, domestic and foreign, but I fear it will drop like a stone. You see, by and large, American intellectuals don't want to come to grips with Communist totalitarianism—the confrontation could be risky.

Listen to Sakharov's plea: "Basically, however, the majority of (western left-liberal intellectuals) have an outlook that is high-minded and humane, have real grounds for dissatisfaction with their society and feel good will and an aspiration towards justice and the common weal. And this permits me to hope that in the final analysis the western intellectual won't let the rest of us down. Totalitarianism, fascism of whatever brand, demagogues and intriguing politicians—these things, I trust, are not for the likes of him."

Sakharov chides the western intellectuals for not understanding the nature of Soviet policy. He even commits the mortal sin of sympathizing with the poor South Vietnamese now under totalitarian rule. "I want to believe," he says, "that the terrible lesson of Indochina will not be lost upon the whole world—and especially not on America. Instead of isolationism, a selfless, generous, and courageous concern for the fates of all human beings. In place of illusions, a sober understanding of the challenge that history has thrown out to the leaders of the western world. Not a half-hearted, inconsistent foreign policy never adequately explained to the public, but a carefully weighed choice of key ideas and a maximum of resolve in carrying them out."

These statements move me profoundly, particularly when one realizes that Sakharov is sounding his trumpet well in the hearing of the KGB. He is a true internationalist who believes that freedom and justice are universal values and that intellectuals everywhere should be in the forefront of the battle to achieve them. After all, isn't a totalitarian society a monstrosity? Isn't it as plain as the nose on your face that incarcerating dissidents in mental "hospitals" is wicked? Surely, then, now that the evidence is there for all to see, the western intelligentsia will unite in condemning this brutal system.

Sakharov's only problem is that he is addressing the wrong audience. The western intelligentsia—with a few honorable exceptions—has long since abandoned such naive notions. They have unilaterally ended the Cold War and simply tuned out Communist barbarism. The basis of this blackout is a logical process that runs backwards: Premise 1 establishes the proposition that if the Communists (Soviet, Chinese, or Vietnamese) are totalitarian aggressors, war is likely. From there you move to step 2: war is unthinkable. With these two premises locked in place, the conclusion is simple: Communists are not really totalitarian aggressors. And nuts like Sakharov and Solzhenitsyn are dangerous warmongers.

THIS MAY APPEAR to be a harsh caricature, but let me remind you that a leading American intellectual who happens to be Secretary of State utilized precisely this weird logic when asked about his reaction to Solzhenitsyn. In effect, Prof. Kissinger said, "What does he want? Nuclear war?"

In addition to being lousy logic, this is a gross misstatement of the positions held by both Solzhenitsyn (from one perspective) and Sakharov (from another). Above all, they want to avoid war, but they are convinced that Kissinger's one-way detente increases, rather than decreases, the likelihood of Communist adventurism.

In any case, Sakharov is a magnificent citizen of the world who richly deserved the Nobel Peace Prize. My only suggestion is that he address his next work not to the intellectuals but to the American trade union movement, which still recognizes the distinction between right and wrong.

Usery Tells Seminar:

Expanding Scope of Bargaining Escalates Role of Mediators

The following is excerpted from an address by W. J. Usery, Jr., director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, to the agency's annual mediation seminar, Nov. 3, 1975, in New Orleans.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING is no longer a tightly structured process limited in use to a specific segment of our society. The march toward expansion of collective bargaining has continued unabated, picking up momentum with each passing year.

At first it was a privilege exercised—and closely guarded—by highly skilled craftsmen. Railroaders, miners and, after a monumental struggle, industrial workers joined in, along with a few in the arts—musicians, actors, newspaper people.

This is where the limits of collective bargaining stood when our agency was created.

The range of collective bargaining issues was just beginning to expand from simple wage-and-hour agreements into the complexities of arbitration, welfare and pension plans, incentives and seniority provisions.

During the next 20 years, changes came—but they came at a rather leisurely pace.

Within the past decade and particularly in the past five years—change has become the norm.

Millions of workers have been demanding and getting admission to the collective bargaining club. Employes of the federal, state and local governments, workers from health-care facilities and the agricultural industry have poured into the ranks of union-represented employes.

Doctors, nurses and orderlies . . . farm hands, street sweepers and garbage collectors . . . teachers, fire fighters and policemen—all are insisting that they be allowed to share in decisions affecting their lives through collective bargaining.

We are seeing them back their demand with a growing militance. The soft tactics embodied in the blue-flu, the sick-out, working-to-rules—these are being replaced by that age-old, singularly effective action of the worker, the strike.

Beyond this, a steady, unrelenting outpouring of legislation affecting employers and employes has added to the complexities of collective bargaining—and mediation.

Safety and health, equal rights in hiring and promoting, pension protection, wage and price controls, fuel allocations—all have had a heavy impact on labor-management relations. And all have brought to us new challenges in the development of programs that will provide effective mediation.

I can promise you that the string of new complications has not run out.

For example, with increasing frequency we are finding a third party at the negotiating table. And usually the two parties in dispute have little control over this uninvited visitor.

Who is this third party?

In public-sector disputes, it is the taxpayer. In health-care bargaining, it is the insurance carrier. In trucking and airline negotiations, it is a ghostly group that determines what the price of petroleum will be sometime in the future. In the construction industry, it is the makers of interest rates. In time of economic controls, it is the government.

There is even a campaign afoot now in our land to give the consumer a place at the bargaining table.

This rapid gush of change—much of which you will be hearing about from experts throughout the week—has touched many of us in the past two years. In some instances it has taken us out of what we once considered the traditional and true path of mediation.

Even as we were meeting in Washington in our last seminar, an energy crisis was welling up in our land, capped by the Arab oil embargo.

Wearing my newly acquired hat as special assistant to the President, I became deeply involved in a dispute that involved tens of thousands of individual managements—and no specific union.

I'm referring, of course, to the strike by the nation's independent truck drivers.

No sooner did we have the trucks rolling again than service station operators—caught between a shortage of their primary product and price controls that forced them to sell it at a loss—threatened to end their frustrations by closing shop.

As in the case of the truck drivers, we found ourselves mediating what were actually grievances by a group of citizens against necessary government actions that had collided with their way of life—their ability to earn a living.

Again breaking with tradition—and again functioning as special assistant to the President—we coordinated efforts with the National Mediation Board in a number of railway and airline disputes.

THIS TREND away from the traditional has not been limited to my office.

Many of you have found yourselves mediating unusual disputes under unique circumstances—particularly in the public-sector and health-care fields.

Our plea of two years ago to parties confronted with a collective bargaining conflict—the plea to "call your mediator"—is being made with increasing frequency by the media, the courts and other public officials. It is our obligation to answer that call.

At the same time, we must multiply our efforts to teach and preach the methods of avoiding conflict.

For Full Political Rights:

Federal Workers Gain in Drive To Lift Hatch Act Restrictions

LONG-SOUGHT ACTION to give federal workers the same political rights their fellow citizens have may be closer than ever to reality this year, President Clyde Webber of the Government Employees said on Labor News Conference.

Revision of the Hatch Act, which currently restricts more than two million Americans from the "real-life power struggles in their own communities," has been a high-priority aim of the 300,000-member union for more than 14 years, Webber stressed. He rejected the contention of some Republican partisans that giving federal workers the right to become involved in the political arena, if they want to, would only benefit the Democrats.

The opportunity to take full and active roles in the political processes of their communities, their school districts, their states and the nation isn't "going to change the voting patterns of federal employes very much," he said.

Webber said that Hatch Act revision won't weaken the merit system through "mass job-disruption when new political administrations take power," or by keying "advancement in careers . . . to political activities." He said that "many people simply fail to understand that not all the federal employes work in offices . . . or operate at a level where they make policy."

Of the more than two million federal, non-postal employes, most are below the GS-8 level, "have very modest incomes and live in neighborhoods of wage earners and workers," Webber said. He pointed out that non-federal employes who do the very same jobs under the government's growing practice of "contracting-out" have no such restrictions on political activities.

"It is wrong to wholly exclude other American citizens who happen to work for the federal government from the same activities," he said.

Reporters questioning Webber on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Joseph Young of the Washington Star and Don Mace of the Federal Times. The program is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY vote which declared Zionism "a form of racism" produced shockwaves which finally may wake up those who profess to believe in humanitarian values.

On the one hand, the UN vote posed the danger of encouraging anti-Semitism, this time with a UN label. On the other hand, the shock may inspire western democracies to redefine more realistically what the United Nations is for, what it can do and cannot do.

The degeneration of the UN General Assembly to its latest excess already had occurred in the International Labor Organization, the only UN agency with worker and employer representation.

As AFL-CIO President George Meany said recently, "the last straw" was when the ILO conference last June admitted the Palestine Liberation Organization to observer status. The American worker delegation walked out; the U.S. government delegate forcefully pointed out that the PLO is not a government and represents neither workers nor employers.

Yet the perversion of the purposes of the UN and the ILO, as well as other agencies, has developed over several decades. The wholesale admission of tiny nation-states and the entry of newly independent nations produced a big shift in voting power. The coalescence of "Third World" interests, the rise of Arab power based on oil, and skillful tactics of the Soviet bloc combined to turn UN general forums into propaganda sounding boards.

Other trends are just as serious as politicization of the conference, in the eyes of the United States—and especially in the eyes of organized labor which helped found and build the ILO. These trends are an erosion of the tripartite principle, a selective concern for human rights and disregard of due process in handling allegations of the violation of trade union rights.

The battle-lines were drawn Nov. 6, when the United States formally notified the ILO of its intention to withdraw unless the ILO returns to its basic aims. Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop will head a Cabinet-level committee in devising strategy, consulting with Congress as well as with the AFL-CIO and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The big test will come at the ILO annual conference in June 1976. Two key issues will be who is elected to preside over the one-month conference and who is elected to chair the all-important Governing Body which directs ILO activities during the year.

A STRONG PRESIDING OFFICER with a sense of the ILO's basic purpose would put an end to political propaganda and rule such speakers out of order. A basic change would shorten the conference and stress committee work. A move to break tradition and elect a Communist government delegate to chair the Governing Body would ignite a major fight.

The United States will vigorously fight renewed proposals to undermine the right of worker and employer groups to determine the credentials of their own delegates. These proposals would require "equitable geographic distribution" and open a back door for government-controlled delegates to pose as "worker" or "employer" representatives.

The United States also will demand an end to the "double standard" in citing some nations as in violation of conventions on freedom of association and forced labor while granting immunity to the Soviet Union and Soviet bloc nations.

There may be influential allies to back at least some American objectives.

Bertil Bolin, the Swedish trade unionist who serves as ILO deputy director, in October told delegates to an International Confederation of Free Trade Unions meeting in Mexico that critics of the ILO are "partly right."

"The ILO has been used for the wrong purposes and is less effective as a result," Bolin said. He stressed that the ILO is not the place "to try to resolve conflicts between nations."

FULL POLITICAL RIGHTS for federal workers are closer than ever to reality this year, President Clyde M. Webber, center, of the Government Employees, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning the AFL-CIO vice president were Joseph Young, left, of the Washington Star and Don Mace of the Federal Times. The public affairs interview is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTION adopted by the UN General Assembly is assailed by President Harry Van Arsdale of the New York City AFL-CIO at a rally in Manhattan's garment district. At a meeting with Daniel P. Moynihan earlier (bottom photo) trade union representatives praised the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations for his attempts to block adoption of the resolution.

Mediators Told Workers Miss Out On Fruits of Increased Productivity

New Orleans—A warning that workers cannot count on sharing in the fruits of increased productivity was issued here by President Paul Hall of the Seafarers at the 17th annual seminar of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Hall, addressing some 300 mediators taking part in the conference, noted that the American maritime industry today is operating ships as much as ten times larger and twice as fast as the standard cargo vessel of a few years ago—and with half the crew.

"Now that's increased productivity," he said. "And what has the seafarer gotten out of it? Nothing. Not even the right to a steady job."

Turning to the effects of foreign trade on the American worker and collective bargaining, Hall said that "what we used to conceive of as free trade no longer exists."

Profit-motivated corporations, whether in shipping or elsewhere, cannot compete with politically oriented state-owned operations that can absorb their losses at will, he declared. The result is being reflected at the negotiating table and at the workplace, he noted.

"American workers now have a terrible fear of losing all they've got to a condition over which they have no control," Hall said. "And unless we turn this thing around, we're all going down the drain."

President Clyde Webber of the Government Employees told the mediators that the reluctance of the federal government to accept bona fide collective bargaining has had its price.

"In terms of morale, efficiency and productivity, there has been a vast loss," he said, "as well as in hiring and training an army of personnel experts, consultants and lawyers who clutter the system with debilitating strategies."

In his keynote address to the conference, FMCS Director, W. J. Usery, Jr., noted that collective bargaining is steadily becoming more complicated.

"For example, with increasing frequency we are finding a third party at the negotiating table," he said. "And usually, the two parties in dispute have little control over this uninvited visitor.

"Who is this third party? In public-sector disputes, it is the taxpayer; in health-care bargaining, it is the insurance carrier; in trucking and airline negotiations, it is a ghostly group that determines what the price of petroleum will be sometime in the future; in the construction industry, it is the makers of interest rates, and in time of economic controls, it is the government," he said.

Usery said that collective bargaining "is no longer a tightly structured process limited in use to a specific segment of our society. Millions of workers have been demanding and getting admission to the collective bargaining club. Employes of the federal, state and local governments, workers from health-care facilities and the agricultural industry have poured into the ranks of union-represented employes."

"Doctors, nurses and orderlies; farm hands, street sweepers and garbage collectors; teachers, fire fighters and policemen—all are insisting that they be allowed to share in decisions affecting their lives through collective bargaining," he said.

Addressing himself to problems among employes at the state and local level, William Lucy, secretary-treasurer of the State, County & Municipal Employees, said that he believes the public-sector workers' primary demand "is for an equitable process, not for the right to strike."

He called for a redesigning of revenue-raising structures, and for reducing the bargaining power "of those who must run for office and pass on tax matters."

Leon J. Davis, president of District 1199, National Union of Hospital & Health-Care Employees—a division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union — used the seminar to issue a call to "narrowly limit" the functions of the National Labor Relations Board.

Davis said that long delays permitted under NLRB procedures make efforts to gain union representation "an exercise in futility."

Another seminar speaker, Vice President Douglas Fraser of the Auto Workers, said that job security and a strengthening and restructuring of supplemental unemployment benefit programs would be among the key issues in 1976 negotiations with the major auto producers.

President Ford, in a telephoned message to the mediators, said that "the collective bargaining process is still by any standards the best means for labor and management to fairly share the fruits of their investment in time, talent and money."

Among the other guests were Labor Sec. John Dunlop, Commerce Sec. Rogers C. B. Morton, NLRB Chairman Betty S. Murphy, Michael H. Moskow, chairman of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, and San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto.

To Cut Off Filibusters:

3 Senate Rollcalls On Situs Picketing

Before the Senate could vote on the merits of the labor-supported construction site picketing bill, it had to break a filibuster by voting to limit debate. Under the Senate's rules, at least 60 senators must vote for cloture in order to set a time limit on debate.

On all three rollcalls, senators who voted for cloture are marked R for right and votes against cloture are marked W for wrong. Absent senators are indicated by A.

VOTE NO. 1, on Nov. 11, squelched the first stage of the filibuster — an attempt to keep the Senate from voting on the routine motion to begin consideration of the site picketing bill. A 66-30 vote overcame this procedural roadblock.

VOTE NO. 2, on Nov. 14, was the first attempt to limit debate on the bill and allow the Senate to vote on it. The 58-31 vote was two short of the 60 votes needed for cloture.

VOTE NO. 3, on Nov. 18, broke the filibuster with a 62-37 majority for cloture.

Democrats

	1	2	3		1	2	3
Abourezk, (S.D.)	R	R	R	Johnston (La.)	W	W	W
Allen (Ala.)	W	W	W	Kennedy (Mass.)	R	R	R
Bayh (Ind.)	R	R	R	Leahy (Vt.)	R	R	R
Bentsen (Tex.)	R	R	R	Long (La.)	R	W	R
Biden (Del.)	R	R	R	Magnuson (Wash.)	R	R	R
Bumpers (Ark.)	R	R	R	Mansfield (Mont.)	R	R	R
Burdick (N.D.)	R	R	R	McClellan (Ark.)	W	W	W
Byrd, Harry (Va.)	A	W	W	McGee (Wyo.)	R	R	R
Byrd, Robert (W.Va.)	R	R	R	McGovern (S.D.)	R	R	R
Cannon (Nev.)	W	W	W	McIntyre (N.H.)	R	R	R
Chiles (Fla.)	R	W	W	Metcalf (Mont.)	R	R	R
Church (Ida.)	R	R	R	Mondale (Minn.)	R	R	R
Clark (Iowa)	R	R	R	Montoya (N.M.)	R	A	R
Cranston (Calif.)	R	R	R	Morgan (N.C.)	W	A	W
Culver (Iowa)	R	R	R	Moss (Utah)	R	R	R
Durkin (N.H.)	R	R	R	Muskie (Maine)	R	R	R
Eagleton (Mo.)	R	R	R	Nelson (Wis.)	R	R	R
Eastland (Miss.)	W	W	W	Nunn (Ga.)	W	W	W
Ford (Ky.)	R	A	R	Pastore (R.I.)	R	R	R
Glenn (Ohio)	R	R	R	Pell (R.I.)	A	R	R
Gravel (Alaska)	R	R	R	Proxmire (Wis.)	R	R	R
Hart, Gary (Colo.)	R	R	R	Randolph (W.Va.)	R	R	R
Hart, Philip (Mich.)	A	R	R	Ribicoff (Conn.)	R	R	R
Hartke (Ind.)	R	R	R	Sparkman (Ala.)	W	W	W
Haskell (Colo.)	R	R	R	Stennis (Miss.)	W	W	W
Hathaway (Maine)	R	R	R	Stevenson (Ill.)	R	R	R
Hollings (S.C.)	W	W	W	Stone (Fla.)	R	W	W
Huddleston (Ky.)	R	W	W	Symington (Mo.)	R	R	R
Humphrey (Minn.)	R	R	R	Talmadge (Ga.)	W	W	W
Inouye (Hawaii)	R	R	R	Tunney (Calif.)	R	R	R
Jackson (Wash.)	R	R	R	Williams (N.J.)	R	R	R

Republicans

	1	2	3		1	2	3
Baker (Tenn.)	W	W	W	Hruska (Neb.)	W	A	W
Bartlett (Okla.)	W	W	W	Javits (N.Y.)	R	R	R
Beall (Md.)	R	R	R	Laxalt (Nev.)	W	W	W
Bellmon (Okla.)	R	W	W	Mathias (Md.)	R	R	R
Brock (Tenn.)	R	W	W	McClure (Ida.)	W	A	W
Brooke (Mass.)	R	R	R	Packwood (Ore.)	R	R	R
Buckley (N.Y.)	R	W	W	Pearson (Kans.)	A	R	R
Case (N.J.)	R	R	R	Percy (Ill.)	R	R	R
Curtis (Neb.)	W	A	W	Roth (Del.)	R	W	W
Dole (Kan.)	W	W	W	Schweiker (Pa.)	R	R	R
Domenici (N.M.)	W	A	W	Scott, Hugh (Pa.)	R	A	R
Fannin (Ariz.)	W	W	W	Scott, William (Va.)	W	W	W
Fong (Hawaii)	W	W	W	Stafford (Vt.)	R	R	R
Garn (Utah)	W	A	A	Stevens (Alaska)	R	R	R
Goldwater (Ariz.)	W	W	W	Taft (Ohio)	R	R	R
Griffin (Mich.)	W	W	W	Thurmond (S.C.)	W	W	W
Hansen (Wyo.)	W	A	W	Tower (Tex.)	W	W	W
Hatfield (Ore.)	R	R	R	Weicker (Conn.)	R	R	R
Helms (N.C.)	W	A	W	Young (N.D.)	W	W	W

Change in Senate Rules Helps Break Filibusters

A compromise rules change adopted by the Senate last March made it possible to break a filibuster and reach a vote on the construction site picketing bill.

Under the previous rules, it required a two-thirds majority of senators present and voting to limit debate.

The new rules allow three-fifths of the total membership, 60 senators, to invoke cloture.

On the Nov. 14 vote to limit debate on the site picketing bill, 99 senators were present. Under the old rules, 66 votes would have been needed and the actual 62-37 vote would have fallen short. The filibuster could have continued until the Senate agreed to set aside the bill and move on to other matters.

Shift to Labor Dept. Sought:

Interior Dept. Hit for Laxity In Mine Safety Enforcement

Union witnesses asked Congress to strengthen job safety and health protection for miners and to shift enforcement of mine safety laws from the Interior Dept. to the Labor Dept. The Interior Dept. was criticized for being indifferent to worker safety.

Among the union groups testifying before a House Labor subcommittee were the Steelworkers, the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., the Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers, the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and the unaffiliated United Mine Workers. Most UMW members are covered by the Federal Coal Mine Health & Safety Act. Other types of mining operations are under a separate law, the Federal Metal & Nonmetallic Mine Safety Act.

The recent AFL-CIO convention called for passage of "a single mine safety law" covering all types of mining, with transfer of responsibility from Interior "to a separate safety division in the Dept. of Labor" where miners would be assured of "at least the same rights as workers in general industry."

Steelworkers Vice President John S. Johns told the subcommittee that the 100,000 iron ore, nonferrous and quarry mine workers represented by his union have fewer legal protections than either coal miners or workers in less hazardous industries.

He asked that the same procedures—although not necessarily the same standards—be applied to coal and non-coal mining. And while the Interior Dept. has a "conflict of interest" between its role as a promoter of the mining industry and its worker safety assignment, the Labor Dept. was established to "foster the interests of working people."

A grim example of the Interior Dept.'s laxity was cited by two other witnesses—Sheldon Samuels, the Industrial Union Dept.'s health, safety and environment director, and President Thomas Miechur of the Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers.

The victims were workers at an asbestos quarry and mill operated until recently in Copperopolis, Calif., by the Pacific Asbestos Corp.

Although mandatory air quality standards had supposedly been in effect since 1969, it wasn't until 1972 that the Bureau of Mines sampled the concentration of deadly asbestos dust and found it "too high to even count," Miechur testified. But it took no action other than to issue "recommendations" to the company because the previous year it had delegated its enforcement authority to the State of California.

As Miechur noted, "the state refused to provide the union with any inspection reports, any orders issued to the company" and any deadline dates for compliance, asserting that this was "privileged communication between the state and the company."

Samuels testified that the IUD, at the request of the union, sent a professional health team which found high levels of asbestos in the homes of workers—presumably from workclothes exposed to asbestos dust—and in a nearby stream. Many of the workers never had been given a company medical examination, and only their union's initiative led to the uncovering of the early stages of asbestosis among a number of employes.

Earlier in the hearings, the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers urged consolidation of all worker safety and health programs. Steve Wodka, legislative representative of the union, said the law covering non-coal miners provides less protection for workers than the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

The Mine Workers legislative director, Robert Nelson, told the panel that the Interior Dept. has not effectively enforced either of the mine safety laws and urged that jurisdiction be moved to the Labor Dept.

The subcommittee's chairman, Rep. Dominick V. Daniels (D-N.J.), has sponsored a bill to strengthen the Metal & Nonmetallic Mine Safety Act and put its enforcement under the Labor Dept. A companion bill in the Senate, introduced by Labor Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), would also shift responsibility for the coal mine law's enforcement.

ECONOMIC ISSUES affecting workers in Tunisia were reviewed in a discussion between AFL-CIO President George Meany and Habib Achour, general secretary of the National Tunisian Labor Union, during Achour's visit to Washington. Meany and Achour have been acquainted since the early 1950s when American labor supported the Tunisian struggle for independence.

Labor Backs Concept Of Energy Authority

The AFL-CIO has endorsed the concept of the Ford Administration's proposed new Energy Independence Authority, a $100 billion federal program to gain energy independence for the United States in 10 years or less.

At the same time, Federation President George Meany stressed that "we expect to have a number of proposals for improvements in the specific terms of this measure."

Initiated by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, the energy proposal was unveiled by President Ford at the biennial convention of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. in San Francisco.

Working with private enterprise and labor, the Energy Independence Authority would seek new technologies to support or directly produce or transport American energy, technologies to support U.S. nuclear development, and electrical power from American coal, nuclear and geothermal sources.

"Government must provide the initiative and incentive for development of energy projects that will place this nation on the road to energy independence," Meany observed in a statement.

AFL-CIO endorsement of the proposed energy authority was based on an analysis and recommendations of the federation's Energy Policy Committee. Members of the panel include Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, Vice Presidents Paul Hall, Martin Ward, William Sidell, A. F. Grospiron, Murray Finley and Joseph Keenan.

Meany noted that an estimated $600-$800 billion will be required in the next 10 years to finance investments for energy independence. While most projects would be capitalized from private sources, those deemed vital to the national interest but unable to secure private capital would be financed through the new government corporation.

The corporation would have authority to make direct loans, provide loan guarantees and other financial assistance to energy independence projects.

"Private industry, left to itself, cannot and will not resolve the energy crisis which still plagues this nation," Meany observed. "The American people should not be deluded by the current easy availability of energy supplies.

"While the gas lines have disappeared, the dependence of the United States on oil from insecure foreign sources still exists. This nation is more vulnerable to an Arab oil embargo today than in 1973."

Musicians Negotiate Recording Agreement

New York — A tentative agreement has been reached between the Musicians and the recording industry to cover the services of AFM members in the production of phonograph recordings.

The agreement is subject to approval of affected AFM members. Eligible to vote on the contract are approximately 4,000 musicians who have earned a minimum of $1,000 from recordings during calendar year 1974.

Wage Boosts End St. Louis Utility Strike

St. Louis — More than 1,500 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in a three-state area won basic wage increases totalling 15 percent in a new two-year agreement with Union Electric Co. to settle a 16-week strike.

The new contract, which expires July 1, 1977, boosts wages 7 percent in the first year and 8 percent the second year.

Improved retirement and medical benefits were also negotiated in the agreement covering members of IBEW Locals 1439, 309 and 649 in eastern Missouri, southern Illinois and southern Iowa.

Employes of the electric utility will continue to report to central work depots until Jan. 1, 1977, when they will report to worksites, unless future negotiations alter the agreement, the IBEW said.

Union Electric also has resumed negotiations with IBEW Local 1455 and Operating Engineers Local 148, whose members refused to cross picket lines during the strike.

Massachusetts AFL-CIO Hits Tax Law as Unfair

Boston—The Massachusetts AFL-CIO has assailed new budget-tax legislation that will sharply increase taxes for wage earners and disqualify many workers from unemployment compensation.

Delegates to the 18th annual state federation convention drafted a message protesting the enactment of the bill that was rammed through the legislature and signed by the governor despite earlier assurances the measure would be rejected.

Labor opposed the budget-tax package largely on the grounds that it will jack up the state sales tax from 3 to 5 percent and cut off jobless benefits for workers who voluntarily quit jobs.

The message of protest — sent to all members of the state legislature and to Gov. Michael S. Dukakis — also cited other "gross injustices," which would place an unfair tax burden on individuals while providing tax breaks for business interests.

In other action, the nearly 1,000 delegates voted to raise the state federation's monthly per capita payment from 11 to 13 cents.

The convention also went on record in support of federal legislation that would prohibit mandatory busing of school children to achieve racial integration, a position directly in conflict with national policy of the AFL-CIO.

President Joseph A. Sullivan and Sec.-Treas. James P. Loughlin were re-elected to new two-year terms.

Two new executive vice presidents elected at the four-day convention are William J. Cleary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to succeed retiring Daniel F. Murray of the Steelworkers, and Bertram C. Farnham of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, who defeated Joseph D. MacLaughlin of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

Delegates also elected Cecilia Leshyk of the Ladies' Garment Workers as vice president at-large to succeed Helen C. O'Donnell, who retired, and seven new vice presidents to the 37-member executive board.

Major speakers addressing the convention included both of the state's U.S. senators, Edward M. Kennedy (D) and Edward W. Brooke (R), Gov. Dukakis (D) and Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

State Council Sets Review of Busing Stand

The Massachusetts AFL-CIO has scheduled a special meeting of the state labor council's executive board for Nov. 24 to review an anti-busing resolution adopted in convention earlier this month.

AFL-CIO President George Meany informed officials of the state labor body that the resolution calling for active support of legislation or constitutional amendments to forbid mandatory busing of school children was in violation of national AFL-CIO policy.

State AFL-CIO President Joseph A. Sullivan and Sec.-Treas. James P. Loughlin scheduled the special board session after meeting with Meany. It will be held in Boston.

In a message to Sullivan earlier, Meany pointed out that the AFL-CIO convention in October reiterated the federation's position on the busing issue, specifically, "We will oppose the constitutional amendment approach because it will do a disservice to the quality integrated education which we support."

Despite abundant warning, Meany said in his message to Sullivan, the state labor council's convention adopted "a policy that is in direct conflict to national AFL-CIO policy."

The state federation officers were advised that instructions would be issued at the meeting in the AFL-CIO headquarters on immediate steps needed to bring the labor council into conformity with AFL-CIO policy. Otherwise the council would face disciplinary action under the federation's rules governing central bodies.

House Democrats Kill Amendment on Busing

The House Democratic caucus soundly defeated an attempt to force the Judiciary Committee to bring to the floor a proposed constitutional amendment that would bar busing children beyond the nearest school.

By a vote of 172-96, the caucus supported a move by House Speaker Carl Albert to table the motion, and thus kill it.

The motion had been endorsed by the AFL-CIO in a letter from Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller to House Democrats.

Biemiller cited the AFL-CIO convention action opposing such a constitutional amendment. And although busing to achieve integrated education is "a controversial and emotional issue," Biemiller urged that the motion to instruct the Judiciary Committee be rejected as "unwise and divisive."

Building Trades Hail Vote:

Site Picketing Right Approved by Senate

(Continued from Page 1)

sultation with unions and management.

Employer organizations, in and out of the construction industry, have been pressing Ford to back away from his commitment to sign the picketing bill.

Dunlop, in a letter read to the Senate during the debate, reiterated his strong support of the site picketing bill and rejected assertions that it would be inflationary or would legalize picketing for any unlawful purposes.

As for the argument that it would keep non-union subcontractors from working on jobs employing union members, Dunlop suggested that this would be a most desirable result.

Mixing union and non-union operations on a single job "is not conducive to sound labor relations, to cooperation on a job, nor to increased productivity," Dunlop noted.

Writing from experience of many years dealing with construction industry labor relations issues, the Secretary of Labor told the Senate that "mixing labor policies tends more to stimulate disputes between workers operating under different wages and benefits doing the same or similar work."

One of the tasks for the House-Senate conferees will be to decide the fate of several amendments added to the bill over labor's opposition.

The Senate inserted an amendment by Sen. J. Glenn Beall (R-Md.) to exempt residential home construction—defined as structures with three or fewer floors and no elevators—from the site picketing bill. The House had narrowly rejected a similar amendment.

There were some other amendments in both the House and Senate versions that labor did not support. But both bodies rejected a series of clearly anti-labor amendments that were designed to make the final version of the legislation unacceptable to unions.

Opponents had put their chief hope for blocking the bill on a filibuster — the weapon successfully used a decade ago to prevent the Senate from acting on the House-passed bill to repeal the "right-to-work" Section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Under the Senate's new rules, adopted earlier this year, 60 votes were needed to close debate and break a filibuster.

This was easily achieved when opponents first tried to keep the Senate from even debating the site picketing bill. But it took two tries to limit debate on the bill itself. The first effort fell two votes short. But another try, with all supporters present including several who cancelled important engagements to make the vote, succeeded by a 62-37 margin.

Georgine expressed the building trades thanks to other AFL-CIO unions and departments and to the congressmen and senators who resisted "some of the most extreme pressure ever applied on Capitol Hill" to support the legislation.

He urged local building trades unions, before the measure becomes law, to thoroughly familiarize themselves with its provisions "before any of us goes off prematurely and starts establishing construction site picket lines."

In both the House and Senate versions, a local union that has a dispute with a contractor or subcontractor would be able to picket the entire construction site provided it gives 10-day notice of its intent to do so and has received the approval of its international union.

The bargaining bill, which was joined to the Senate version of the site picketing bill as a means of avoiding another filibuster battle, would give national and international unions a greater involvement in the construction industry bargaining process.

It would establish a Construction Industry Collective Bargaining Committee of 10 union representatives, 10 management representatives and up to three neutrals, including the chairman. Both the Secretary of Labor and the director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service will be ex officio members.

A 60-day notice of contract expirations would be furnished to national unions and contractor associations and relayed to the Construction Industry Bargaining Committee.

The committee could take jurisdiction, in which case there could be no strike or lockout for 30 days past the expiration date. Alternatively, it could refer a dispute to a national craft board or comparable union-management body. Or it could ask the national labor and contractor organizations whose members are involved to participate in the negotiations. In that event, any new or revised collective bargaining agreement would have to be approved by the national union to take effect.

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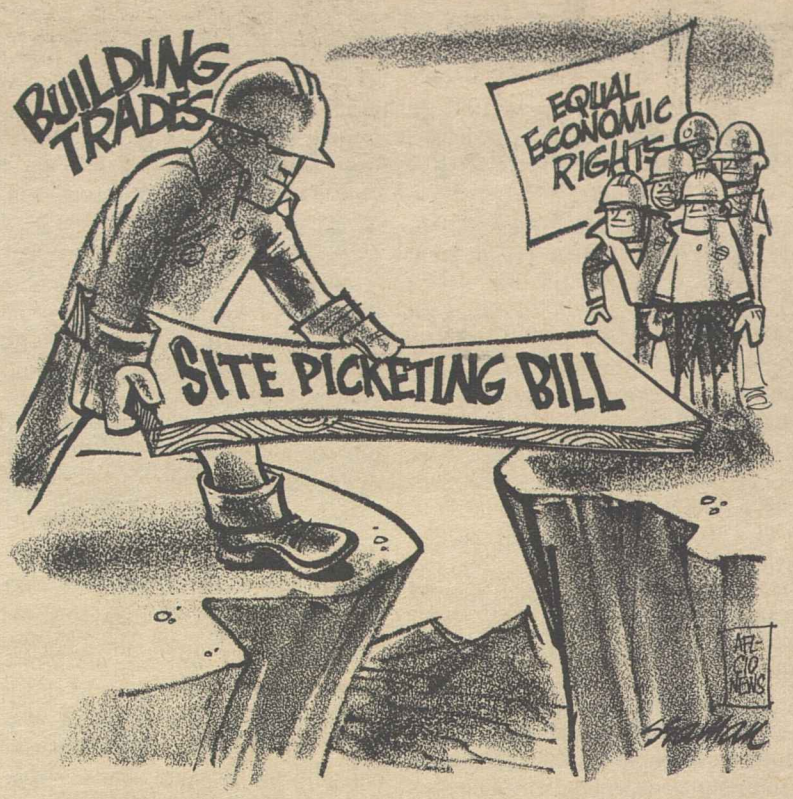
A Giant Step



Prices Turn Upward, Buying Power Drops

(Continued from Page 1)

translate into an annual inflation rate of 8.4 percent. Retail prices last month were 7.6 percent higher than year-ago levels.

In September, the CPI rose by five-tenths of 1 percent, by two-tenths of 1 percent in August.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, prices of grocery store foods jumped 1.5 percent in October, following a decline of two-tenths of 1 percent in September and no change in August. Such prices usually show a large decline in October, BLS said.

Beef and pork prices rose nine-tenths of 1 percent and 3.8 percent, respectively. Dairy products went up 2 percent over the month. In the processed fruits and vegetables category, dried bean prices rose sharply in response to tighter supplies resulting from rain damage to the Midwest crop, BLS noted.

Prices declined for some food items such as fresh fruit, poultry and eggs. Among cereal and bakery products, flour prices rose for the first time since April.

The index for restaurant meals and snacks away from home rose seven-tenths of 1 percent, continuing the accelerating trend evident since midyear, BLS said.

Prices of nonfood commodities rose by three-tenths of 1 percent in October, the same as in September. BLS said about 60 percent of the increase resulted in price hikes for apparel and new car prices. But there were price rises for a considerable number of items, including fuel oil, furniture, appliances, tires, housekeeping supplies, toilet goods, alcoholic beverages, and college textbooks.

Charges for services increased by six-tenths of 1 percent, compared to 1 percent in September. Rents went up by seven-tenths of 1 percent, the largest monthly increase this year. Charges for medical care services rose 1.2 percent, a larger increase than in recent months.

Among household services, mortgage interest rates increased by nine-tenths of 1 percent reflecting primarily higher rates for loans guaranteed by the Veterans Administration. After declining in the first five months of the year, the index for mortgage interest rates has risen more than 2 percent from May to October, BLS noted.

In a separate survey, the government found that the average worker with three dependents took home seasonally adjusted real spendable earnings of $91.66 a week last month, a slight drop of 4 cents from the previous month, and not much more than the $91.32 workers brought home in 1965.

The big American corporations, however, did much better in the July-September quarter, according to a survey by the First National City Bank of New York, which reported a "steep upturn" in corporate earnings over the period.

"With productivity gains offsetting higher wage costs, unit labor costs remained stable or slightly lower, and profit margins moved sharply higher," the Citibank survey noted.

Productivity increases were unusually sharp in the third quarter—close to an 11 percent annual rate—the report observed.

Veto Warning Stalls Action On N.Y. Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

tee Chairman Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) on the measure.

City, state and union leaders were disappointed at Ford's failure to support the bill. Albert Shanker, president of the Teachers, saw "no useful purpose" in Ford's "waiting game."

The AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., in an executive board statement before Ford's latest announcement, termed the President's "uncertainty in decision-making" evidence of the "lack of leadership from the national Administration" on the issue.

The department noted that Ford has sought "foreign aid to questionable friends of the United States, a continuation of low-cost interest rates to Russia in the name of detente and supported federal subsidies to financially-troubled corporations." Yet he refused to recognize any responsibility for helping New York out of a crisis brought about largely by "the federal government's tight-money, high-interest-rates economic policies."

In New York, municipal unions have reached agreement with Gov. Hugh Carey on representation for labor on two state agencies that have been set up to deal with New York City's financial crisis — the Emergency Financial Control Board and the Municipal Assistance Corp.

The control board would become a forum for any renegotiation of public employe contracts or pension plans and the Municipal Assistance Corp. is dependent on union approval for large-scale investment of pension funds to help keep the city solvent.

MAC Chairman Felix G. Rohatyn commented:

"It just seems to us that the unions, in terms of their fiduciary responsibility, should have representation on the various bodies where policy decisions are made."

High Jobless Rates Grip 134 of 150 Major Areas

Widespread unemployment continued to grip the nation in October, with 134 of the 150 major job markets surveyed each month by the Labor Dept. reporting substantial joblessness.

The government defines substantial unemployment as a jobless rate of 6 percent or more that is expected to continue for at least two additional months.

A year ago, there were 52 major labor areas experiencing substantial joblessness. In September, the number was 135, the highest since the government started its present classification system in May 1955.

The list of major job centers with substantial unemployment now excludes only the following areas: Denver, Boulder, Colo.; Davenport, Ia., and Rock Island-Moline, Ill.; Peoria, Ill; Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Des Moines, Ia.; Wichita, Kan.; Jackson, Miss.; Raleigh-Durham, N.C.; Tulsa, Okla.; Austin, Tex.; Dallas; Fort Worth, Tex.; Houston; Richmond, Va.; Madison, Wis., and Harrisburg, Pa.

Harrisburg was removed from the substantial unemployment list last month after a slight improvement in the job situation there. It had been classified in the substantial category since last April.

The improved situation in Harrisburg was due largely to withdrawals from the labor force of summer job seekers, along with slight payroll increases in local government coinciding with the reopening of school, the Labor Dept. said. There were also employment gains reported in retail trade, transportation and public utilities, and printing and publishing.

Areas that are classified on the substantial unemployment list may be eligible for first preference in bidding on certain federal procurement contracts, provided the firms in the area agree to hire 25 percent of the new hires each month from among the disadvantaged residents of the area.

Classifications are based on preliminary data on employment and unemployment provided by state employment security agencies.

State-County Wins Illinois Clerical Unit

The State, County & Municipal Employees won representation rights for 12,000 Illinois state clerical and paraprofessional workers in a statewide election.

AFSCME received 4,368 votes to 2,909 for the Illinois State Employees Association and 864 for no union in balloting conducted from Oct. 27 through Nov. 5.

In two earlier elections, AFSCME won bargaining rights for 12,000 workers employed in mental health institutions and 2,500 security workers in the state department of corrections.

Overall, AFSCME now represents about 30,000 state employes throughout Illinois.

Richard Wilson, coordinator of AFSCME operations in Illinois, said the union will shortly petition for elections for another 12,000-member unit of professionals and paraprofessionals in the state human services agencies.

Manpower Agency Gets New Name

It's no longer the Manpower Administration. The 13-year-old Labor Dept. agency has been renamed the Employment & Training Administration to "more accurately portray" its activities, Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop announced.

The new name "removes any reference to gender and thus better characterizes the organization which is the nation's focal point for employment and training programs for all citizens," Dunlop noted.

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Corporate Profits Up 17%, Biggest Jump in 25 Years

Ban Sought On Airlines Strike Pact

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to nullify the airline industry's Mutual Aid Pact as "incompatible" with collective bargaining goals and hostile to the public interest.

Under the controversial agreement, a struck airline is subsidized by other airlines for the duration of the strike.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Kenneth Peterson and other union witnesses told a House Public Works & Transportation subcommittee that the pact hardens management's position at the bargaining table and removes pressure on a company to avoid or settle a strike.

Peterson, who testified on behalf of AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller, cited evidence that some airlines can actually gain financially by prolonging a strike.

Unions representing airline workers joined in urging approval of a one-sentence amendment to the Federal Aviation Act which would declare that the Airlines Mutual Aid Agreement "is adverse to the public interest and hereby terminated."

Subcommittee Chairman Glenn M. Anderson (D-Calif.) is a sponsor of the bill in the House, and a companion bill by Sen. Mike Gravel (D-Alaska) has been the subject of Senate hearings. Officials of the Machinists, Air Line Pilots, Railway & Airline Clerks and the Transport Workers have testified at the House and Senate hearings for the legislation.

The AFL-CIO noted that the airline pact began in 1958 as "a modest program" which applied only when the striking union had rejected the recommendations of a Presidential Emergency Board. All it provided then was that a competing firm that had windfall profits resulting from diversion of traffic from the struck airline would turn over its excess profits.

But subsequent amendments changed this formula to an assessment on all participating airlines, applicable to almost all strikes. The latest form of the pact was approved by a narrow 3-2 vote of the Civil Aeronautics Board, which overturned an administrative law judge's recommendation of disapproval.

Peterson, accompanied by AFL-CIO Special Counsel Laurence Gold, noted that companies which have been uncompromising at the bargaining table have drawn vast sums under the agreement. Since 1971, he said, United Air Lines, Pan American, Eastern and American have paid out $122 million, while receiving only $1.2 million in return. During that same period,

(Continued on Page 3)

ACTIVE ROLE OF WOMEN in the American trade union movement from colonial times to the present is depicted in a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition on display at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center until Jan. 18. Discussing the exhibition are AFL-CIO intern Patricia Thomas and staff members Pamela Schnierle and Bonnie Rouse.

Labor Backs Amendments To Tax Bill

The AFL-CIO urged House members "to begin the much-needed job of tax reform and tax justice" by approving five of the seven amendments expected to be proposed to a bill the Ways & Means Committee will bring to the House floor during the first week in December.

In a letter to House members, Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller spelled out the AFL-CIO's position.

First, he urged that the House approve the rule that would allow the seven specified amendments—and no others—to be considered. Forcing an "open rule" on the tax bill, whatever the motive, would "doom House action on tax reform," Biemiller warned.

(Continued on Page 8)

Changes Demanded:

Failures, Waste Hit In Revenue Sharing

Labor's "worst fears" about the federal revenue-sharing program have been borne out by the experience of the three years since its enactment, the AFL-CIO said.

It urged a House Government Operations subcommittee to initiate changes in the revenue-sharing law. Funds handed over to states and localities, the AFL-CIO said, should be used "in line with national needs, goals and priorities." Further, the assistance should be "more equitably channeled" to communities and people with the greatest need for federal help.

The AFL-CIO reiterated support for increased federal assistance to states and cities.

Labor's objection to the "no-strings" approach to revenue sharing is based on a well-founded concern "that the program would not result in any added federal money for the states and localities, but would be used as an excuse to underfund existing programs or block enactment of new measures," the federation said.

These fears were quickly borne out, the statement noted. When President Nixon signed the revenue-sharing law in late 1972, he hailed it as a "new American Revolution." Yet three months later, the statement pointed out, he proposed a budget that called for dismantling of "vital programs that created needed jobs and helped finance essential state and local public investment programs."

Currently, the AFL-CIO observed, with state and local governments generally in a financial squeeze, "the federal government has compounded the problems by failing to enact or adequately fund federal programs needed to create jobs, end the recession and help state and local governments meet escalating needs for essential public facilities and services."

The statement urged Congress, in revising the revenue-sharing program, to:

- Change the allocation formula to assure that the largest share of federal aid goes to the areas with

(Continued on Page 2)

Quarterly Rise Tied to Productivity

The government confirmed earlier private surveys indicating a resurgence in third-quarter corporate profits as it reported that after-tax earnings in the July-September period rose 17 percent from the previous quarter, the steepest upturn in 25 years.

At the same time, the Commerce Dept. reported that real gross national product grew in the third quarter at a faster rate than was originally estimated. The revised government figures showed real GNP—gross national product adjusted for inflation—increased at an annual rate of 13.2 percent, instead of the 11.2 percent reported last month.

Underlying the huge profits increase was an unusually sharp rise in productivity during the third quarter. The productivity gains offset higher wage costs, stabilizing or pushing down unit labor costs and thus widening profit margins.

The after-tax earnings increase of 17 percent was the largest since a 22.1 percent rise in the third quarter of 1950. It was the second quarterly increase in a row, coming on top of a 12.8 percent rise in the April-June period.

Before-tax book profits in the third quarter were up $20.8 billion at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $134.1 billion, the Commerce Dept. noted in its preliminary estimate of third-quarter corporate earnings. The increase in book profits consisted of $17.6 billion in profits from current production and $3.3 billion in inventory gains.

"Most of the profits increase was accounted for by manufacturing

(Continued on Page 8)

Illegal Alien Bill Pressed In Congress

The AFL-CIO has asked its state and local central bodies to help prod Congress to reduce the flow of illegal aliens into the United States by cracking down on employers who knowingly hire them.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller cited an estimate by the Immigration & Naturalization Service that more than 1 million jobs would be opened up for persons legally in the United States if penalties were imposed on employers who "knowingly" hire illegal aliens.

The House Judiciary Committee, in a report approving such a crackdown, concluded that illegal aliens

(Continued on Page 7)

Consumers Win Right to Challenge Installment Debt Sold to 3rd Party

A long-awaited breakthrough in consumer protection—elimination of the so-called "holder-in-due-course doctrine"—is embodied in a new regulation adopted by the Federal Trade Commission.

The rule, which takes effect on May 14, 1976, will substantially limit the effect of the doctrine which organized labor and consumer groups have long considered among the most onerous and viciously anti-consumer practices.

The holder-in-due-course principle forces credit buyers who have been cheated by unscrupulous sellers to make full payment to third parties when their installment contracts are sold to financial institutions, even though the merchandise is defective and the seller refuses to fix or replace the goods.

The new FTC rule is intended to assure consumers of a continuing right to raise claims and defenses based on misconduct by sellers, including breach of contract or warranty, misrepresentation or fraud.

"In the past, many sellers have used credit contracts which can cut off consumers' rights by requiring consumers to continue payments to a financial institution despite whatever the seller does or fails to do to keep his side of the bargain," the FTC noted.

The commission said the holder-in-due-course doctrine can cut off consumers' rights in three ways. It permits sellers to insert promissory notes in installment sales contracts entitling the credit company to pay-

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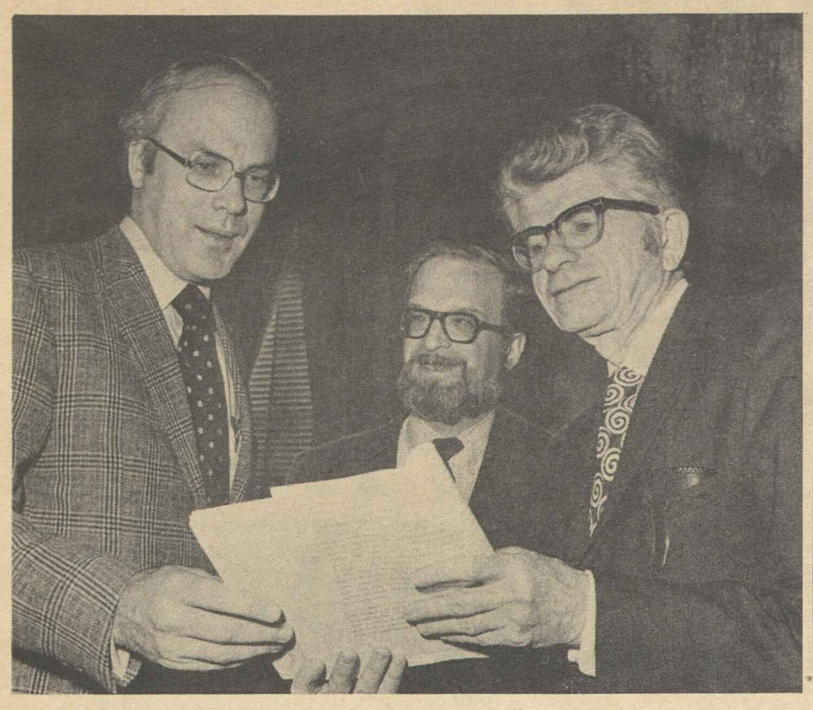

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM was defended against Administration attacks by union witnesses at Senate hearings. Sen. Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.), discusses labor's position with AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, right, and Meat Cutters Legislative Rep. Arnold Mayer, center.

World Sea Unions Seek Curbs on Ship Hazards

Geneva—Maritime unions launched a concerted drive for a better deal for crews of the world's merchant ships at a 32-nation session called by the International Labor Organization.

The principal concern of the conference was the danger to the safety and health of seamen aboard the often substandard ships that penny-pinching owners operate under the "flags of convenience" of such countries as Panama and Liberia.

But the need to guarantee employment to qualified seamen, to insure that the protection and welfare of young seafarers are adequately guaranteed by international rules and the question of paid vacations were also covered by the union, shipowner and government delegates.

"We did not get as much as we had hoped for, particularly on the issue of substandard ships," said Vice President Earl Shepard of the Seafarers, who led the U.S. union delegation. The two-week technical discussions were held in preparation for a full-dress maritime conference the ILO is to hold next year.

"The shipowners put up strong opposition to many union demands and governments were afraid to act," Shepard said. "But we live in eternal hope that they will change their minds before the full conference."

The SIU official was elected by his fellow worker delegates as vice chairman of their group and as one of their four representatives on the preparatory session's key steering committee.

Also taking part in the conference from U.S. unions were Frank J. Boland and Eugene P. Spector of the National Maritime Union; Bert Lanpher of the Staff Officers Association; William R. Steinber and Harvey Strichartz of the American Radio Association; Capt. William L. Rich, Jr., of the Masters, Mates & Pilots; and Reinhold F. Schamann and Ronald Spencer of the Marine Engineers.

On the substandard ship issue, the worker delegates noted that 36 percent of all ships lost through shipwrecks and collisions flew flags of convenience although the vessels registered under these flags represented only 25 percent of the total world merchant marine.

Most of these losses were due to bad shipboard conditions and the incompetency of the officers, the seamen charged. For these reasons the union representatives demanded that the standards to be adopted next year be incorporated into an international pact binding on governments.

Under a proposed ILO "action program" governments would be called upon to discourage in every way possible their seamen from sailing on ships of those countries that fail to enforce the projected minimum standards.

For youths under 18 who elect the sea as a career it was agreed that the standards must protect their health, morals and safety.

Among the points to be included in the standards are a ban on night work and on hazardous assignments that only experienced seamen can handle safely. An eight-hour day and a 40-hour week must be the maximum work load for the young seamen, the meeting agreed.

The issue of paid vacations was left to the full-dress conference after the shipowners scuttled an apparent compromise reached in committee to guarantee an annual leave of no less than five full weeks after a year's service.

Fund Sharing Hit for Lack Of Standards

(Continued from Page 1)

the greatest need.

"The present distribution formula has shortchanged many of the nation's large urban centers where the needs are greatest, and at the same time has breathed new life into archaic, anachronistic units of government which do virtually nothing," the AFL-CIO said.

● Provide enforceable federal standards "to assure that funds are used for programs that reflect national needs and priorities and fully comply with federal civil rights guarantees and labor standards and protections."

Citing a resolution adopted at the AFL-CIO's recent convention, the statement concluded:

"If the Congress in reviewing the experience to date of the program determines that the abuses cannot be corrected and that essential standards and safeguards cannot be enforced or enacted, the AFL-CIO recommends that the program be abolished and Congress redirect an equal amount of funds into appropriate categorical grant-in-aid programs."

First Anniversary Review:

New Law Brings Problems As Well as Pension Reform

One of the most complex pieces of legislation ever to go through Congress, the year-old Employees Retirement Income Security Act is still too new to permit a comprehensive evaluation.

"Many provisions will not be fully operative for some years," observes Lawrence T. Smedley, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, "and the final results depend on such factors as administration, regulations and court decisions."

Yet the new law, the culmination of ten years of effort on pension reform, could have a profound effect on the private-pension system, and though the law did not meet all of labor's objectives, "it is landmark legislation," Smedley declares in the AFL-CIO's monthly publication, the American Federationist.

Smedley, who specializes in retirement and pension benefits, notes that, "in spite of compromises, the law does come to grips with the major public criticisms of private pension plans."

Administration of the new law was a major issue during deliberations on the legislation. Debate centered on whether the Labor Dept. or the Treasury Dept. should carry out its provisions.

The AFL-CIO strongly supported administration by the Labor Dept. since the law concerned itself with employe, not employer, rights and benefits. The end result was a division of responsibilities with numerous possibilities for duplication and overlapping authority.

"Actual experience under the law has shown that administration is not working well," Smedley observes.

"Divided administrative responsibility between several federal departments has created serious problems," he adds.

Smedley notes that unless the administrative situation improves by the time the shakedown period of implementing the act is completed, it may be necessary to seek perfecting amendments from Congress.

The various effective dates of the law were designed to allow pension plans time to make conforming amendments and adjustments to the new law. The reporting and disclosure and fiduciary standards generally became effective for existing plans on Jan. 1, 1975.

For plans in existence on Jan. 1, 1974, the vesting, participation and funding standards generally will be applicable for the first plan year beginning after the date of the signing of the law, Sept. 2, 1974.

Collectively bargained plans may, under certain circumstances, postpone compliance with the funding standards beyond this date, but no later than Dec. 31, 1980.

Prior to World War II, pension plan coverage of American workers was limited. After the war, significant changes occurred. Today, more than 29 million workers are covered by private pension and profit-sharing plans. The growth and liberalization of the pension system dictated greater public responsibility in its regulation.

In many cases, Smedley's article notes, workers put in years of labor to earn pension benefits only to see their rights disappear because the employer went bankrupt or the pension fund was grossly mismanaged.

ERISA was enacted to provide greater protection to participants. Several of the law's many provisions are concerned with aspects of the greatest importance to union pension plans, Smedley stresses.

For collectively bargained plans in major industries and with large employers, the impact of the new law should be minor in both costs and plan changes, Smedley observes. Higher costs will occur in certain unionized industries characterized by small employers — the construction, trucking and garment industries.

Among highlights of the pension reform law, every defined benefit pension plan now must observe certain funding standards. Trustees of pension and health and welfare plans are required to meet new and strict standards of conduct in the administration of such plans.

The reporting and disclosure requirements of the new law are comprehensive, with detailed information provided to the Labor Secretary, plan participants and beneficiaries.

New standards concerning vesting, portability of rights, termination insurance and joint survivorship also are set forth in the law.

Thus, despite difficulties that are bound to arise with a law as complex as ERISA, the legislation is substantial, Smedley concludes.

Highlights of the Pension Reform Law

	Major Provisions	Effective Dates: Old Plans	Effective Dates: New Plans
Participation	Prohibits plans from requiring an age of eligibility greater than 25 or a period of service longer than 1 year, whichever is later.	Jan. 1, 1976	Date of enactment (Sept. 2, 1974)
Vesting	Plan vesting provision must not be less liberal than one of three following minimum standards: 1. 100 percent vesting after 10 years of service 2. 25 percent vesting after 5 years of service, increasing yearly until 100 percent after 15 years 3. 50 percent vesting as soon as the sum of age and years of service (after 5 years) total 45, reaching 100 percent 5 years later.	Jan. 1, 1976	Date of enactment
Funding	The plan must fund current year's benefit accruals and must amortize any unfunded costs over 30 years (40 years for existing plans and multi-employer plans).	Jan. 1, 1976 (For collectively bargained plans, the effective date is the plan year beginning after the expiration of the current contract, but not later than 1981).	Date of enactment
Fiduciary Standards	Establishes the "prudent man" rule as the basic standard of conduct, outlaws various transactions between parties-in-interest, and prohibits investment of more than 10 percent of fund assets in employer securities or real estate.	Jan. 1, 1975 *	
Reporting and Disclosure	Requires the plan to provide participants with a comprehensive booklet describing pension plan provisions and to report annually to the Secretary of Labor on numerous operating and financial details of the plan.	Jan. 1, 1975 *	
Plan Termination Insurance	Creates a federal insurance organization to protect beneficiaries against loss of vested pension on plan termination where assets are inadequate. Protects benefits up to $750 per month. Initial annual premium for this coverage is $1 per participant (50¢ for multi-employer plan participants) and began on date of enactment for both single- and multi-employer plans.	July 1, 1974 (Jan. 1, 1978, for multi-employer plans).	Phased in over 5 years
Portability	Encourages some voluntary portability by allowing a worker, if the employer agrees to it, to transfer his or her pension rights tax free from one employer pension fund to another by establishing a tax free individual retirement account.	Date of enactment	
Joint and Survivorship Option	Unless a married worker specifically requests the plan's normal retirement benefit, the worker is required to receive a pension payable for his or her lifetime and continuing in 50 percent of that amount to the spouse if the spouse survives the employee. The worker's normal retirement benefit may be actuarially reduced to pay for the cost of this provision.	January 1, 1976	Date of enactment

* Effective dates on some provisions have been delayed by regulations.

Follow-Through Pressed:

Farm Vote Criticism Presented to State

Sacramento, Calif.—Recommendations of a special subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council calling for steps to improve implementation and enforcement of the California farm labor law have been submitted to state officials, including Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

In submitting the report, Executive Sec.-Treas. John F. Henning of the California AFL-CIO requested an early meeting with the state Agricultural Labor Relations Board to review the 20 key recommendations.

Walter Kintz, general council of the labor board, responded in a letter to Henning saying he would "welcome the opportunity to consider these recommendations and the constructive criticisms."

In its report, the AFL-CIO panel stressed that the farm labor law should be aggressively enforced to assure that representation elections are conducted free of intimidation.

When the report was released earlier this month, AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a covering letter that the panel's conclusions were "both distressing and heartening."

Meany said he was distressed by the inadequate and even incompetent enforcement of the law, but found encouragement in the election victories scored by the United Farm Workers despite adversity.

The subcommittee said that the ultimate victory the workers and the UFW are seeking could be achieved if the labor board properly enforces the law and if the labor movement provides the needed assistance to the union.

As of Nov. 14, 315 elections had been conducted throughout the state on representation rights for 49,709 workers.

The UFW reported that it has won 167 of the elections to represent 24,334 workers, or 49 percent of the total, while the Teamsters won 95 to represent 11,802 workers, or 23.7 percent.

Another 17 elections involving 2,200 workers or 4.4 percent, went "no union." Still undecided are 36 elections covering 11,373 workers, about 23 percent of the total.

Meanwhile, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops commended California for enacting the law which it suggested could be a model for federal legislation to assure farm workers union rights throughout the nation.

But the bishops stressed that the full cooperation of state officials, growers and unions is essential to fully implement the law.

"It would be a tragedy if the purpose of the law, which holds out such promise for the future of sound labor relations in the agricultural industry, were to be thwarted in practice, for whatever reasons," the resolution observed.

UNIONS REPRESENTING airline workers tell a House subcommittee why the Airlines Mutual Aid Pact prolongs strikes and should be outlawed. From left: Machinists Vice President John Peterpaul; union attorney William Mahoney; Transport Workers Vice President William Lindner, and Allen W. McCauley, general chairman for Northwest Airlines of the Railway & Airline Clerks.

Union Reports Mounting Support For Plan to Acquire, Revive REA

Chicago—Support gathered for a plan by the Railway & Airline Clerks to acquire control of the bankrupt REA Express, Inc., and to rehire its 7,000 laid-off employes.

BRAC President C. L. Dennis said the union's proposal received a "very sympathetic hearing" from executives of four major railroads. In addition, a number of leaders in government and in Congress have endorsed the plan, Dennis said.

Dennis outlined the proposal to President Lawrence Provo of the Chicago & North Western and executives representing the president of the Burlington Northern, the Union Pacific and the Norfolk & Western at a meeting at BRAC headquarters here. He predicted benefits both to the carriers and to employes from a takeover of REA by a corporation formed by the union.

BRAC Employes Express Co., as the new union-formed corporation is called, could develop a vastly expanded "piggy-back" service in which loaded trucks could be shipped by rail to a degree far above present levels, Dennis observed.

"In a period of energy crisis, with the cost of fuel rising steadily," he said, "an expansion of piggyback truck and rail service could benefit the national effort to conserve energy, would help the railways and the express company, and bring lower costs to consumers."

Dennis is one of three BRAC officials who formed the new corporation earlier this month. Others are Vice President Robert Devlin and Walter Williamson, a BRAC headquarters staff member specializing in express service.

Stock in the new company has been placed in trust for the laid-off employes. If successful in gaining control of the bankrupt firm, the new company would sell the stock to employes.

The corporation filed a request for a declaratory order with the Interstate Commerce Commission Nov. 21 to seek to determine whether the temporary operating rights held by the bankrupt REA Express are transferable.

Encouragement for the BRAC proposal also came from several members of Congress who signed a joint letter to a trustee in bankruptcy urging that the union-formed corporation be allowed to buy REA.

In a letter to Judge John J. Gilgay, the legislators said REA Express has been "vitally important to the smaller shippers in this country and it has provided an important link in intermodal operations. Because of the uniqueness of the type of service it provides, we believe that action should be taken to preserve the integrity of that service.

"One manner in which that could be accomplished is for the operating rights of REA to be transferred to one entity," the letter said.

It was signed by Sen. Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) and three congressmen who head House subcommittees dealing with transportation matters: Rep. James Howard (D-N.J.), Public Works & Transportation; Rep. Fred Rooney (D-Pa.), Interstate & Foreign Commerce, and Rep. John J. McFall (D-Calif.), Appropriations.

Dennis also revealed that John W. Snow, U.S. deputy undersecretary for transportation, had filed an affidavit in U.S. District Court for the southern district of New York, noting "there does appear to be merit in BRAC's proposal."

"REA has developed an extensive specialized network for small shipment handling, which stays intact under BRAC's proposal," Snow said.

In an earlier statement, Dennis attributed REA's closing to the "greed and shortsightedness of the firm's creditors. A creditors' committee refused to accept reasonable proposals for averting the bankruptcy, including the union's offer of an $8 million loan guarantee to keep the firm in business, he said.

Massachusetts Board Nullifies Busing Stand

Boston—The executive board of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO voted unanimously to declare null and void a state convention resolution backing moves for a constitutional amendment to prohibit the busing of school children to achieve racial integration.

The 39-member executive board took the action following a meeting of the state labor council's executive officers with AFL-CIO President George Meany.

Meany had advised the officials that the Massachusetts federation was in violation of national AFL-CIO policy by adopting the anti-busing resolution at its convention earlier in November.

After a two-hour special board meeting, State AFL-CIO President Joseph A. Sullivan announced, "We have declared this resolution is null and void," and directed the state federation staff and affiliates to refrain from implementing it.

The national AFL-CIO has been on record in support of "quality integrated education" since 1972, a position that was reaffirmed by national conventions in 1973 and this year. The 1975 convention specifically opposed a constitutional amendment to bar busing.

Political Role Stressed At Maine Convention

Lewiston, Me.—Stepped-up efforts to spur greater union participation in state and national political affairs were outlined at the Maine AFL-CIO's 10th biennial convention.

State federation President Benjamin J. Dorsky told the 193 delegates that next year's state COPE conference should focus on developing an effective legislative program as well as endorsing responsible candidates.

He cited labor's continuing efforts to bring about tax reform to ease the burden on workers, protections for public employes and extension of minimum wage coverage.

Dorsky, who has headed the state federation since 1957, was re-elected to a new four-year term. Delegates also elected Marvin Ewing of the Paperworkers to the new post of vice president and three new executive board members—all women. They are Sylvia Blanchard of the Paperworkers, Dorothy Cochrane of the Clothing Workers, and Jane Weed of the State, County & Municipal Employees. Nine other board members were re-elected.

The term of Sec.-Treas. Gary B. Cook still has two years remaining.

The convention voted to increase the monthly per capita payment from 25 to 30 cents to finance a new pension program for officers and staff members of the state federation.

In a major address to delegates, Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) assailed the Ford Administration's handling of the national economy. He zeroed in on high unemployment, inflation and the President's long string of vetoes on legislation to increase jobs and bring the nation out of recession.

Other major speakers at the three-day convention included Sec.-Treas. Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. and President William H. McClennan of the Fire Fighters.

HEW Issues Rule On Aiding Jobless

In conformance with a Supreme Court ruling, the Dept of Health, Education & Welfare has issued a final regulation that says unemployed fathers of dependent children have the option of receiving either unemployment compensation or cash welfare assistance, whichever is the greater.

The Supreme Court had upheld a U.S. District Court decision affecting unemployed fathers of dependent children who are not only eligible for unemployment compensation but also cash welfare assistance under the unemployed fathers section of the aid to families with dependent children (UF-AFDC) program.

The court ruled that such fathers could take either unemployment compensation or cash welfare assistance, whichever is bigger.

Airlines' Pact Called Barrier to Bargaining

(Continued from Page 1)

Northwest, National and TWA collected $123 million.

"It is apparent that four carriers, who can ill afford it, are paying three other carriers so that the latter can maintain extremely poor labor relations," the AFL-CIO testified.

Machinists Vice President John Peterpaul told the subcommittee that Eastern Airlines, facing financial problems, has asked the IAM to agree to forgo a pay raise for part of the union's next contract. But at the same time, he noted, Eastern is paying MAP benefits to National Airlines, whose flight attendants are on strike and whose mechanical employes, represented by the Machinists, have been furloughed because of the shutdown.

Under such circumstances, Peterpaul said, it's difficult to ask Eastern employes to agree to a wage freeze.

As for suggestions that the airlines pact was the same as strike benefits to workers, union witnesses noted that strikers always are under financial pressure to reach a settlement because their benefits seldom recoup more than a very small portion of lost wages.

8-Cent COL Boost Set At Aluminum Plants

Pittsburgh—The Steelworkers announced that about 30,000 USWA members employed by three major aluminum companies will receive a cost-of-living wage increase of 8 cents an hour effective Dec. 1.

The COL adjustments are provided in the USWA contracts with Aluminum Co. of America, Reynolds Metal Co. and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. Earlier adjustments under the contracts amounted to 74 cents an hour.

A Merger Milestone

ON DEC. 5, 1975, the AFL-CIO will mark the 20th anniversary of its birth—the merger of the AFL and the CIO into a single trade union center.

Federation President George Meany told the recent 11th convention of the AFL-CIO that the only reason to look back is to benefit from the experience of the past to meet the problems of tomorrow.

Looking back to the very beginning—the merger convention in New York City—the road ahead was clearly marked by Meany in his address to the convention after his election to the presidency. This is how he saw the basis for success of the new trade union center in 1955:

WE MUST THINK in terms of the true meaning of a trade union movement, a movement that has for its sole, definite and single purpose the advancement of the welfare and interest of the great mass of workers who are part of this movement.

That must be the motivating influence and manner in which we move forward. Let all of our actions be keyed into that simple, plain principle that a trade union has no other reason for existence than the job of carrying out and carrying forward and advancing the interests and welfare of its members.

In building and advancing the cause of our union, let us not think in terms of personal prestige, of having a big union for the sake of having a big union. Let us not think in terms of a great big financial structure and of great power. Let us think in terms of the simple philosophy of those who founded this movement of advancing the cause of workers.

As we go forward together in the movement, let us stop thinking in terms of prior labels. Let us make up our minds that from this moment on there is just one label on all the organizations and all of the membership of this great organization, and that label is AFL-CIO and nothing else. Let us apply this philosophy in terms of good faith, determination to live together, to work together and to think together for one united organization.

Let us understand that despite the many advances, despite the great achievements of the organized labor movement over the years, we still have those who believe that we would be better off without unions; those who believe in the archaic traditions of the 1880s and 1890s; those who believe that America is built from the top down, that if you keep the great corporations fat and wealthy, enough will trickle down to keep those at the lower level of our economic structure happy and contented. We still have this opposition.

I TELL YOU NOW I will never surrender principle for expediency. I tell you now that, insofar as it is my place to influence decisions, those decisions will be made without regard to where the union formerly was and without regard to how big or how little a union is.

Let us remember that on this very, very happy occasion we have merely taken the first step, that we have created a tool, an instrumentality, something that we can use to carry forward for the people we represent; and if we carry forward in good faith in our relations with one another, and true to the principles and traditions upon which our movement was founded, I am sure that we can succeed.

So let us face the future, confident beyond question that the cause we espouse, confident beyond expression that the things we ask for are just and proper.

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'Twenty Years—Count 'Em!'

A Word Edgewise:

Watergate Conspiracy Exposed Flaws in U.S. Justice System

By John P. Roche

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED that diseases are not the only things that come in epidemics—so do books. I have, for example, a full bookcase of good studies of Southeast Asia and the Vietnam war, and I could have filled two more with the junk that I read and sent off to the town dump. Right now there are probably at least 25 works on the CIA in process.

But first prize in the book epidemic competition undoubtedly goes to Watergate and related issues; volumes on the sins of Richard Nixon & Co. could fill a library.

After reading Teddy White's superb "Breach of Faith," I swore a silent oath to go off Watergate. But, mea culpa, I have sinned: somebody sent me George V. Higgins's "The Friends of Richard Nixon" and the first chapter was like that proverbial first drink. Indeed, the analogy is more than appropriate—that first little drink led to a binge: I couldn't put the book down until I finished it.

Higgins brought to his chronicle some remarkable credentials. A former newspaperman, he was also a state and federal prosecutor in Massachusetts and has written several novels about the seamier side of law enforcement. He has the special argot of the criminal, the cop, the bondsman, the prosecutor, and police-blotter journalists down pat. In "The Friends of Eddie Coyle," he wrote a novel showing his mastery of this genre; in "The Friends of Richard Nixon," he has produced a semi-novel of the same high order.

His premise is simple: to treat Watergate properly you have to realize that it was a criminal conspiracy which any Mafia "capo" would consider a bad joke. But nonetheless it was a criminal conspiracy, not just old-fashioned fun and games in the great American tradition of dirty politics.

Using the Nixon tapes and other materials of record, Higgins attempts to plumb the mind of the various principals as the whole thing began to unravel. This stream-of-consciousness technique leads on occasion to some non-stop sentences worthy of Sir Walter Scott, but by and large it comes off very well.

There are a number of lines which gave me the best laughs I've had in years, for which I gather Higgins has picked up some flak from reviewers for not being serious about the fate of the republic. But in fact this is a very serious book about the vagaries of the American system of justice. Confessedly, some bias in favor of Higgins arises from his emphasis on the paradoxes about Watergate I explored here at "that point in time."

Take this, for instance: discussing "Maximum John" Sirica's conduct in the trial of the burglars, "the man" (representing the collective wisdom of the courthouse regulars) says, "That really wasn't much of a trial, you know. It was more like an inquisition. If you gave, say, Daniel Ellsberg that kind of trial, the whole faculty of the Yale Law School would be down carrying signs in front of the White House." Higgins (like me) resents this kind of moral double-bookkeeping, whoever employs it.

ELSEWHERE HE FLAYS the comic opera that "Uncle Sam" Ervin presided over, the Senate Investigating Committee, noting (correctly) that the only senator who wasn't playing to the gallery was Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii, but that the preposterous rules (which made filibustering by lawyers and committee members into an art form) frustrated Inouye's penetrating questions.

True to his prosecutor's training, Higgins is horrified that the committee put John Dean on first and got his testimony on record, thus making it much easier for Haldeman and Ehrlichman to know what they were up against. This would never have happened in grand jury proceedings.

In essence, he makes the case for the professionals, like Earl Silbert, the original Watergate prosecutor, against the amateurs—like Ervin and his inept chief counsel, Sam Dash—who wanted to turn a legal prosecution for conspiracy to obstruct justice into a morality play. The point, as "the man" would say, is to get the (expletives deleted) safely in the slammer, not give sermons on civics.

My substantive argument with Higgins concerns his implicit assumption that had Watergate blown before November 1972, it would have influenced the outcome of the presidential election. As I noted then, the voters consciously chose thieves over theocrats, figuring we know how to cope with thieves. The outcome justified this faith. But that's a trivial complaint about a fine book.

Both Sides 'Off Beam':

Critics on Right, Left Attack Labor as Too Weak, Too Strong

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

RALPH de TOLEDANO, a Washington-based syndicated columnist, has probably written as many anti-union books and articles as any living journalist. He never tires of writing, in season and out of season, that union leadership in this country is interested solely in power, at the expense of the common good, and cannot possibly claim to represent the American wage earner.

Toledano grinds out another variation on this hackneyed theme in his latest book, "Let Our Cities Burn," which purports to show that the unionization of government employes is a dangerous threat to the American way of life. The trouble is, however, that the two specific examples he cites to support his oft-stated claim that the majority of American workers are opposed to unions (and join them only under compulsion) prove exactly the opposite.

Toledano says that the farm workers in California and the Farah garment workers in El Paso, Tex., were so strongly opposed to unionism that "the unions in question, to prevail, were compelled to mount campaigns of economic blackmail and labor violence against employers and workers alike—simultaneously blocking all attempts at representation elections."

Toledano has every reason to know that that statement is contrary to fact—to put it as politely as possible. The unions he refers to (the United Farm Workers and the Clothing Workers) have not engaged in economic blackmail and labor violence against either employers or workers. They have simply exercised their constitutional right to call for a boycott of their employer's products. Their purpose in doing so was not to block representation elections but, on the contrary, to compel the other side to agree to such elections.

Furthermore, in both cases, the workers, when given an opportunity to state their preference in supervised elections, have voted in favor of unionization, even though, under the law, they could have voted with absolute impunity in favor of "no union."

In the case of the Farah garment workers, this is ancient history. They have long since negotiated a collective bargaining contract with the Farah company. As Toledano knows perfectly well, this could not have happened under the National Labor Relations Act unless the majority of the workers had voted in favor of the union which now represents them, the Clothing Workers.

In the case of the California farm workers, representation elections are now under way. As of early November, the United Farm Workers has won 146 elections, involving 20,870 workers, and the Teamsters had won 89 elections, involving 10,874 workers. In only 14 elections out of a total of 275 did the workers (less than 2,000 in all) vote "no union," and this in spite of the fact that many growers had tried very hard to persuade their workers to vote against both of the contending unions. If these statistics prove that farm workers, as Toledano persistently claims, are opposed to unionization, then words have lost their meaning.

It would appear, however, that Toledano's opposition to the American labor movement and to the very concept of unionism is so completely doctrinaire and runs so deep in his psyche that it is probably a waste of time to try to counter it with factual evidence of the kind I have cited above. Toledano is convinced that "by its very nature, a union is an instrument of class war" and that organized labor not only has "contempt for government" but also holds to the "devout conviction that it is, and should be, above the law." He has also persuaded himself that organized labor "is the single most powerful political force in the United States." To try to talk a "true believer" out of such a compulsively anti-union position would be an exercise in futility.

The leadership of the American labor movement must have the feeling at times that it is caught in the middle between two sets of critics and that never the twain shall meet. While Toledano, on the one hand, is constantly warning the nation that organized labor is too strong, a number of self-styled "radical" observers are saying just the opposite.

Sidney Lens, a former labor leader who is now a full-time writer, is a case in point. In a recent article in "New Politics," a journal of socialist thought, Lens says that labor's current leadership is "behind the times by at least a generation or two." In his opinion, the labor movement, as now constituted, has reached dead end and is ready for the ash heap. "Nor is the movement," he says, "equipped to deal with government. Its lobbying and electoral activities, greatly magnified by the press, are picayune compared with those of big business."

In summary, Toledano and Lens, in assessing one and the same labor movement, have come to conclusions which are a million miles apart. I think both of them are slightly off the beam. I say this with apologies to Lens, for, while I find his criticism of the labor movement too doctinaire for my own taste, I would have to admit that, by comparison with Toledano's frenetic writings on this subject, Lens's books and articles are models of objective scholarship.

Health Security Pressed:

Congressional Debate Drags As Health Care Needs Grow

CONGRESS has been talking about national health insurance far too long — nearly 30 years — AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said as he called for a stepped-up push for legislation to meet the nation's urgent health needs.

"The facts are known, the needs are clear," Seidman asserted, and warned that while opponents string out debate on the issue, the top-quality health care that Americans should have as a matter of right falls further out of reach. He said the most comprehensive and effective national health insurance proposal—the widely supported Health Security bill—would also be a cost-saver on the nation's total health bill.

Under Health Security, Seidman said, "costs will be much less than they would have been with no 'national health insurance' that the American Medical Association, the insurance industry and the Administration are supporting."

Seidman said on Labor News Conference that the money spent for the Health Security program would be "money we are already spending" in a poorly organized and often inefficient and wasteful health care system. He said the key to increased efficiency and decreased costs of Health Security is a different allocation of health care costs, so that they will bear a much closer relationship to the ability of people to pay. He said it would also make possible the "rationalizing of the patchwork quilt of health care and health services that exists now."

Turning to the issue of health manpower legislation, Seidman said the AFL-CIO favors the use of federal funds for the education and training of physicians, dentists and other health professionals, and thinks a good bill will come out of this year's congressional session. He said he expects the legislation to focus on the primary needs, underserved areas and on the distribution of specialties, while putting more emphasis on primary care and family doctors.

Reporters questioning Seidman on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Jerome Brazda of Washington Report on Medicine & Health and Robert Cooney of Press Associates.

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

ONE OF THE TOUGHEST human problems confronting the American government—and the labor movement—is what to do about the estimated eight to ten million illegal aliens now in the United States. The government is not sure how many "illegals" there are because they cannot be counted unless they are apprehended.

The AFL-CIO convention recently adopted a resolution that calls for the government to take steps to "assure that only immigrants who can become a part of the full social fabric of this country, with all the rights and responsibilities of permanent, legal residents, are able to live and work here."

The federation wants Congress to act soon on legislation introduced by Rep. Peter Rodino (D-N.J.) that would, in essence, make employers responsible and provide criminal penalties for those who "knowingly and willfully hire illegal immigrants."

The resolution states that the government should develop effective methods for patrolling U.S. borders to curb illegal entry and to investigate applicants for entry to ensure compliance with existing laws and regulations designed to admit only productive, needed workers.

The federation also calls for administration of all laws so as to curb abuses by foreign companies operating in the United States and to assure that foreign nationals here temporarily "do not take jobs that rightfully belong to American workers."

RODINO'S LEGISLATION got through the House in 1973 but died in the Senate judiciary subcommittee because of the opposition of Sen. James Eastland (D-Miss.). Eastland wanted the United States to go back to a "bracero" program that would permit employers to use alien workers when the Labor Dept. was unable to provide, within a certain time, American workers "able, qualified and willing" to do the work. Labor opposes this and a similar program was abolished in 1962.

Now, for the first time, the government has made a preliminary study of the illegal alien problem. The study is based on voluntary interviews with 793 apprehended aliens.

Of those interviewed, 481 were Mexican nationals, 237 were from other Western Hemisphere nations and 75 were from Eastern Hemisphere nations.

Most of those interviewed had been in the United States more than two years; 10 percent had been here six years and more. Three-fourths of the illegals are supporting or helping to support persons in their home countries with an average of $105 a month being sent home. Most of the illegals cannot speak English. There is a 10 percent unemployment rate among the illegals.

The average wage of the apprehended illegals was $2.71 but 51 percent of them earned less than $2.50 an hour. And, the study found, some 25 percent appear to have been paid less than the minimum wage. The average hourly wage of illegals working in the border counties with Mexico was $1.74—which is below the minimum wage.

The study found that 17 percent of the illegals were union members. Seventy-seven percent had social security taxes deducted from their wages; 73 percent had federal income taxes withheld; 44 percent paid hospitalization insurance. More than 30 percent of them filed federal income tax returns. Twenty-seven percent used American hospitals and clinics. Of the 389 parents interviewed, 7.6 percent had children in American schools. About 4 percent collected one or more weeks of unemployment compensation. Less than 2 percent secured food stamps and five-tenths of 1 percent received welfare payments.

Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop feels that the government must sooner or later decide in what direction it wants to go as a matter of policy on the illegal alien question. In order to make such a decision, he says, the government needs more basic information, such as that contained in the new study. After the government makes that policy decision, Dunlop says, it must then decide how to implement the policy. One obvious way to get the matter off dead center would be for the House to move ahead on the Rodino legislation.

AFTER NEARLY 30 YEARS of debate, Congress should begin to act on comprehensive health care legislation to meet peoples' needs, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, declared on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Robert Cooney, left, of Press Associates, Inc. and Jerome Brazda of Washington Report on Medicine & Health.

Key House Rollcall on Budget Ceiling

The House on Nov. 12 voted 213-203 to increase the spending ceiling that had been proposed by its Budget Committee. The labor-supported amendment included funds for the Near East agreement, TVA bonding authority, and raised the spending total for jobs and education programs by $235 million during the remainder of this fiscal year. It also increased budget commitments that can be made for jobs and education programs through June 1976 by $1.4 billion.

On the AFL-CIO scorecard, right votes (R) were cast by 196 Democrats and 17 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 84 Democrats and 119 Republicans.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—Absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) A
2. Udall (D) A
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Mills (D) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) R

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) W
17. Krebs (D) R
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) PR
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) W
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) W
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) R
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) W
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) W
5. Sarasin (R) W
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Haley (D) W
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) W
12. Burke (R) W
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) PW
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) W
9. Landrum (D) W
10. Stephens (D) W

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary A
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) A
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) W
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) W
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) W
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) W
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) W
5. Harkin (D) W
6. Bedell (D) W

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Keys (D) W
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) R
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) R
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) A
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Esch (R) R
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
6. Carr (D) W
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) PR
5. Fraser (D) A
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) W
4. Randall (D) W
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Hungate (D) W
10. Burlison (D) W

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) W
2. Melcher (D) W

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) A

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) R
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) A
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) R
30. McEwen (R) PW
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) W
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) A

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) A
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) PR
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) A
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) R
4. Steed (D) W
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) W

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) R
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) PW
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Dent (D) W
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) W
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) W
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) W
4. Evins (D) W
5. Vacant
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) W

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) R
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Young (D) R
15. de la Garza (D) A
16. White (D) W
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Krueger (D) W
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) R
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) W

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) W

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) W
3. Baldus (D) W
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) W
8. Cornell (D) W
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Labor Unity Proves Key:

Teachers Win Gains In New Haven Strike

New Haven, Conn.—City teachers ended their two-week strike after winning a new two-year contract providing wage and benefit increases and a reduction in class sizes.

An end to the bitter contract dispute followed the threat of a sympathy strike by affiliated unions of the New Haven Central Labor Council. The council, representing 92 unions, called for a one-day strike to protest the wholesale jailing of teachers.

The teachers' group, Local 933 of the American Federation of Teachers, began the strike Nov. 10 after 12 months of negotiations failed to produce a new contract. The board, arguing that it did not have money for pay raises, refused even to allow the teachers their earned increments.

Under the new contract, which was approved by voice vote at a Nov. 23 meeting, the union retained its 15-step increase schedule, and won a $200 increase over the increments. Teachers at the top of their salary grades will get $300.

In the second year of the agreement, all salaries will rise by 4 percent.

While full details of the pact were not immediately reported, both teachers and the school board said the agreement reduces maximum class sizes from 32 to 31 pupils this year and to 30 in the second year of the pact.

Labor solidarity was credited with breaking the bargaining impasse. Two days before the settlement, President Vincent J. Sirabella of the Central Labor Council sent out the call for a citywide demonstration by members of the council's affiliates unless some 90 jailed teachers were released.

The teachers, including 12 leaders of the union, were jailed for refusing to obey an order by Superior Court Judge George A. Saden to return to work and end the walkout. A state law prohibits teacher strikes.

"In spite of what Judge Saden says," Sirabella declared, "they are not lawbreakers. We regard it as a law that doesn't deserve to be respected."

While the new agreement provided for the release of the jailed teachers, some of whom were held for more than a week, $253,000 in fines against them and their union still stand.

22-BOOK COLLECTION dealing with trade union history, labor economics, political action and related labor topics is being donated by the AFL-CIO to Eisenhower College at Seneca Falls, N.Y. Federation President George Meany and William G. Kerr, the college's librarian, discuss the collection.

Bill Pressed to Stem Tide of Illegal Aliens

(Continued from Page 1)

"take jobs which could be filled by American workers; depress the wages and impair the working conditions of American workers; reduce the effectiveness of employe organizations; compete most directly with unskilled and uneducated American citizens, and constitute for employers a group highly susceptible to exploitation."

Similar conclusions were reached in a study made for the Labor Dept., which found that nearly one-fourth of the illegal aliens were paid less than the federal minimum wage and 65 percent earned less than $2.50 an hour.

This supply of "cheap labor," the study noted, comes "at a time of widespread unemployment among disadvantaged legal residents of the United States."

The bill approved by the House committee would eliminate the exemption of employers from criminal penalties imposed on persons who "harbor" illegal aliens.

Under the labor-endorsed bill, an employer who knowingly hired an alien would be warned for a first offense, fined up to $500 for each illegal knowingly employed for a second offense within two years, and subjected to a fine of up to $1,000 and imprisonment for up to one year for subsequent offenses.

The bill authorizes an amnesty for illegal aliens who have lived in the United States since mid-1968 under certain conditions.

Biemiller's letter to central bodies and to AFL-CIO affiliates cited these "formidable problems" created by illegal aliens:

"Their willingness to accept low-paid jobs directly undercuts area wages as well as working conditions, making unionization of non-union shops impossible.

"Illegal aliens are also often employed as strikebreakers in labor disputes, thus weakening collective bargaining rights of union workers. Those unions shortsighted enough to enlist 'illegals' into their ranks ignore the ability of unscrupulous employers to cajole or intimidate the illegals with the threat of deportation."

Biemiller said a recent study for INS estimated that at least 8 million are still in this country.

FTC Allows Challenge to Credit Debts

(Continued from Page 1)

ment from the consumer without regard to any dispute the consumer may have with the seller.

Secondly, sellers can insert "waivers-of-defense" clauses in the contracts. They have the same effect as a promissory note except that they represent the consumer's written agreement to pay a credit company despite any dispute he may have with the merchant.

Finally, sellers can arrange direct loans for consumers stipulating the lender's right to payment without regard to the seller's conduct.

The FTC rule would prohibit these three practices. The agency said in a statement that it is an unfair practice for a seller to use form contracts to separate a buyer's duty to pay for goods or services from a seller's duty to perform as promised.

"Consumers are clearly injured by a system which forces them to bear the full risk and burden of sales-related abuses," the FTC said.

The commission noted that the record of more than two years of public proceedings on its new rule shows that the holder-in-due-course doctrine "is a problem of considerable magnitude," and that the retail seller's capacity to cut off buyers' rights has been exercised in a broad spectrum of retail sales activities.

As long ago as 1969, the AFL-CIO urged the federal government to abolish the holder-in-due course doctrine. Consumer groups, including the labor-supported Consumer Federation of America, joined in the fight.

December Schedule Set By Labor Studies Center

A select group of new union representatives will spend two weeks at the AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, Silver Spring, Md., during December learning how others before them have made the adjustment to full-time union responsibilities.

Two other December institutes are scheduled for the Silver Spring campus with a fourth at Michigan State University, East Lansing. The Machinists and the Bakery & Confectionery Workers will also use the campus for leadership training during the month.

Here is the center's full schedule for December:

Pensions and Insurance—This institute for labor trustees of jointly administered pension and insurance funds will review problems and trends in negotiated plans. On the agenda: analysis and interpretation of fund reports, problems of investment of trust funds, requirements of the new federal pension reform law and the special role of the labor trustees in overseeing the administration of such funds. At Michigan State University, Nov. 30 to Dec. 4.

Machinist Editors—IAM local union editors will study elements of readable writing, trade union policies and programs and AFL-CIO legislative goals and participate in workshops on editing union newsletters. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, to Friday, Dec. 5.

New Staff—A two-week program for newly elected and newly appointed union representatives in which participants will focus on personal and institutional adjustments of those new to full-time union responsibilities. They will study the techniques of collective bargaining, organizing methods and the role of a union staff member. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, to Friday, Dec. 12.

Bakery & Confectionery Workers—The union will hold its annual staff conference at the center using the center's specialists for leadership training during the week. Nat Goldfinger, AFL-CIO research director, will address the group. From Monday, Dec. 8, to Friday, Dec. 12.

Collective Bargaining—An institute for union negotiators and bargaining chairmen who will review economic arguments in negotiations, sources of information, trends, the costing of benefits, cost of living clauses, health and welfare benefits, eye care and dental plans, pensions and the impact of the Equal Employment Opportunity and Equal Pay Acts. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, to Friday, Dec. 19.

Building Trades—An institute for business agents planned in cooperation with the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. Participants will address problems they face in such areas as labor law, safety and health, and jurisdictional disputes. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, to Friday, Dec. 18.

Further information about these and other programs may be obtained from Fred Hoehler, executive director, AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Phone 301/431-6800.

5 Unionists On New Trade Panel

President Ford has named five labor representatives to the White House Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations. They are among 36 persons appointed for two-year terms, including 26 business or employer group executives.

The labor representatives include four union presidents—I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers, Charles Pillard of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Murray H. Finley of the Clothing Workers and Leonard Woodcock of the Auto Workers — and Research Director Nat Goldfinger of the AFL-CIO.

A law enacted earlier this year provides for a panel of 45 members to include representatives from government, labor, consumers, industry, agriculture, small business, service industries, retailers and the general public.

Rollcall Vote in Senate On Site Picketing Bill

The Senate on Nov. 19 passed the construction site picketing rights bill, 52-45. Labor's position was strongly for passage of the bill.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 41

Abourezk (S.D.)	Hartke (Ind.)	Mondale (Minn.)
Biden (Del.)	Haskell (Colo.)	Montoya (N.M.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Hathaway (Maine)	Moss (Utah)
Byrd, Robert (W.Va.)	Humphrey (Minn.)	Muskie (Maine)
Church (Ida.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Pastore (R.I.)
Clark (Iowa)	Jackson (Wash.)	Pell (R.I.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Culver (Iowa)	Leahy (Vt.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Durkin (N.H.)	Long (La.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Ford (Ky.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	Symington (Mo.)
Gravel (Alaska)	McGee (Wyo.)	Tunney (Calif.)
Hart, Gary (Colo.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Williams (N.J.)
Hart, Philip (Mich.)	Metcalf (Mont.)	

Republicans 11

Brooke (Mass.)	Packwood (Ore.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Case (N.J.)	Percy (Ill.)	Taft (Ohio)
Javits (N.Y.)	Schweiker (Pa.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Mathias (Md.)	Stafford (Vt.)	

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 20

Allen (Ala.)	Glenn (Ohio)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Sparkman (Ala.)
Byrd, Harry (Va.)	Johnston (La.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Cannon (Nev.)	McClellan (Ark.)	Stone (Fla.)
Chiles (Fla.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Eastland (Miss.)	Morgan (N.C.)	

Republicans 25

Baker (Tenn.)	Fong (Hawaii)	Laxalt (Nev.)
Bartlett (Okla.)	Garn (Utah)	McClure (Ida.)
Beall (Md.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Pearson (Kans.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Griffin (Mich.)	Scott, Hugh (Pa.)
Brock (Tenn.)	Hansen (Wyo.)	Scott, William (Va.)
Curtis (Neb.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Dole (Kan.)	Helms (N.C.)	Tower (Tex.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Hruska (Neb.)	Young (N.D.)
Fannin (Ariz.)		

Absent but announced For: Bayh (D-Ind.)
Absent and not announced: Buckley (R-N.Y.); Roth (R-Del.)

5.9 Million Cases:

Job Injuries, Illness Hit 10% of Workers

About one in every 10 full-time workers in private industry was injured on the job or suffered a job-related illness during 1974 even though the number of minor injuries decreased slightly from 1973, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

At the same time, on-the-job fatalities rose to 5,900, an increase of 200, and about 31 million workdays were lost because of injuries and illnesses, up 2 percent.

The BLS survey found that 5.9 million occupational injuries and illnesses occurred in 1974, a decrease of 163,000 from 1973. But that decrease was entirely in cases that did not involve lost worktime, BLS pointed out.

It also noted that fewer workers were exposed to job hazards because of layoffs in high-risk industries, such as manufacturing and contract construction, while total workhours increased in industries with relatively low rates of injury and illnesses.

"As much as one-third of the drop in the all-industry rate could be attributed to exposure differences among the industries between 1973 and 1974," BLS said.

The 1974 injury-illness rate in contract construction was 18.3 per 100 workers and 14.6 in manufacturing. This compares with an incidence rate of 10.4 per 100 workers in all industries, down from 11 per 100 in 1973.

The BLS injury-illness survey is based on records employers are required to maintain under the Occupational Safety & Health Act. Although about five million workplaces come under the federal safety law, the BLS survey involves a national sample of about 200,000 private employers.

All but 3 percent of the 5.9 million cases reported in 1974 involved occupational injuries. With about 200,400 occupational illness cases estimated last year, BLS said the incidence rate was four per 1,000—about the same as 1973.

The BLS report pointed out that occupational illnesses are slow in developing and are usually not noticed until disability occurs—at times, many years after the worker has left the job.

Some workers had more than one injury or illness during 1974, the report noted, as the number of lost workdays increased from 29.3 million in 1973 to 31.1 million last year. This also reflects the possibility that injuries were more severe as the incidence rate of lost workdays per 100 full-time workers rose from 53.3 in 1973 to 54.6 in 1974.

Approximately 65 percent of the 5,900 work-related fatalities occurred in contract construction, manufacturing and in the transportation and public utilities industries.

The BLS study showed that worker deaths increased in contract construction, services, and in agriculture, forestry and fishery industries. Fatality rates remained level in manufacturing, transportation and public utilities and mining, while declining slightly in less-hazardous industries.

BLS also observed that the proportion of illness-related deaths to all occupational fatalities more than doubled over the year, rising from 300 in 1973 to 700 last year.
bill with the five labor-supported

Workplaces having between 100 and 249 employes appeared to have the highest overall incidence rate of injuries and illness, the report said. Establishments with fewer than 50 or more than 1,000 workers appeared to have better safety records.

'It's Not Letting Up!'

17% Surge in Profits Steepest in 25 Years

(Continued from Page 1)

industries, especially in durables as earnings of motor vehicles producers rose sharply," the government observed. "Strong advances were also recorded for railroads and for electric and gas utilities."

Corporate profits from current production represented a 16.8 percent surge, the largest rise since a 22.9 percent advance in the second quarter of 1946.

Book profits after adjustment for inventory gains came to a seasonally adjusted $122.5 billion figured at an annual rate. After deduction of corporate profits taxes, which accrue on both profits from current production and inventory gains, earnings were estimated at $82.2 billion, an $11.9 billion jump over the second quarter rate.

While soaring 17 percent over the previous quarter, third-quarter profits were 13 percent below the peak $94.3 billion annual rate in the same quarter of 1974.

The only sectors of the economy showing profit declines in the third quarter were petroleum-refining and primary metals, Commerce said.

Profits of American branches or subsidiaries in foreign countries rose to a $5.7 billion annual rate from a rate of $5.5 billion in the previous quarter.

Dividend payments, at $34.5 billion, were up half a billion dollars over the second quarter level. Retained earnings, at $47.7 billion, were up $11.4 billion.

The GNP revision—one of the largest ever made in preliminary estimates of the real gross national product—showed real economic output rose to an adjusted annual rate of $808.3 billion last quarter, compared with a $783.6 rate in the second.

The revised GNP was $3.7 billion higher than the preliminary estimate issued a month earlier, Commerce said.

Prices, as measured by the GNP chain price index, rose at an annual rate of 7 percent, compared with 5.4 percent in the second quarter.

Labor Backs Tax Reform Amendments

(Continued from Page 1)

The labor-supported amendments would curb real estate tax shelters, eliminate a capital losses loophole that is a "giveaway" to rich investors, expand minimum tax coverage, further restrict tax avoidance of profits from exports, and continue the withholding tax on dividends paid to foreign investors.

Biemiller asked the defeat of an amendment sponsored by Rep. James R. Jones (D-Okla.) to weaken the minimum tax obligation and an amendment by Rep. Neal Smith (D-Iowa) to loosen restrictions on tax deductible farm losses claimed by agricultural business and nonfarm investors.

Biemiller also wrote to the officers of AFL-CIO state and local central bodies, urging them to let their congressmen know of the concern of union members in their districts and help offset an intensive campaign by real estate, gas and oil lobbyists trying to block reform.

He said passage of the tax bill with the five labor-supported amendments would signal the clear intention of the House "to close tax loopholes, end tax gimmickry and pave the way for prompt consideration by the Ways & Means Committee of Phase II of tax reform."

The bill sent to the House floor includes extension through 1976 of most of the tax cuts enacted earlier this year to stimulate the economy toward recovery. It does not carry the spending ceiling demanded by President Ford as the tradeoff for extension of the income tax cuts.

Senate Confirms 2 in NLRB Posts

The Senate confirmed the nominations of Peter D. Walther and John S. Irving as member and general counsel, respectively, of the National Labor Relations Board.

The board has been functioning with only four of its five members since the end of July when Ralph Kennedy resigned. The general counsel's post has been vacant since Peter Nash left in mid-August.

Walther, 47, has been a partner in a Philadelphia law firm. Irving, 35, has been deputy general counsel of the board the past three years.

Walther was sworn in to his new office on Nov. 26, while Irving was scheduled to take the oath of office on Dec. 1.

GOP Senator Assails 'Work' Group For 'Threats' on Site Picketing Bill

A lavishly-financed campaign by the National Right to Work Committee to defeat the construction site picketing bill may have boomeranged in the case of one target senator.

The campaign—priced at close to $1 million—included full-page advertisements in 50 newspapers aimed at influencing the votes of certain senators the open shop committee hoped to sway.

One of them was Connecticut Republican Lowell P. Weicker, Jr., who wasn't amused by the advertisement in the Hartford Courant, headed "An Open Letter to Senator Weicker on Beatings, Bombings, Shootings."

The dominant illustration, Weicker told the Senate, was a shadowy figure holding a club and threatening a group of workers. The text of the "open letter" is flanked by headlines of "labor violence . . . arson . . . labor civil war."

All this, an indignant Weicker said in a speech before the Senate voted to close debate and pass the site picketing bill, is part of "the stench of the National Right to Work Committee's contribution to the political process."

The R-T-W committee "makes it toilet clear that their target is not common situs picketing legislation but the entire concept of trade unionism," he said, adding:

"Let no one get fooled by names and jargon. The right to work for a majority of Americans did not exist prior to the labor movement. There was instead the right to be abused, the right to be underpaid . . . to sweat 15 hours a day. And there was the right to take it or starve."

Weicker told his Senate colleagues that the right-to-work committee "played the politics of threats" and "this is to tell them they lost."

He said that, after deliberating long and hard on the merits of the issue, he had concluded that building trades unions were being discriminated against by the curtailment of their picketing rights and "all of us will be better off when such is no longer the case."

Figures quoted by the Wall Street Journal and Congressional Quarterly magazine indicated that the Right-to-Work Committee spent between $750,000 and $1 million on its campaign to try to defeat the construction site picketing bill.

Besides the newspaper advertisements, it included mailing some 4 million letters which in turn were supposed to generate a flood of mail addressed to both Congress and the White House. This is in addition to the massive campaign that has been mounted by construction industry employer groups and business organizations such as the National Association of Manufacturers.

Now that the bill has passed both the House and Senate, awaiting only a House-Senate conference agreement and a final vote after the Thanksgiving recess, the employer pressure has shifted to the White House.

President Ford is being asked to renege on his public commitment to sign the site picketing bill along with its companion, the construction industry collective bargaining bill.

The message, from both the "right-to-work" committee and the more respectable employer groups, is that conservatives will flock to GOP challenger Ronald Reagan if the President should keep his word on site picketing rights.

11-29-75

Electric Boat Strikers Vote on New Contract

Groton, Conn.—The Metal Trades Council here has reached tentative agreement on a new contract with the Electric Boat Division of the General Dynamics Corp. that could resolve a 22-week strike.

The 43-month agreement was to be submitted to the 10,000 workers involved in the strike the day before the Thanksgiving holiday for a secret-ballot vote. If the settlement is ratified, the workers would return to their jobs on Dec. 1. Eleven unions make up the Metal Trades Council.

Reached with the aid of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, the pact provides an immediate 13 percent wage increase, followed by raises of 6 percent at the start of both the second and the third years of the agreement. In addition, an 18-cent hourly cost-of-living pay increase would become effective July 1, 1976, and a 10-cent adjustment would be paid 30 months after the agreement is signed.

Other improvements include an increase from $6.50 to $10 a month in pension benefits; a first-time dental plan with costs split 50-50 between worker and employer; an increase in major medical insurance from $15,000 to $75,000, and increases in hazard pay ranging from 15 to 50 percent.

During the on-again, off-again negotiations, the major issue for the first 16 weeks of the strike was related to work practices, as the unions accused the company of attempting to break craft lines. The issue was resolved by agreement on a series of union-management committees to review individual job assignments.

The giant shipyard produces attack nuclear submarines and missile-carrying nuclear submarines for the Navy.

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House Votes '76 Tax Cut To Spur Ailing Economy

Downturn Continues 2nd Month

By James M. Shevis

A key government statistic indicating future trends in the economy turned down for the second consecutive month in October, lending weight to labor's contention that full recovery from the country's worst post-World War II recession still is nowhere in sight.

The Commerce Dept.'s composite index of leading indicators fell five-tenths of 1 percent in October to 102 percent of its 1967 average. The month before, the index declined by a revised one-tenth of 1 percent.

It was the first time the index had declined two months in a row since it began to rise last March. The September decline was originally reported as nine-tenths of 1 percent.

"The behavior of the index in September and October, together with other recent developments, suggests a moderation in the pace of the overall economic recovery following a strong and unsustainable initial upsurge," said James L. Pate, assistant secretary of commerce for economic affairs.

Other signs of a sluggish economy following a third-quarter rebound in real gross national product included the following:

- A large increase in the number of persons claiming jobless benefits. In the latest reporting period, the Labor Dept. said, 5,573,200 persons received unemployment insurance benefits, an increase of 311,100 from the week before. In the week ended Nov. 22, a total of 453,000 workers filed initial claims for benefits, an increase of 50,800 from the previous week.
- Industrial companies operated at only 72 percent of capacity in October—9.5 percentage points below that of October 1974 at the height of the recession, McGraw-Hill Publications noted.
- McGraw-Hill's F. W. Dodge division, which keeps tabs on construction activity, reported that October contracts for future construction fell 12 percent below year-ago levels. Most of the decline was due to a sharp curtailment in electric-power plant construction.

While real GNP rose at an annual rate of 13.2 percent in the third quarter, the sharpest upturn in 25 years, the production rise was not accompanied by a reduction in unemployment, nor is the nation's economic output expected to continue at that rate.

The jobless rate, at 8.6 percent in October, is not likely to drop significantly through 1977, according to the Ford Administration's own projections.

A group of economists assembled

(Continued on Page 6)

HUMANITARIAN AWARD of Histadrut is presented to AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland by Uzi Bloch, left, the Israeli labor federation's representative to the United States and Canada. AFL-CIO President George Meany is a past recipient of the Histadrut award. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Ford Loses Demand For Spending Ceiling

By David L. Perlman

The House passed and sent to the Senate a labor-supported tax bill designed to keep the economy from another tailspin and to make a very modest start towards tax reform.

It would continue through 1976 the $1 billion-a-month injection of purchasing power that began with the income tax cut enacted last spring under a temporary law that expires Dec. 31. Without new legislation, withholding taxes will shoot up in January and pinch a still fragile economy.

Before passing the bill by a 257-168 vote, the House adopted three of the five tax reform measures urged by the AFL-CIO. They would narrow some of the loopholes now available to wealthy individuals and corporations, and in the process bring in millions of dollars in additional revenue.

The biggest battle came over President Ford's demand that Congress "pay" for any tax cut by agreeing in advance to a spending ceiling for the 1977 fiscal year. Otherwise, the President warned, he will veto any tax cut bill.

The President's position was that Congress would have to commit itself now not to spend more than $375 billion in the next fiscal year, a figure based on a budget that won't even be submitted until late January. But House Republicans leaped on the proposal as a way to cast a supposedly politically useful vote against "spending."

The House voted 219-197 against changing the rule for taking up the tax bill so as to allow the spending ceiling amendment to be considered. Before passing the bill it defeated another Republican attempt to impose a spending ceiling, 220-202.

Of the amendments considered by the House, five were supported

(Continued on Page 3)

N.Y. Loan Bill Moves To Senate

The House agreed to a short-term federal loan to enable New York City to avoid bankruptcy and the Senate was expected to approve it despite a filibuster that prevented an immediate vote.

Even though the terms of the bill had been largely dictated by President Ford, most House Republicans voted against the loan. On the 213-203 vote, the bill was supported by 175 Democrats and 38 Republicans. Opposed were 103 Democrats and 100 Republicans.

Ford had earlier threatened to veto any "bailout" of New York City, despite warnings that the economic collapse of the nation's largest city would spread hardship far beyond New York's borders.

After the city and state acted to increase the tax burden and impose economies that included heavy layoffs and a construction freeze, Ford agreed to short-term seasonal loans of up to $2.3 billion to tide the city over between tax collections.

The loan will carry an 8 percent interest rate—returning a profit to the federal treasury — and future revenue-sharing funds will serve as

(Continued on Page 2)

Senate Study Confirms:

Foreign Investment Cuts Income, Jobs

Direct investment abroad by large U.S. corporations has resulted in a reduced national income and losses of American jobs, technology and management skills, a new study prepared for the Senate Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations confirms.

Carried out by Prof. Peggy Musgrave of Northeastern University, the study has startling implications for labor as reflected in these highlights:

- Foreign investment by U.S. corporations has meant a drop of 4 percent or $25 billion annually in U.S. labor's share of national income.
- In 1970, U.S. firms paid their foreign labor wages which were less than half as much as they paid their U.S. workers.
- Foreign investment is largely concentrated in high-technology and research and development-intensive industries, thus decreasing the U.S. worker's precious advantage of technological superiority.

Prof. Musgrave, who is one of the nation's leading tax economists, focuses particularly on the distribution of economic returns between capital and labor that results from foreign investment by U.S.-based multinational corporations.

"Our analysis suggests that if the capital accumulated abroad as of 1968 had been invested domestically, labor income after tax would be 4 percent larger, while after-tax capital income would have been 17 percent smaller," she notes in the study.

"This is not an insignificant shift, and a factor which should be allowed for in determining public policy toward foreign investment."

Since the domestic capital stock in the United States is reduced by foreign investments, the rate of return on capital will be higher while wage rates will be lower, the Musgrave analysis observes.

"The opposite holds for the foreign host country where the capital stock has increased. It follows that U.S. labor loses while labor in the host country gains," the study adds.

The size of American investments abroad has reached "very

(Continued on Page 3)

Rail Accord Resolves Subcontracting Issue

A year of difficult negotiations between four railroad shopcraft unions and the nation's major railroads ended with a tentative agreement resolving the key issue of subcontracting.

The agreement, subject to ratification by union members, provides "substantial improvements" in rules governing working conditions along with the economic pattern agreed to earlier this year by other rail unions. The package of wage increases and fringe-benefit improvements amounts to a 41 percent boost over a three-year period, retroactive to Jan. 1.

Announcement of the settlement came at a Washington press conference called by federal mediators. The four shop unions representing 75,000 workers, that make up the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. are the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers, Carmen and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The main obstacle in the long-standing dispute was the issue of outside subcontracting of mainte-

(Continued on Page 3)

2-Union Alliance Wins Units Totaling 43,000

Boston—An alliance of two AFL-CIO affiliates won bargaining rights for 43,000 state workers in representation elections held under the year-old Massachusetts collective bargaining law.

The successful joint campaign was mounted by the State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and the Service Employees (SEIU). They appeared on the mail ballots as the Alliance, operated out of a joint headquarters—and won in every head-on competition with the unaffiliated Massachusetts State Employees Association.

Of the nine statewide bargaining units where votes were held last month, the Alliance won clear victories in five units containing more than 85 percent of the workers involved.

A nurses' association won an expected victory in a unit of 3,000, an unaffiliated correction officers group led the ballot for a 1,350-member unit, but the Alliance has challenged the vote. In two other small units, runoffs will be necessary.

Two law enforcement units were not involved in this round of elections and will vote in February.

Both AFSCME and the SEIU started off with a substantial membership base in a number of state departments and agencies. When

(Continued on Page 3)

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD chose Rosalind Russell for its "outstanding achievement" award, but illness caused her to miss the annual SAG meeting in Hollywood. Another film star, Natalie Wood, served as Miss Russell's stand-in. Kathleen Nolan, left, new president of SAG, makes the presentation.

Histadrut Dinner Address:

Kirkland Warns Tilt in UN, Detente Threaten Freedom

By John R. Oravec

The basic values of justice and human rights are being jeopardized by the growing anti-Israeli sentiment in the United Nations and by the American policy of detente, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland warned in accepting the Histadrut Humanitarian Award.

Kirkland noted in an address to 400 guests attending a dinner in his honor that the ties between the American trade union movement and Histadrut, the Israeli labor federation, go back to 1928.

That was before fascist and communist despots emerged with a thirst for scapegoats and easy answers for simple minds, he said.

"Those who remained committed to the idea of democracy, justice and human rights were timid, careful, tolerant even of terror and blackmail—and very, very diplomatic," Kirkland observed.

He suggested that that part of history, which appeared as tragedy, is now in danger of being repeated as farce.

"What is more disturbing in the world today is not so much the territorial advances of despotism," Kirkland said, "but the softening-up process—the erosion of will, and the political and psychological accommodations taking place in the remnants of the free world."

Occasionally, the U.S. government will deliver a mild rebuke to totalitarians, he noted.

"Every now and then there is a gentle suggestion to the Soviet Union that there may be a limit to our forebearance, that the sacred cow of detente may not forever survive the repeated, massive assaults on our interest and values," he said.

But those "slaps on the wrist" are mainly for domestic consumption, Kirkland said, and are not really directed at the enemies of the free world.

He said the setting for the emerging historical farce is in the UN, an instrument that America helped create. These "tools of peace conceived by us in good will for the benefit of all men are now turned against us — their purposes twisted and perverted by a reactionary global elite of sheiks, commissars and tin-horn despots."

The atmosphere in the UN now reeks with blackmail, cowardice and lies, Kirkland stressed, and the only good thing left in the UN is U.S. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan.

The future of the U.S. role in the UN and in the International Labor Organization will depend on whether American representatives get the needed support of their government "when they speak out the plain unvarnished truth, or whether we undercut them, or tut-tut them to death, like the umbrella-wielder from Britain," Kirkland declared.

He said future participation will also depend on whether our "alleged allies" take a stand for human rights, rather than seeking refuge in compromise and abstention.

"Israel stands as a model of human and social values which our other allies would do well to emulate—not for our sake, or for Israel's, but for their own," he stressed.

He pledged continuing AFL-CIO support for Histadrut, Israel and the struggle for democracy in the Middle East.

The award presentation was made by Uzi Bloch, Histadrut representative to the United States and Canada, with the assistance of Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz.

Kirkland is the 15th noted American to receive the award since 1950. Previous recipients include Harry S. Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt, AFL-CIO President George Meany, A. Philip Randolph and Walter P. Reuther.

The selection of Kirkland was made by the National Council for Labor Israel, the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut and the National Public Service Council for Histadrut.

Kirkland was cited for his "outstanding efforts in fostering sympathetic understanding between the people of the United States and the people of Israel, and his warm encouragement to the cause of Histadrut."

Oregon Officers Seated, Election Ruled Valid

Portland, Ore.—Officers and executive board members of the Oregon AFL-CIO took office here Dec. 1 after Federation President George Meany ruled that their election was valid.

A number of challenges had been filed at a two-day state executive board meeting here Nov. 6-7, alleging that the federation's constitution was not strictly adhered to in the seating of convention delegates, the election process and in executive board action involving the eligibility of certain candidates. The election had been held at the state federation convention in September.

Following a request from the state executive board to settle the controversy, Meany ruled on Nov. 26 that the challenges were not timely in that they had not been raised at the time the convention accepted its election committee report. He directed that the election results should stand.

The new state AFL-CIO president is Robert Kennedy of the Machinists, who had defeated incumbent Dean Killion of the Woodworkers. The latter had held office since 1973. Kennedy has been directing business representative of Machinists District Lodge 24 in Portland. His eligibility as a candidate was one target of the challenges.

Another new officer whose eligibility had been challenged is Nellie Fox of Retail Employees Local 1092 in Portland, who was elected executive director of legislation and political education for the Oregon AFL-CIO. She previously had been the state federation's women's activities director and prior to that was second vice president. She defeated Lloyd Knudsen of Portland Electrical Workers Local 48, who had held the political-legislative post since 1969.

Kennedy is the first member of the Machinists to head the state federation and Fox is the first woman elected to one of the three full-time posts.

Also sworn in on Dec. 1 was Glenn (Pat) Randall of the Carpenters, who was re-elected secretary-treasurer. His candidacy was not among those challenged.

At the Dec. 1 meeting, following the ruling by Meany, pleas for unity within the state federation were voiced by Kennedy, Killion, Fox and Knudsen.

Frank Emig, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, administered the oaths of office to the state officers and executive board members. In addition to Randall, other re-elected officers are Earl Kirkland, Columbia Pacific Building & Construction Trades Council, first vice president, and Inez McPherson, Portland Waitresses Local 305, second vice president. Of the 18 district members of the executive board, 11 are newly elected.

Senate Nears Action on Loan To New York

(Continued from Page 1)

collateral for the federal government.

If opponents continue to seek to delay the bill in the Senate, the vote of 60 senators will be needed to invoke cloture and limit debate. Supporters think cloture can be achieved unless absenteeism holds down the vote.

A strong indication of Senate support was a 57-23 vote rejecting an attempt to delay action by sending the House-passed bill to committee instead of taking it up immediately.

Earlier, the House Banking Committee had approved a bill calling for a $7 billion loan guarantee for New York bonds to be sold on the private market. But when Ford announced his approval of a smaller direct-loan plan, that was substituted for the loan guarantee bill.

Meanwhile, purchases of state and city bonds by municipal pension funds with the concurrence of union trustees have enabled the city to keep one step ahead of actual default.

ILGWU Opens Talks With Dress Industry

New York—The Ladies' Garment Workers opened talks on a new dress industry contract that seeks a "substantial" wage increase for some 60,000 workers in the metropolitan New York area and in nearby states.

ILG President Sol C. Chaikin told delegates at a meeting of the Dressmakers' Joint Council and executive boards of its locals that a specific figure had not been set because "we don't know what's going to happen" to prices in the next couple of months.

The union's current three-year agreement with the industry expires on Jan. 31, 1976. Chaikin noted that so far this year, the cost of living has gone up at an annual rate of 7 or 8 percent.

There are five major employer groups involved in the negotiations, representing dressmakers in New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland.

The dress negotiations generally set the pace for bargaining in other women's apparel fields, including sportswear, children's dresses, coats and suits.

Chaikin said the union would seek new and higher minimum guarantees; additional employer contributions for pensions, health and welfare funds, and other improvements.

Vice President Murray Gross, pinpointing some of the specific contract goals, said the union would ask for an increase of 2 percent in employer contributions to the retirement fund. He said the nation's economic recession has caused an increase in the rate of retirements, with fund outgo exceeding fund income and new federal legislation regarding vesting rights adding to the financial obligations of the retirement fund.

Other matters to be dealt with, Gross said, include additional holidays; the setting of an expiration date that will bring the new contract closer to a common expiration date with other outerwear contracts; elimination of area differentials; a determination of the status of cut-up shops, and a simplification of contract language.

Funds Increase Backed For Education Institute

The AFL-CIO declared its support of a bill to authorize additional appropriations for the National Institute of Education.

Walter G. Davis, director of the federation's Dept. of Education, told a House subcommittee the agency is a "vital component" in providing the leadership "to quickly resolve those remaining questions for which important research is needed."

Davis lauded the priority research and development needs set forth in the bill. The three-year-old agency seeks to improve education in the United States by concentrating its resources in the following areas:

- Improving student achievement in basic educational skills, including reading and mathematics.
- Overcoming problems of finance, productivity and management in educational institutions.
- Helping schools meet their responsibilities to provide equal opportunities for students who speak limited English, women and students who are socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged.
- Improving means of disseminating the knowledge gained from basic educational research and development.
- Preparing youths and adults for entering and progressing in careers.

Commenting upon the section of the bill on career education, Davis noted the AFL-CIO has "serious reservations about some plans which have been put forward in the education marketplace of ideas to implement this goal."

For example, he said, "the notion that secondary school students should enter the work force to gain needed 'hands on' experience in communities with high levels of unemployment reflects an insensitivity to the problems of the unemployed and to the heads of households affected by the downturn in the nation's economy."

The legislation would authorize the appropriation of nearly a quarter-billion dollars to fund the agency over the next three years.

OEIU Member Named Mine Safety Adviser

Jerry Martin, safety and training director of Operating Engineers Local 3 in San Francisco, has been named to the safety and health advisory committee of the Metal & Nonmetal Mine Safety Administration.

Martin succeeds Alan Burch, safety and health director of the IUOE, who served on the advisory committee since July 1974.

As Spur to Economy:

Tax Cut Extension Approved by House

(Continued from Page 1)

by the AFL-CIO and congressional liberals as genuine tax reform while two were opposed as weakening the bill.

The House Ways & Means Committee earlier this year had given tentative approval to a number of tax reform provisions. But under heavy pressure from business lobbyists, the committee majority backed down at the last minute and deleted most of the revenue-raising features of the bill.

Liberal Democrats on the committee demanded and got the procedural right to bring up for a vote in the full House five tax reform amendments. Those adopted in the bill sent to the Senate would:

- Drop from the committee bill an amendment that became known as "the H. Ross Perot giveaway" because it would have enabled that one wealthy Texan to collect a $15 million tax refund. It would enable wealthy individuals to carry back for three years capital losses above $30,000. That carried 379-27.
- Strengthen the minimum tax requirement so that the very wealthy will not be able to avoid virtually all federal income tax. That single amendment would raise an estimated $376 million in 1976 and more than $500 million in later years. It passed 314-107.
- Continue the 30 percent withholding tax that Middle East oil producers and other foreign investors now pay on dividends they receive from U.S. investments. The committee bill would have eliminated the withholding tax. The amendment carried, 301-119.

Rejected were two other labor-supported amendments. One would have prevented real estate investors from offsetting actual profits from one property with artificial "paper losses" from another. It was defeated, 226-192. Also beaten was a move to further tighten restrictions on tax breaks given companies under the DISC program—the Domestic International Sales Corp. The vote was 223-199.

There are strong indications that the Senate may set aside the tax law changes—both the reforms added in the House and the assortment of other changes incorporated in the Ways & Means Committee bill — until the second session which starts in January.

The tax cut provisions would then be handled as a separate bill and rushed to the President in time to avoid a January rise in withholding taxes.

House Republican Leader John Rhodes said before the vote on the tax bill that he had checked with Ford and was told the President still plans to veto any tax cut that lacks a spending ceiling.

The tax cut voted by the House is actually larger than the reduction currently in effect, even though the difference will not be reflected in withholding tables.

That's because the $8 billion individual income tax cut Congress enacted last March was actually compressed into nine months of the year as far as withholding tables were concerned.

To maintain the same impact in terms of purchasing power pumped into the economy, the income tax reductions in the House bill amount to about $13 billion over the year.

The tax bill enacted last spring, however, included a one-shot rebate on 1974 income taxes that amounted to more than $8 billion. There is no such rebate provision in the new legislation.

The House bill also continues a reduction in corporation taxes and the higher investment tax credit Congress enacted this year.

UNION SPIRIT of Massachusetts state workers was demonstrated in this Boston rally—and in the representation election victories for the Alliance, a coalition formed by the State, County & Municipal Employees and the Service Employees. It defeated a long-established unaffiliated association in statewide balloting to win bargaining rights for 43,000 workers.

Massachusetts Union Alliance Scores Gains

(Continued from Page 1)

statewide bargaining units were set up under the collective bargaining machinery, the overlapping could have led to election battles between the two AFL-CIO unions as well as with the long-established employes' association, which represented about 10,000 state workers.

Instead, the Alliance was formed.

It was conceived by the Massachusetts locals of the two unions directly involved, proposed to their parent organizations and supported at the national level by AFSCME President Jerry Wurf, SEIU President George Hardy, and their top aides.

Its staff included consultants experienced in opinion polling and telephone bank techniques as well as organizers from both unions. A particular target was a unit of more than 12,000 clerical employes, where the unaffiliated association had been considered strong. When the ballots were tallied, the Alliance had nearly 58 percent of the unit's votes.

A big professional employe unit voted for the Alliance, and so did other units representing the great diversity of public employment—in institutions, shops and offices throughout Massachusetts.

The Alliance campaign focused heavily on the economic squeeze that has hit state workers, whose pay has not kept up with the cost of living rise. While living costs, especially in Boston where most state employes work, are among the nation's highest, the Alliance hammered at the fact that Massachusetts ranks a poor 21st in wages paid its employes.

A union coalition could do better than the state employe association, the Alliance contended—and most workers agreed.

Income, Job Cuts Laid To Foreign Investments

(Continued from Page 1)

substantial" magnitudes, the study notes. Most of the capital outflow has gone into the highly developed, industrial countries of Western Europe and Canada.

The investments are heavily concentrated in the largest corporations in the manufacturing oligopolies and in natural-resource processing, particularly petroleum.

"U.S. direct investment abroad in 1973 amounted to well over $100 billion (book value), having tripled since the early '60s," the study notes. "The market value of these investments, furthermore, is of the order of $160 billion and the average annual increase over the past three years has been $10 billion."

The Musgrave analysis suggests that putting the capital to work at home rather than abroad on balance would increase the level of national income arising in the non-financial corporate sector of the economy.

The study also notes that capital outflow "cannot have anything but a weakening effect on the organizational power of labor." U.S. union strength tends to be reduced by foreign investment, the study observes. The reduction in union strength is a result of many factors, including the following:

- Multinational corporations' ability to play off their foreign workers against their U.S. workers.
- The reduced economic resources of U.S. labor.
- The increased wealth of multinational corporations.

The study suggests that tax reform is needed to encourage U.S. companies to invest more at home and less abroad, a position long advocated by organized labor.

The study finds that the great flow of U.S. investments abroad is a result not of neutral international capital markets, but of U.S. government incentives to invest abroad.

At its convention in October, the AFL-CIO reaffirmed its call for an end to preferential tax treatment that encourages U.S. firms to shift production and jobs abroad.

Rail Accord Resolves Subcontracting Issue

(Continued from Page 1)

nance and repair work on railroad equipment. RED President James E. Yost said this issue was resolved and that the carriers had agreed to limit the practice.

Yost foresaw no problems in gaining approval of the pact by rank-and-file members. "We're going to make an all-out effort to get the agreement ratified, and we do not anticipate any difficulty," he said. One union, the Firemen & Oilers, does not require member ratification.

Yost said terms of the new contract would be sent out to leaders of the other three unions by this weekend. They in turn would put the proposed pact before the full memberships.

"We didn't get everything we wanted," Yost said, "but we achieved very substantial improvements." Along with the subcontracting issue, he noted, the unions resolved differences over wage inequities, work rules and several other matters.

"The fact we've reached agreement without a work stoppage shows that collective bargaining can work," Yost noted. He commended George S. Ives of the National Mediation Board and W. J. Usery, Jr., of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service for their help in settling the long contract dispute.

Chairman William H. Dempsey of the National Railway Labor Conference, which represents the carriers, described the settlement as "a satisfactory accommodation."

Negotiations on the new contract opened well over 12 months ago. While 11 other rail unions accepted the "pattern" settlement, RED unions rejected it, citing particularly thorny problems affecting their members.

In September, President Ford named an emergency fact finding panel, as provided by the Railway Labor Act, to look into the dispute. Among other proposals, the panel recommended language covering job protection.

The two sides differed in their interpretation of the proposal on subcontracting, however, and the unions threatened to strike. A deadline was set for Nov. 10, then twice postponed to allow the presidential panel to clarify its language on the subcontracting issue.

Members of the union negotiating team included Yost; Assistant President O. W. Jacobson of the Carmen; Wesley Gordon, special representative of the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths; Vice President Frank Gladney of the IBEW; Andrew Ripp, an assistant to Gladney; and George J. Francisco, secretary-treasurer of the Firemen & Oilers. Also participating was Edward J. Hickey, RED's counsel.

New Law Creates Productivity Center

President Ford signed legislation creating a National Center for Productivity & Quality of Working Life, an independent agency within the Executive Branch.

A board of directors, yet to be appointed, will include at least five representatives of organized labor, as well as individuals from the business community, state and local governments, academia, and the general public.

The center replaces the National Commission on Productivity & Work Quality which was established in 1970 to seek ways to improve the rate of productivity in the United States.

Roofers Spur Program To Revive Construction

Las Vegas, Nev.—Full cooperation of the Roofers to help resolve the problems of the nation's depressed building and construction industry was pledged by President Roy E. Johnson at the union's 20th triennial convention here.

Johnson stressed in his keynote address to the 340 convention delegates that the union must continue its efforts in the interest of those workers "who still have faith in the American dream."

He urged local unions to form task forces aimed at developing programs to curb the high unemployment rate and to revitalize stagnant construction projects.

Despite the recent sad state of the construction industry, Johnson noted that the Roofers have continued to grow in membership. The union has shown a steady growth rate since 1963 to achieve an average membership of 27,000 over the past two years.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., in an address to the delegates, traced the nation's economic problems to governmental inaction and the lack of strong leadership in the Administration and in Congress.

"The current recession has only increased the public's displeasure with government," Georgine declared. "Governmental policies are blamed for causing the recession and governmental inaction is blamed for lengthening the recession."

Because faulty policies have been allowed to continue, the nation's problems have grown, he observed, warning that "more inflation, another recession and additional cutbacks in much-needed construction all loom on the horizon."

Attempts by Congress to resolve the economic crisis have been met by vetoes and veto threats, which Congress has been unable to overcome, Georgine noted.

Delegates elected Johnson, who had been appointed by the Roofers executive board in January 1974, to a full three-year term as president. Sec.-Treas. Dale Zusman and 10 vice presidents were also elected to new terms.

The convention also voted to increase the monthly per capita payment by $1, in addition to adopting several constitutional amendments and 27 resolutions.

Dr. William J. Nicholson of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine reported preliminary findings of a health hazards study commissioned by the Roofers.

Other speakers included Fred J. Driscoll, Jr., chairman of the Impartial Jurisdictional Disputes Board, and Jim Arnold, secretary of the southern Nevada Building & Construction Trades Council.

Sharing the Squeeze

WE WOULD LIKE TO make it clear that our opposition to revenue sharing was never founded on any disagreement with the need for a stronger federal role in helping states and localities meet continuing and growing public investment needs.

To the contrary, our basic and most fundamental objection to revenue sharing was based on our judgment that the program would not result in any added federal money for the states and localities but would be used as an excuse to underfund existing programs or block enactment of new measures which would in fact increase the amount of federal funds flowing to the states and localities for specific, essential programs.

State and local governments generally, and larger cities in particular, are currently caught in a severe financial squeeze. Recession, inflation and unemployment have reduced revenues and sharply increased costs. The federal government has compounded the problems by failing to enact or adequately fund federal programs needed to create jobs, end the recession and help state and local governments meet escalating needs for essential public facilities and services.

State and local governments have cut costs by laying off workers, reducing hours, and putting "freezes" on personnel and wages resulting in a sharp deterioration of public service. Vital services such as trash collection, police and fire protection, education and public transportation have been cut back. Needed improvements and additions to public facilities have been postponed or cancelled, bond issues have been rejected by voters and buyers; and the nation's largest city has been on the brink of financial collapse for months.

Over the past two years, state and local tax receipts have grown by 8.9 percent and 8.7 percent respectively—substantially below the increases in inflation and at the same time recession-related social service costs have skyrocketed.

Significantly, the federal government's share of the public investment expenditures of state and local governments has been falling since 1973. In the year ended June 30, 1973, the federal aids to state and local governments accounted for 25.2 percent of state and local outlays. In 1974 and 1975, the proportion fell to 23.6 and 23.3 percent respectively.

It is obvious that at best the revenue sharing experiment has been a cruel disappointment—even to many of its most outspoken advocates and proponents.

We therefore call upon the Congress in considering renewal of the State & Local Fiscal Assistance Act to make changes in the allocation and entitlement formula which will assure that funds are targeted to areas in line with their need for essential public facilities and services. Particular emphasis must be placed on the needs of the nation's urban centers. The allocation formula should be weighted in a fashion which would encourage increased state use of fairer and more progressive income taxes and generally help to encourage more modern and responsible state and local government structures.

Congress must provide adequate and enforceable federal standards and safeguards to assure that funds are used for programs that reflect national needs and priorities and fully comply with federal civil rights guarantees and labor standards and protections.

—From AFL-CIO testimony before a House Government Operations Subcommittee.

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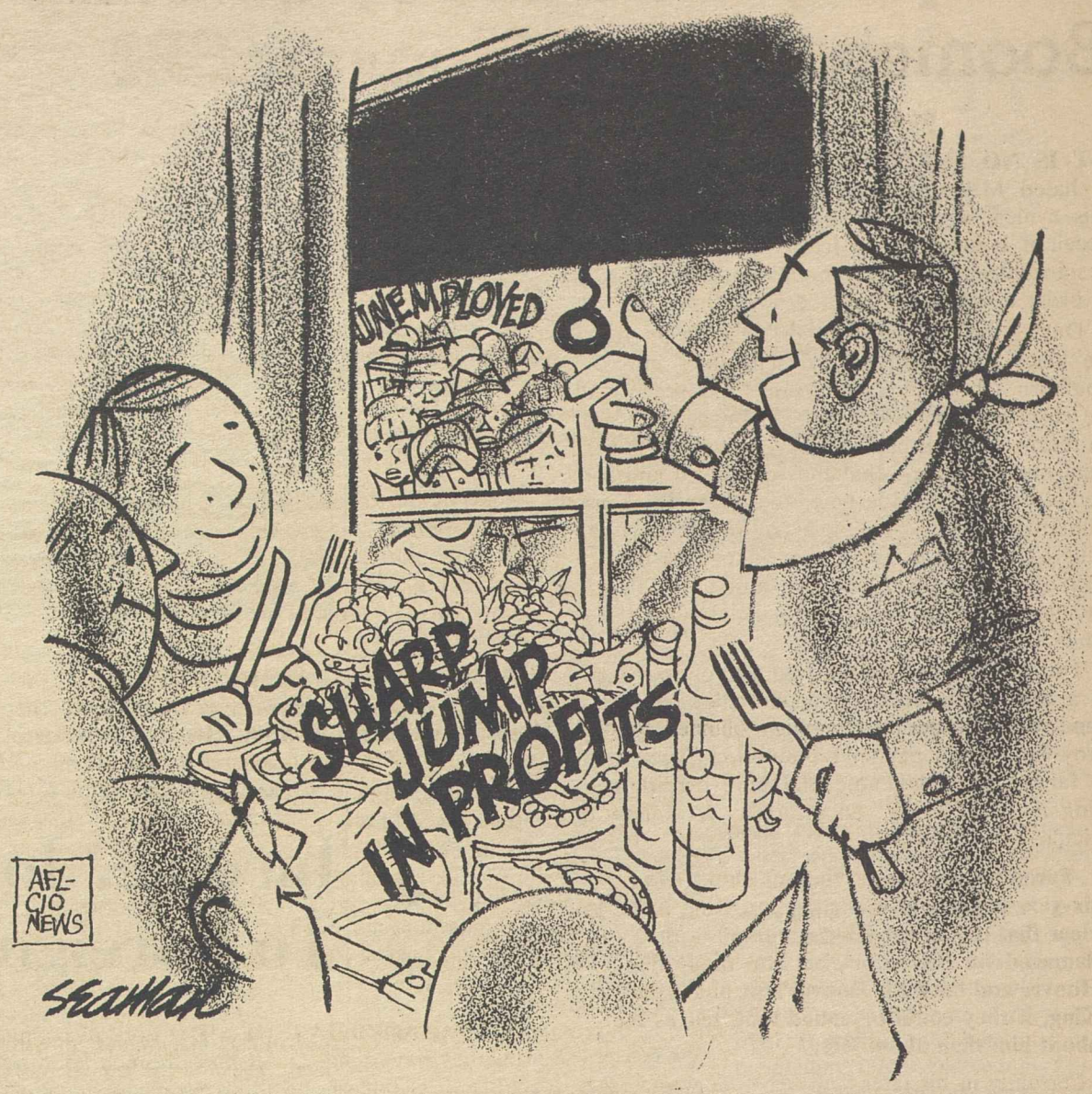


A Word Edgewise:

Campaign to Recognize PLO Rerun of Viet Cong Scenario

By John P. Roche

BEGINNING AROUND 1965 the international Communist political warfare apparatus began orchestrating a worldwide campaign to "Recognize the Viet Cong." By 1967 the din was appalling: pickets outside the White House, visitations of scholars and clergymen, screamers on television, and marchers on the Pentagon assured all and sundry that American refusal to recognize the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front (NLF) guaranteed a continuation of the war.

It was a beautiful job—particularly since the vast majority of those involved didn't know the NLF from the NRA—and those of us on the receiving end often felt as though we were in a steel drum being showered with bricks.

So, eventually, after the great charade over the shape of the table at the "peace" negotiations in Paris, we admitted the NLF as an independent party to the discussions. Hardly a day passed without the extremely effective Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh appearing on television news denouncing American intransigence.

Well, that was long ago and in a distant country . . . today it is quite clear that Hanoi doesn't recognize the NLF. We who said the whole thing was a fake from the outset are in the position of the cavalryman with an Indian arrow in his back: Asked by the doctor if it hurt, he said, "Only when I laugh, Doc, only when I laugh."

Ever since the fall of the Republic of Vietnam last spring, the NLF has been shunted to the sidelines. With characteristic ruthlessness, Pham Van Dong and Le Duan (himself a southerner) have thrown away a tool that lost its utility. Mrs. Binh still makes a speech from time to time, but her speechwriters now emphasize the unity of North and South Vietnam, not the autonomy of the NLF's Provisional Government.

In a classic bit of chutzpah, Hanoi did support the admission of two Vietnams into the United Nations—perhaps drawing a lesson from the Soviets who got the "independent states," the Ukraine and Byelorussia, admitted to the world organization. The Vietnamese ploy was vetoed by the United States.

Meanwhile, back in Indochina the order of the day is unification. From the day of victory the South has been effectively ruled by the North Vietnamese military led by Lt. Gen. Tran Van Tra. Symbolically Saigon was put on Hanoi time —it was formerly an hour off. Those governments that rushed to recognize the Provisional Government (technically the People's Revolutionary Government: PRG; the NLF wearing a different hat) were politely informed by Hanoi that consuls, not ambassadors, would suffice for Saigon.

FURTHER TO EMPHASIZE who won the war, the immense loot remaining after Saigon fell was not turned over to the PRG despite its purported sovereignty. It was shipped North and is now being auctioned off to various friendly purchasers and Asian liberation movements. A number of South Vietnamese escaped with aircraft to Thailand. Bangkok has received a number of demands that this equipment is stolen property and must be returned—from Hanoi, not from Mrs. Binh, the foreign minister of the PRG.

However, on Nov. 21 (according to the Hanoi news agency) Mrs. Binh was trotted out for a press conference in Saigon where she had the privilege of announcing that negotiations between the PRG and Hanoi over reunification had successfully been concluded. One can only imagine how strenuously Mrs. Binh held out for national autonomy in the south, but the communique simply reported agreement on a unified, independent, and socialist Vietnam. Nationwide elections, according to Radio Hanoi, will be held "in the first half of 1976." I suspect Mrs. Binh will get elected to this new national assembly.

I'm not sure there is any point in bringing this up. The simple-minded characters among the intelligentsia who fell for the ploy have long since tossed their participation into the mental dispose-all. (Indeed, I met one the other day with whom I gently raised the matter; he looked at me blankly.)

But it is relevant to the current Communist agit-prop scenario: "Recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization." And this, unfortunately, is doing very nicely.

Non-Violent Efforts Succeed:

Campaign to Destroy Dr. King Boomerangs on Hoover, FBI

By Bayard Rustin

IT IS NO SURPRISE that J. Edgar Hoover hated Martin Luther King, Jr. But even in this cynical age accustomed to dirty tricks and deceit it is shocking to learn the desperate and despicable lengths Hoover and the FBI went to in order to destroy King.

During the time when I worked with Dr. King, we knew that the FBI had sent spies into the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and we suspected that we had been bugged as well. In recent weeks it has been revealed that the FBI went much further—that they organized and carried out a campaign designed to destroy Dr. King. The FBI tried to prevent a college from giving King an honorary degree, they hatched a plan to keep the Pope from granting him an audience, and tried to undermine the financial support for the SCLC.

The FBI did not stop at trying to destroy King as a civil rights leader. Nor did they stop at a slanderous whispering campaign planned to destroy Dr. King's personal reputation. They went so far as to send a note and tape recording to King in late 1964 in an effort to drive him to suicide.

Paradoxically the revelations about Hoover's six-year campaign to destroy Dr. King make it clear that it was not King's reputation that was damaged by this effort but the reputation of Hoover and the FBI. Hoover's suspicions about King, if they could be called that, tell us more about him than about King.

Certainly in his later years Hoover was a petty man, jealous of his reputation, and deeply resentful of any criticism. It is unclear what aroused Hoover's suspicion of King, but perhaps it was the very largeness and charity of King's character.

If it could be said that King and Hoover were foes, the way in which they conceived of their contest and the manner in which they reacted to each other show the stark contrasts between the quality of man that each was. While Hoover used a federal agency to carry on a personal vendetta against King, Martin was engaged in a great battle for social justice through non-violence and Christian love.

One incident during my 10-year association with Dr. King illustrates this difference. Apparently angered by Dr. King's criticism of the FBI for appointing conservative agents to investigate civil rights violations in the South, Hoover publicly attacked King as the "biggest liar" in the country. Many of King's advisers, myself included, urged Martin to make a counterblast at Hoover, demanding that Hoover produce evidence to back his charge.

But public denunciation was completely alien to Martin's character. Whenever someone was in error and especially when they wrongly attacked him, Martin always sought a personal conference to attempt to reconcile the differences.

Thus he met with Hoover and asked the FBI chief to explain just what he had done that Hoover considered deceitful. Hoover, of course, was unable to supply any basis for his attack.

I don't imagine that Martin would have been too alarmed at the knowledge that the FBI was out to destroy him. What would have disturbed him and what should disturb us today is that all the time and effort devoted to tearing down King could have saved the lives of many people who were killed during the great crusade to gain civil rights.

THE GOOD THAT MEN DO does live long after they have died. Dr. King did much good in his life. It is our responsibility to make sure that that good continues and that it be expanded. For what King did will be regarded one hundred years from now as one of the greatest contributions to mankind.

Martin took the strategy of non-violence a step even beyond Gandhi. He showed that it is possible for a minority using the principles and tactics of non-violence to win concessions from the majority. He showed that it is possible to secure justice and realistic to dream of a better world.

Widespread Abuses:

Farm Labor Law Violations Fail to Deter UFW Advances

THE FARM WORKERS are posting major representation election victories in California, despite widespread violence and intimidation against them, AFL-CIO Organizing Director Alan Kistler said.

Kistler said the recent in-the-field investigation by a special subcommittee of AFL-CIO vice presidents bore out the union's charges that its members were victims of assaults, arrest, firings and blacklistings that severely handicap the effectiveness of the state's new farm labor law designed to guarantee that farm workers are represented by the union they—not their employers—choose. He said that short funding and incompetent administration have opened the door to those abuses.

He laid major blame for the crippled operation of the new law on the failure of the legislature and the responsible state agencies "to recognize the dimensions of the task." But, he stressed, most people—including the AFL-CIO—think "it is a good law . . . it at least provides some mechanics for workers to demonstrate whether or not they want collective bargaining and whom they want to represent them."

Kistler charged that the failure of the labor board's representatives to enforce the law effectively "has permitted the continuation of the collusion and coalition of the growers and Teamsters. That distorts the elections."

If there are assurances the elections can be conducted in a fair atmosphere, Kistler said, "in time, the Farm Workers will demonstrate to everybody's satisfaction that they are the dominant union in the California fields."

Kistler cited recent election results showing 167 victories for the UFW to represent 24,334 workers, compared with the Teamsters' 95 for 11,373 workers. He also noted that there have been 54 elections in which workers formerly represented by the IBT switched to the Farm Workers, but there have been no switches from the UFW to the Teamsters.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Kistler said the AFL-CIO has spelled out a series of steps that the state should take to boost the law's effectiveness and eliminate "conditions that almost inherently prevent the act from doing what it is supposed to do."

Turning to union organizing in general, Kistler said "the state of organizing is pretty healthy—there is a great deal of organizing activity . . . all over the country among all industrial groups." He said the economic decline has had a mixed effect on union organizing. He pointed out that "it's easy for employers to exploit the economic fears of people" and fend off unions, but at the same time, he added, "workers increasingly realize that in times of economic distress they need someone to represent them—for security."

Kistler was questioned by Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Tom Joyce of Newsweek magazine. The program is broadcast Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

Perpetual Assurance

UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

YEARS OF EFFORT to enact programs to meet long-neglected needs of children and to strengthen family life are in danger of being swamped by conservative propaganda.

More than a thousand letters have poured into congressional offices in a coordinated effort to block the proposed legislation. The drive has developed such momentum in recent weeks that Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.), a leading advocate, denounced it as "a vicious and totally inaccurate propaganda campaign."

Mondale said the bill is the target of "one of the most distorted and dishonest attacks" he has ever seen.

Mondale made a point-by-point rebuttal of the more irresponsible charges in the Congressional Record, Nov. 19.

"Wild and completely false allegations are being made," Mondale said, "that this legislation would somehow give children the legal right to disobey their parents; somehow prohibit parents from providing religious training to their children; somehow give the government authority over child rearing, and somehow give children the right to complain about their parents and teachers 'without fear of reprisal.'

"These allegations are absolutely and completely false," Mondale declared. "There is not a shred of truth in any one of them."

Mondale said the allegations in the unsigned propaganda are derived from a "Charter of Children's Rights"—a document circulated in Britain and cited by Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R-Neb.) during Senate debate in 1971. One item in the charter says that children have the right to resist "excessive claims" by parents—such as being ordered to take out the garbage.

To combat the distortions, Mondale restated the need for the Child & Family Services Act:

"Forty percent of the young children in the United States have not been immunized fully against childhood diseases. The infant mortality rate in this country is shockingly and unnecessarily high—higher than that of 13 other nations.

"Almost two-thirds of pre-school children with handicaps are not receiving the special services they need. An estimated 200,000 children are struck each year by handicaps that could have been prevented if their mothers had received early health care.

"While there are almost six million pre-school children whose mothers are working, there are only one million spaces in licensed day-care homes and centers to serve them."

MONDALE LISTED the key elements of the proposed program: totally voluntary access to health, education and child care services; pre-natal care and early screening to detect and remedy handicaps in children; nutrition assistance; day care for children of working mothers.

He stressed that the bill explicitly recognizes that "the family is the primary and most fundamental influence on children" and its programs "must build upon and strengthen the role of the family."

The changing role of women has pointed up the great need for quality day care facilities. Women in the child-bearing and child-rearing age range of 25 to 44 entered the labor force in large numbers since 1960. While this is partly due to rising divorce and separation rates, many younger women in recent years have chosen to pursue career ambitions while also raising children.

In 1971, the child development program passed Congress as part of an extension of the Office of Economic Opportunity. President Nixon vetoed it and the Senate failed to override.

The completion of Senate hearings this past summer spread fear among conservatives that the Child & Family Services Act might clear an "ultra-liberal" Congress—in the words of the Conservative Digest—with enough votes to override a possible Ford veto.

This may explain the scare campaign by conservative writers and the appeal by a group called the National Coalition for Children to its 300 member bodies in 40 states "to generate a flow of mail to Congress that will grow to an avalanche."

MAJOR VICTORIES are going to the Farm Workers in representation elections under California's new farm labor law despite widespread violence and intimidation against the union, Director Alan Kistler, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services reported on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Tom Joyce, left, of Newsweek magazine and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

U.S. UNION REPRESENTATIVES of international trade secretariats review current developments in foreign relations at a meeting conducted by AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs and the federation's three regional institutes—American Institute for Free Labor Development, African-American Labor Center and Asian-American Free Labor Institute. Standing are International Affairs Director Ernest S. Lee, left, and Henoch Mendelsund of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

ILO Agrees to Explore Public Employe Issues

Geneva—A worker-backed proposal for an international guarantee of trade union and civic rights for public employes will be considered by the International Labor Organization.

The ILO's Governing Body agreed to put the issue on the agenda of the 1977 ILO Conference. It acted at the urging of the worker members. The Governing Body, like the ILO itself, is made up of worker, employer and government representatives.

Irving Brown, U.S. worker delegate to the ILO and a member of the Governing Body, said the rights of civil servants should include the "ultimate weapon" of the strike.

The Governing Body also approved further studies by the ILO into the impact of multinational corporations on workers. Joseph Morris, chairman of the ILO workers' group and president of the Canadian Labor Congress, urged expansion of the studies into additional industries.

Brown, who is also the AFL-CIO's European representative, said the ILO studies should encompass the multinational combines of "the so-called Socialist bloc" of Eastern Europe and not be limited to the West.

In a discussion of a forthcoming maritime conference to develop international standards on the working and living conditions of seamen, the issue of runaway shipping arose.

Employers sought to delete the term "flags of convenience" from conference documents dealing with substandard conditions on board ships registered in countries such as Liberia and Panama in order to evade safety, tax and labor regulations. But the phrase was kept in the documents, as the worker group urged.

In action strongly supported by worker delegates, the Governing Body pressed its demand on the military government of Ethiopia to receive an ILO delegation to inquire into the arrest of Beyene Solomon, president of the Ethiopian Trade Union Confederation, and two of his aides.

The Governing Body session was the first following the notice served by the United States of its intention to withdraw if the ILO continues on the political course of recent years. Brown noted that the Governing Body did not get diverted by purely political concerns.

2 Unionists Named To Job Safety Panel

Two trade unionists have been appointed to the Federal Advisory Council on Occupational Safety & Health. They are John A. McCart, executive director of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., and George Taylor, executive secretary of the federation's standing committee on job safety and health.

Talks Stalled, Teachers Walk Out in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh—Little headway was reported in contract negotiations involving some 3,700 city teachers who struck early this week for higher wages and improved working conditions.

While perfunctory bargaining sessions were held between Local 400 of the American Federation of Teachers and the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education, the two sides remained far apart.

Local President Albert R. Fondy observed, "It certainly looks like a very long strike." The walkout, approved by a 2,600 to 6 vote of union members, was completely effective and resulted in a shutdown of all schools, he said.

The third teachers' strike here in eight years, the walkout hinges on the board's refusal to negotiate certain issues as well as the gulf that separates the two sides on economic matters.

The Teachers are seeking a two-year contract with annual wage increases ranging from $1,300 to $3,500. Teachers now are paid between $8,700 and $16,700 a year. The board's latest pay-raise offer was a flat $300 for all.

The city has taken the position that issues such as class size, discipline policies and other items are non-negotiable even though they were dealt with in the old contract. Disagreement over the school board's position has gone before the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board.

The school closings have resulted in the city's lay-off of 1,150 non-academic workers, including food-service employes, bus drivers and custodial personnel.

Negotiations on a new contract opened last July 2.

Economic Index Shows New Decline

(Continued from Page 1)

by the industry-financed Conference Board forecast that unemployment in 1976 will average 7.8 percent. That would be the highest for any year—except 1975—since 1942.

Of the 11 leading indicators available for the government's October report on the economy, four showed declines from September while five increased and two were unchanged. Contributing most to the overall decline was a change in total liquid assets such as cash and checking account balances.

Other falling indicators were net business formation, the nation's money supply and building permits. Indicators that showed increases were vendor performance, changes in sensitive prices, stock prices and new orders for consumer goods. The layoff rate and the average workweek remained unchanged.

In a revised report, the Labor Dept. said that productivity in the nation's private economy rose 11 percent during the third quarter instead of 9.5 percent as earlier estimated.

Meanwhile, in a separate report, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said that unit labor costs in non-financial corporations declined at the seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.5 percent in the third quarter.

The decline was the steepest in more than 10 years and came atop a 3.2 percent drop in the previous quarter. BLS said the decline was due to a rise in productivity and a slowing in the rate of wage-rate increase.

Non-financial corporations include all U.S. firms except banks, credit agencies, stock and commodity brokers and insurance companies. BLS noted that unit profits in such corporations soared at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 95.9 percent over the July-September period, the largest quarterly gain since 1958 when the agency began compiling the series.

As a result, BLS said, unit profits were at an all-time high, and 27.8 percent above a year ago.

In other economic news, the government's wholesale price index for November remained unchanged from the October level. The Bureau of Labor Statistics said the index stayed at 178.2 percent of its 1967 base.

The report was the best news on the price front since June, when wholesale prices fell by one-tenth of 1 percent. In October, the index soared 1.8 percent from the previous month.

Ten-Year Growth:

37 Million Women In U.S. Workforce

Women workers now make up nearly 40 percent of the nation's labor force, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 37 million women in the workforce as of mid-1975 represent an increase of more than 11.5 million in the last ten years.

Forty-six percent of all women 16 years of age and older held jobs in mid-1975, BLS reported in its magazine, Monthly Labor Review.

The labor force participation rate for women in the 16-24 age group increased from 43 percent in 1964 to 57 percent in 1974. Participation of women in the 25-54 age bracket rose from 44.5 percent to 54 percent. Among women 55 and older the participation rate dropped from 24 percent to 23 percent during the ten-year period.

BLS attributes the rise in participation of women aged 16-24 to such factors as the larger proportion of women who "either remained single, held a job after marriage, postponed childbirth, or joined the labor force before their children started school." In addition, many younger women were able to take advantage of the greater number of job opportunities in the expanding economy of the 1960s and the benefits from equal opportunity legislation, the survey suggests.

Changing attitudes toward women's role in society contributed to the rise of participation in women between ages 25 and 54. A drop in the birth rate during the past decade, rising divorce and separation rates, and the strengthening of "career aspirations and commitments of younger women" as a result of increases in education also influenced he rate rise, the report observes.

The report notes that despite sharp increases in the percentage of women in the labor force, they still suffer inequities. Women are "clustered in the same industries and occupations as women 35 years ago," BLS observes. In 1974, 40 percent of all women workers were employed in service industries, 20 percent in manufacturing, 20 percent in trade, and the remainder distributed throughout other industries.

Average salaries of women workers in all age groups are much lower than those of males in the same occupational categories. But "the gap between the earnings of men and women tends to be smaller for the younger women," BLS reports, "particularly among the better educated." Last year, 25-to-34-year-old female college graduates earned 70 percent of the salaries of their male counterparts, whereas among 45-to-54-year-olds the figure was only 56 percent.

Women also encounter higher unemployment rates than men. Overall unemployment rose from 4.7 percent in late 1973 to 8.9 percent in mid-1975. During the same period, unemployment of teenage women rose from 15 percent to 19.6 percent, and unemployment of women, ages 20-24, rose from 8.1 percent to 12.8 percent. The unemployment rate for women between 25 and 54 averaged 4.9 percent in 1974, compared to 3.1 percent for males in the same age group. The average unemployment rate for women 55 and over was 3.3 percent compared to 2.7 percent for older men.

Meany Names McCaughan to Women's Post

Cynthia McCaughan has been appointed by AFL-CIO President George Meany as Coordinator of Women's Activities in the federation's Dept. of Civil Rights, effective with the beginning of the new year.

The appointment of McCaughan as a staff assistant is a follow-up on the strong commitment to the rights of women workers voted by the recent AFL-CIO convention, including an amendment to the federation's constitution making explicit the responsibilities of the Dept. of Civil Rights in this area.

McCaughan currently is community services representative of the Los Angeles AFL-CIO and has been labor coordiantor with the United Way in that city since March 1953. She has been president of Office & Professional Employees Local 30 in Los Angeles for 20 years and is a past president and board member of the Western Labor Press Association.

She has also served the Los Angeles AFL-CIO on numerous committees, including those dealing with consumer affairs, civil rights, and women in the workforce, and has represented the central body on various community organizations.

She is married to Don McCaughan, a vice president of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union.

NEW NLRB MEMBER Peter D. Walther, right, chats with Board Chairman Betty Southard Murphy and the agency's new general counsel, John S. Irving, at swearing-in ceremonies. Walther, a Republican, continues the board's membership of three Republicans and two Democrats. Mrs. Murphy administered the oath of office to both men on separate dates at National Labor Relations Board headquarters in Washington.

Near All-Time Peak:

High Jobless Rates Grip 132 Key Areas

The number of major labor areas with "substantial" unemployment remained near the all-time high level last month, the Labor Dept. noted, as it reported 132 of the country's 150 big job markets experienced high jobless rates.

Substantial unemployment is defined by the government as a rate of 6 percent that is expected to stay at that level or higher for at least two more months.

A year earlier, only 53 major areas were classified as having substantial joblessness. In September, the number peaked at 135, the highest since the Labor Dept. began its present classification system in 1955.

The November total represented the second consecutive monthly decline in the number of areas with substantial unemployment. The October total was 134.

Last month, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Charleston, W. Va., were removed from the list because of an improved employment situation in those areas.

The Labor Dept. said the improved situation in Chattanooga was due to an increase in manufacturing hiring. Job gains also were reported in local government.

In Charleston, significant employment gains were reported in the fabricated metals industry, along with smaller gains in the stone-clay-glass, chemicals, mining, construction and transportation-communications-public utilities industries, the government noted.

In addition to the major areas, 32 smaller job centers were added to the government's substantial unemployment list in November.

Also last month, two additions were made to the government's list of areas with "persistent" joblessness. Such an area is defined by the Labor Dept. as one whose jobless rate has averaged 6 percent or more during the most recent calendar year and which has exceeded the national average by either 50 percent in three of the last four calendar years, 75 percent in two of the last three calendar years, or 100 percent in one of the last two calendar years.

There are now 1,119 areas classified as regions of either substantial or persistent unemployment. Of these, 829 are considered areas of substantial unemployment and 290 are on the persistent joblessness list.

Areas on these lists may be eligible for first preference in bidding on certain federal procurement contracts.

Electric Boat Strikers Okay New Contract

Groton, Conn.—Members of the Metal Trades Council here returned to their jobs at General Dynamic's Electric Boat Division following ratification of a new 43-month contract providing wage increases and benefit improvements for some 10,000 workers.

Approval of the settlement ended a 22-week strike at the submarine-building works. The ratification vote, completed the day before Thanksgiving, showed a ratio of better than 4 to 1 in favor of the pact.

Eleven unions make up the Metal Trades Council. The new agreement, which runs through July 1, 1979, calls for wage increases of about 41 percent over the life of the pact. Cost-of-living adjustments and fringe-benefit improvements over the term of the contract would bring the package increase to about 47 percent.

The chief obstacle to the agreement was the issue of worker productivity. The unions accused the company of trying to break craft lines. The dispute was resolved by an agreement to review individual job assignments at a series of union-management committees.

Farm Workers Ratify Minute Maid Contract

Tampa, Fla.—The Farm Workers have signed a new three-year agreement with the Minute Maid division of Coca Cola Co. providing for basic wage increases of 20 cents an hour and improvements in pension and medical plans.

The agreement covering 1,200 citrus grove workers was reached after a year of negotiations and was ratified unanimously, UFW Florida Director Mack Lyons reported.

Retroactive to Jan. 3, the date the old contract expired, the new agreement provides for an immediate across-the-board wage increase of 15 cents an hour and an additional 5-cent raise next Jan. 3. It also contains provisions for reopening on wages next Aug. 1 and on Aug. 1, 1977.

With the 15-cent wage increase, hourly rates will range from $2.60 to $4.55 an hour for the grove workers, Lyons noted. The piece rate for citrus fruit was also increased 5 cents a box.

UFW President Cesar Chavez said that although the negotiations were long and difficult, the new contract makes the Minute Maid farm workers the highest paid in the South.

Under the agreement, Minute Maid will for the first time contribute to the UFW pension plan, increase contributions to the workers' medical plan and provide the right of access to UFW representatives to the groves.

Chesser Is Co-Chairman Of Rail Safety Panel

President Al H. Chesser of the United Transportation Union was named co-chairman of the newly created Railroad Research Safety Board. The management co-chairman is Larry Cena, vice president for operations of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe.

The 11-member panel, organized by railroad unions and management, the rail supplies industry and the federal government, will concentrate on specific causes of railroad accidents and safety problems rather than on compiling statistics about them.

BICENTENNIAL PROJECT site where the Cleveland Building & Construction Trades Council will erect a log cabin is inspected by Mrs. Frank Kosich, president of Heritage Park, and BCTC Executive Sec. Charles R. Pinzone.

Unions Ask Safeguard In New U.S. Rail Plan

Chicago—Rail union leaders, at a meeting of the Railway Labor Executives' Association here, generally supported the new federally financed ConRail system—a restructuring of seven bankrupt railroads in the Northeast and the Midwest—and urged Congress to enact implementing legislation.

But, in a resolution, they called for continued operation of some 5,700 miles of the bankrupt carriers' "light-density" lines under 100 percent federal subsidy for at least a two-year period. They also made their approval contingent upon satisfactory negotiation of workers' rights under the new system.

ConRail—shorthand for Consolidated Rail Corp.—was drawn up by the U.S. Railway Association, an agency created by Congress to take over the troubled railroads and streamline them into a working system.

The "final system plan" for ConRail came into effect Nov. 9 when Congress failed to object to the reorganization plan. Either house of Congress had until then to order it back to the drawing board.

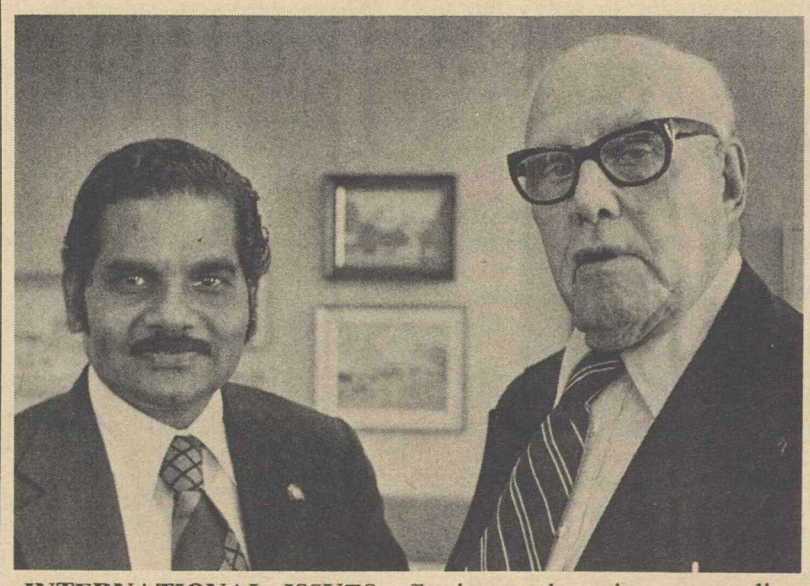
Under USRA's final plan, some 5,700 miles of rail lines would be discarded out of 21,000 miles of right-of-way operated by the seven bankrupt carriers.

Involved in the reorganization are the Erie-Lackawanna, Ann Arbor, Reading, Lehigh Valley, Central of New Jersey, Lehigh & Hudson River and the Penn Central. ConRail would operate in a 17-state area, hauling mostly freight.

The new system is scheduled to start operations around the end of February if funds are appropriated by Congress. Bills pending would provide $2.5 billion in start-up money.

Some 90,000 rail workers are involved in the new operation. USRA has set Feb. 27, 1976, as the deadline for ConRail to make "employment offers" to the bankrupt carriers' employes and also to "establish arrangements to make necessary employe protection payments."

By next Apr. 27, ConRail should "commence negotiations on new collective-bargaining agreements."



INTERNATIONAL ISSUES affecting trade unions were discussed at a meeting in Washington by AFL-CIO President George Meany and P. P. Narayanan, who recently was elected president of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Mexico City. Narayanan also heads the Malaysian Trade Union Congress.

Crafts to Erect Log Cabin for Bicentennial

Cleveland—A log cabin, similar to the type used by early settlers here, will be constructed by building trades craftsmen as part of the bicentennial celebration.

The museum project is sponsored by the Cleveland Building & Construction Trades Council, representing 35,000 members, and the Women's City Club of Cleveland.

Tradesmen are donating their services in erecting the log cabin in Heritage Park on the banks of the Cuyahoga River, near where the city's founder, Moses Cleaveland, landed.

"It will be a new experience for our members to work with logs in the old manner, but we look at it as our contribution to the bicentennial celebration," said Charles R. Pinzone, council executive secretary.

The museum, which will include a utility building and comfort station, will cost $36,000. The unions have raised $2,500 toward the cost.

The construction unions were praised by Mrs. John Huey, club executive secretary. "They all have been wonderful in supporting this work that will benefit so many, especially school children who will learn something of their past history."

Pinzone said one of the biggest problems is trying to figure out how to provide the heating without distracting from the design. The cabin will be authentic in all other ways, he added.

Mrs. Frank Kosich, Heritage Park president, said the log cabin museum is being built with a "fine union spirit combined with a fine community spirit."

The foundation has been laid and the logs are expected to be notched and set in place soon.

The early settlers found Cleveland a forest city. Today, the logs had to be secured from Ashtabula, a city 50 miles east of Cleveland.

Flight Engineers Hit 'Laxity' on Air Hijacking

Sydney, Australia—Delegates to the Flight Engineers convention here, representing union members in 15 nations, condemned the "laxity" of some nations to the threat of air hijacking and terrorism.

The convention pledged "to take whatever action is necessary to achive uniformly high aviation security standards throughout the world."

The union, with about half of its 3,500 members in the United States, re-elected William A. Gill, Jr., from Pan American World Airways, to a sixth two-year term as president. Frank Durkin of British Airways was re-elected first vice president. Also re-elected were Vice Presidents Jack Wahle and Donald F. Thielke. Harry S. O'Brien, the union's secretary-treasurer and executive vice president, has another year remaining in his term.

The convention urged Congress to outlaw the airlines' Mutual Aid Pact, citing its "disruptive effects" on collective bargaining and the public interest. It also opposed the Ford Administration's proposal to deregulate airlines, recently introduced in Congress as the Aviation Act.

Australia's Minister for Transport, C. K. Jones, in an address to the delegates termed hijacking the most deadly threat to the world's civil aviation. He used the term to include "bomb threats, extortion demands and politically inspired actions against passengers, airlines and governments."

Delegates approved an increase in the union's per capita tax from the present $6.50 to $7 per month. The three-day convention was preceded by committee meetings in which many of the delegates participated. The union's 29th annual convention next year will be held in Las Vegas, Nev.

To Aid Elderly, Handicapped:

Ford Backs Down, Accepts 'Costly' Bills

President Ford backed away from two veto confrontations with Congress that he almost certainly would have lost. But the Administration continued to sound veto threats about other bills.

Ford signed into law a three-year extension of the Older Americans Act, a labor-backed program of grants for local and state agencies providing services for the elderly, community service jobs programs for older workers and other measures intended to enable the elderly to remain self-sufficient.

But the President complained as he signed the bill of the higher spending levels authorized "at a time when we are struggling to restrain growth in the federal budget."

Ford also put his signature on legislation establishing a new program of federal grants to help assure free and adequate education for the nation's 8 million handicapped children. The Administration had opposed the bill, contending that education of the handicapped should remain a state responsibility.

Both bills had passed the House and Senate by such one-sided margins that the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto was virtually assured.

A new veto threat surfaced on the ConRail bill, which would authorize $3 billion in federal financing for the Consolidated Rail Corp. that will take over operations of seven financially failing Northeast railroads.

Transportation Sec. William Coleman, Jr., told a news conference that the measure sent to the Senate floor by the Commerce Committee is "totally unacceptable" to Ford. He said that if Congress approves it, the President will veto the bill and summon Congress to work during the Christmas holidays on a less costly version. Congressional leaders are working towards a Dec. 19 adjournment.

The fate of two other major bills remained uncertain:

• A comprehensive energy conservation bill, including a partial oil price rollback, has been approved by a House-Senate conference committee in a compromise version endorsed by the President's energy administrator, Frank Zarb.

Despite Zarb's endorsement, influential Republicans from oil producing states have been pressing Ford to veto the bill.

• A House-Senate conference committee that has been long deadlocked over a school busing issue agreed to report an appropriations bill containing funds for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. An anti-busing amendment that the Senate had tacked on the bill will be reported in disagreement—a procedure that will allow the House to vote on whether to accept, reject or rewrite the amendment.

There is no dispute over other provisions of the bill and the conferees dropped a Senate-added amendment which would have exempted establishments with three or fewer workers from enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

The veto possibility has nothing to do with any of these controversies, however. The Administration considers the aid to education funding level too high, and the President may veto the bill for budget reasons.

Scheduled for House action after the vote on the tax bill is a labor-supported measure extending for 10 years the Nuclear Indemnity Act, a combination of no-fault government and private liability insurance protecting the public against loss in the event of an accident at a nuclear power plant site.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller wrote House members urging approval of the measure, noting that it has helped make possible the development of nuclear power from the experimental stage to where it now supplies nearly 10 percent of the nation's electric energy capacity.

During the 18 years the law has been in effect, he said, not a single claim has been filed under it.

Socked In

3 Hazardous Industries Targets of OSHA Drive

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration is developing a special enforcement program aimed at curbing job hazards in iron and steel foundries, non-ferrous casting plants and metal stamping shops, the Labor Dept. announced.

Worker injuries, illness and deaths in these three industries have been running at an extremely high rate—from 23 to 36 cases per 100 employes a year, OSHA noted. These levels compare with the national average incidence rate in 1973 of 11 per 100 workers for all private non-farm industry.

An estimated 500,000 workers face potential job hazards in the selected industries, OSHA pointed out. The occupational injury dangers include electrical shocks, burns, scalds, cuts and amputations, while the health hazards cover such areas as extreme noise and exposure to toxic substances.

The agency said that from 60 to 70 of its 1,200 safety inspectors will be assigned to the national emphasis program (NEP) covering the foundry, casting and metal stamping occupations. Similar efforts are being planned for other high-hazard industries, OSHA reported.

Bert Conklin, deputy assistant secretary of labor for OSHA, said the agency will work closely with union, employer, professional groups, insurance companies and the states to develop guides, training courses and informational materials in an effort to identify and to correct hazards before the stepped inspection activity gets under way.

The new NEP effort is an outgrowth of OSHA's earlier "target industry" program to curb occupational injuries and illness in several other high-hazard industries.

That program concentrated on roofing and sheet metal, meat cutting, lumber and wood products, and water and miscellaneous transportation. Conklin noted that the effort had reduced injury rates from 3 to 5 percent, but had mixed results in lowering the number of lost workdays.

In other developments, OSHA also has called for changes in exposure levels on sulfur dioxide and ammonia.

Under the proposal, exposure to sulfur dioxide would be cut to two parts per 1 million parts air (2 ppm) from the current permissible level of 5 ppm for an eight-hour period.

The recommended change on ammonia calls for retaining the ceiling at 50 ppm, but limting exposure to a five-minute period from the present eight-hour time weighted average. It also would prohibit worker exposure to any amount of liquid ammonia.

Longshoremen Hit Canal Plan To Hike Tolls

New York — Longshoremen's President Thomas W. Gleason has urged President Ford to reject a proposed change in Panama Canal vessel rules, charging that the revision would be "arbitrary, discriminatory and against the interests of the national economy."

According to maritime interests, the effect of the rule change would be to increase toll charges for American containerships by more than 50 percent.

The proposed revision would redefine the rules for measuring ships using the inter-ocean canal to determine the toll. The ILA and American-flag shipping interests contend that this would result in a de facto increase in tolls that would escalate the cost of ocean freight moving through the canal between the Far East and Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports.

In a letter to Ford urging rejection of the rule change in the national interest, Gleason noted that the increased costs would fall heaviest on American containerships and other types of general cargo vessels because they are the prime users of the waterway.

He said the impact of the rule change on foreign tankers, bulk and other all-purpose ships would be minimal because the new rule would hardly affect the measurement of such vessels.

"The Panama Canal will raise over $20 million in new tolls and almost all of it from general cargo and container ships," Gleason noted. "It is our position that any toll adjustments—if necessary at all—should be made without the mischief inherent in the present changes which . . . must have a direct effect on the American consumer."

R.I. Union Plan Gets Go-Ahead For HMO Aid

Providence, R.I. — The Rhode Island Group Health Association is the first labor-sponsored prepaid health plan to qualify for federal assistance under the 1973 Health Maintenance Organization Act.

RIGHA, sponsored by the Rhode Island AFL-CIO, provides health care services for 15,000 prepaid members and 2,000 others on a fee-for-service basis.

With the certification by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, unions that have members enrolled in prepaid health plans can negotiate with their employers on "dual choice" options of HMO services or conventional plans providing reimbursement for payments.

New Federal 'Consumer' Programs Seen Excuse for Veto of Agency Bill

Government agencies promised to become "more responsive to the needs of the American consumer" in what appeared to be a White House effort to minimize any political backlash from President Ford's threat to veto the labor-backed consumer agency bill.

At a White House news briefing, reporters were given 181 pages of agency proposals to keep the public better informed and give "consumers" more of an opportunity to be heard in the shaping of policies and regulations.

Reporters were told that Ford gave instructions "to proceed at once to put these plans into effect."

Groups that have been fighting for greater consumer representation generally saw the program as window-dressing to justify the anticipated veto. Ford, who once voted for a consumer agency bill as a congressman, now attacks the concept with the argument that "we don't need yet another federal bureaucracy."

Carol Foreman, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America, termed the agency programs announced by the White House a "pathetic sham" and "nothing more than a devious attempt to undercut the Agency for Consumer Protection" bill, which has passed both the House and Senate and is now in conference committee to be put into final shape.

Some of the agency proposals involve creating new offices and positions, such as an assistant secretary for consumer affairs. Others involve nothing more than continued speech-making and pamphlet-writing explaining the mission of the department or agency.

Where added costs are involved, the White House indicated that the money would be diverted from other agency functions. As the President's consumer adviser, Virginia H. Knauer, put it: "It is hoped that present resources will be used, that new priorities will be set for the same resources."

The Dept. of Labor announcement said its consumer representation plan is intended "to identify and enhance opportunities for client groups and individual consumer participation at decision points in policy formulation, rulemaking activities and program evaluation."

Its "client groups" are further defined as including unions and employer associations.

A large part of the consumer program announcements of the various departments and agencies consisted of an account of procedures already in effect to keep the public informed and to solicit suggestions from interested public groups.

12-6-75

Congress Votes to Nullify State 'Fair Trade' Laws

A labor-supported bill nullifying state "fair trade" laws has cleared Congress and will take effect 90 days after it is signed by President Ford.

Consumer groups have long opposed such laws, which allow manufacturers to set the minimum retail price of their products without being subject to antitrust prosecution.

Although about half the states still have "fair trade" laws on the books, the controversy has abated somewhat in recent years since most manufacturers have given up trying to control retail prices.

The repeal measure had Administration support, passed the House overwhelmingly and was approved by voice vote in the Senate. It does not apply to liquor prices, however. When the prohibition amendment to the Constitution was repealed, Congress gave the states very broad power over liquor sales and any state laws affecting liquor prices will remain valid.

Meany Calls for Foreign Policy Reform

Asks Drive To Extend Democracy

AFL-CIO President George Meany called for a new foreign policy that would be based on the twin principles of "extension of democracy" and "defense of freedom."

He told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that America's one-sided "detente" with the Soviet Union has been "a great big flop." The United States has abandoned moral values out of fear of offending the Soviets, Meany charged. But the USSR "makes no secret" of its continuing efforts to impose its system on the world.

Meany welcomed the Senate hearings as a means of bringing public opinion to bear on policies of "secrecy and deceit" that have left Americans bewildered about their country's role in the world.

The only discernible U.S. foreign policy goal appears to be to maintain things as they are, Meany said. But even this "uninspiring purpose" appears to be losing ground to "an obsequious accommodation to a steadily growing totalitarian imperialism."

Meany read to the Senate committee a memorandum from the State Dept. to the White House warning against any presidential meeting with exiled Nobel Prize laureate Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn during his visit to Washington as a guest of the AFL-CIO. **(Text, Page 7.)**

The memo, from Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's top aide, said the President and White House officials should shun Solzhenitsyn because any welcome would be construed by the Russian government as "a sign of Administration weakness in the face of domestic anti-Soviet pressures."

Meany termed such reasoning "incredible." In the name of detente, the State Dept. is not concerned about "weakness in standing up to the Soviets" but instead expresses fear of showing "weakness in standing up to the anti-Soviets at home."

Thus, he told the committee, "not communism but anti-communism is now the enemy to be resisted."

Such thinking, Meany said, "is at the root of everything that is wrong with our foreign policy."

Meany said in reply to questions that the United States "can deal with the Soviets" but only on a "tit-for-tat" basis in which con-

(Continued on Page 7)

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Full Employment Act Set As 'Must' Goal in Congress

ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE of the AFL-CIO outlines legislative program to spur congressional action on a full-employment law. Shown at the meeting are, from left, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger, Vice President I. W. Abel, chairman of the committee, and President George Meany.

3% Target Urged For Joblessness

A "realistic, achievable and workable" full-employment law, guided by the principle of good jobs at decent wages for everyone able and seeking to work, is a "must" item for early action by Congress next year, the AFL-CIO declared.

Full employment — a major goal of the American labor movement from its earliest beginnings—is a necessity because "jobs are the lifeblood of the American economic system," the federation's Economic Policy Committee noted in a statement outlining "fundamentals" that should be included in proposed full-employment legislation.

"Congress must establish full employment as the top-priority objective of national economic policy to maintain the strength of American society," the committee said in the statement released by AFL-CIO President George Meany.

The concept of a full-employment law was strongly endorsed at this year's AFL-CIO convention. Noting that the Employment Act of 1946 contained "more promise than action," a convention resolution insisted:

"We need legislation which provides that the President and Congress spell out specific programs to create jobs for every American willing to work."

The AFL-CIO policy statement, drawn up by the committee under the chairmanship of Vice President I. W. Abel, president of the Steelworkers, declared that Ford Administration forecasts of unemployment—7.9 percent in 1976, 7.2 percent in 1977, 6.5 percent in 1978,

(Continued on Page 8)

Workforce Declines:

Joblessness Sticks At 6-Month 'Plateau'

Unemployment fell three-tenths of 1 percent to 8.3 percent in November, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported, but a corresponding drop in the size of the workforce indicated the decline may have been due to an increase in the number of "discouraged" workers.

The government's regular monthly report on employment and unemployment also showed the number of persons holding jobs in November was little changed for the third straight month, indicating recovery in production may be stalled.

While the number of jobless workers fell by 301,000 to 7,701,000, seasonally adjusted, the labor force dropped by 464,000. BLS offered no explanation for the decline in the total workforce, noting only that "this decline moderated the relatively strong growth in the labor force that has been evident since March."

When workers become discouraged by the lack of job prospects and give up looking for work, they are no longer counted as part of the workforce and, as a result, the jobless rate is affected.

The nation's civilian labor force totaled 92,979,000 last month, of which a total of 85,278,000 held jobs. The number of employed was 163,000 fewer than in October.

BLS observed that unemployment has been on "a virtual plateau" for the past six months, hovering within a range of 8.3 to 8.6 percent.

"While the employment situation in November shows substantial improvement over the levels of last spring when recovery got under way, employment has been essentially flat for a month or two," BLS Commissioner Julius Shiskin told a congressional panel. The jobless rate peaked last May at 9.2 percent.

The drop in unemployment last month returned the jobless rate to October's level of 8.3 percent. Over-the-month declines were reg-

(Continued on Page 8)

Final Action Near on Site Picketing Bill

A construction site picketing and collective bargaining bill moved towards final congressional approval after a House-Senate conference agreement on its provisions.

The House quickly adopted the conference version, 229-189. The Senate was expected to do likewise, whether or not opponents again resort to a filibuster. When the legislation was first before the Senate, last month, the Senate invoked cloture to limit debate.

Anti-union groups have already swung their campaign to the White House, to persuade President Ford to renege on his pledge to sign the legislation. Typical was the full-page newspaper advertisements of the National Right to Work Committee featuring an open letter to the President attacking the bill.

(Continued on Page 7)

U.S. Job Losses Tied To Technology Drain

The big United States-based multinational corporations are virtually giving away America's future technological base in their worldwide search for profits, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller warned in an appearance before Congress.

"Today, so-called 'package' or 'turnkey' technology—the whole plant, building the facility, installing the machinery, training the workforce and providing skills for marketing and managerial know-how—is sold to foreign countries by American firms," Biemiller observed.

The effect of this wholesale transfer of American technology and direct investment abroad is the loss of more American jobs and skills, he declared. Furthermore, the transfer is flowing even faster than the rate predicted by U.S. economists and policymakers, he told the Senate Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations, which is studying the impact of the multinationals on the U.S. economy.

The multinationals justify this practice on the grounds that "if they don't get the 'sale,' the Japanese or the French or the Germans will," Biemiller said. "But the Japanese and almost every other nation have regulations to make sure they have a technological future

(Continued on Page 8)

Loan to New York City Approved by Congress

Congress agreed to a short-term loan program to enable New York City to avoid immediate bankruptcy and President Ford signed it into law.

The legislation, tailored to President Ford's specifications to avoid a veto, will provide up to $2.3 billion in seasonal loans to tide the city over between tax collections. The loans carry stringent provisions to assure repayment and bear an interest rate that is 1 percent higher than the federal government pays on its borrowings.

To get the bill to the President's desk, the Senate had to break a filibuster by hard-core opponents who wanted the nation's largest city more severely punished for its budget deficits.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield sharply criticized the "punish New York" attitude, noting that aid to foreign countries carries fewer restrictions than the bill before the Senate. "These are

(Continued on Page 2)

TRADE UNION SALUTE to photographer Sam Reiss, holding the plaque, was held in New York at the opening of an exhibition of Reiss's photographs and slides. From left are Walter Balcerak, president of the Metropolitan New York Labor Press Council; Sec. Harry Avrutin of the New York City AFL-CIO; Michael Mann, AFL-CIO regional director; Reiss; Treas. William Bowe of the City AFL-CIO; Reiss's wife, Helen; William Gottlieb, a contributor to the exhibition; Jacob S. Potofsky, retired president of the Clothing Workers, and Reiss's daughter, Jesse.

Turner Elected as Head Of Operating Engineers

The executive board of the Operating Engineers has elected J. C. Turner as president effective Jan. 1 to succeed Hunter P. Wharton, who is resigning. Turner, 59, has served as IUOE secretary-treasurer for the past three years.

Wharton, 75, has been president of the 417,000-member international since 1962 and a vice president of the AFL-CIO since 1965. His resignation was accepted "with profound regret," the IUOE executive board said.

In other action, the IUOE board elected two new vice presidents—Frank Hanley, now assistant to Wharton, and Dale Marr, business manager of IUOE Local 3 in San Francisco. They were named to succeed Thomas A. Maguire of Local 15, New York, and Al Clem of Local 3, San Francisco.

The terms of the new officers will run until next April, when elections will be held at the IUOE convention.

Turner, a native of Beaumont, Tex., has been associated with IUOE Local 77 in Washington, D.C., since 1934. He served as business manager of the local, president of the Greater Washington AFL-CIO, president of the Washington Building & Construction Trades Council and a vice president of the Maryland-D.C. AFL-CIO.

He also has been active in political and civic affairs, including service as a member of the District of Columbia city council and as a Democratic national committeeman.

Turner was elected secretary-treasurer by the IUOE board in 1972 to succeed Newell J. Carman.

Wharton has been a member of the Operating Engineers since 1926, joining IUOE Local 66 in Pittsburgh after he was graduated from Carnegie Institute of Technology. Wharton served as local assistant business agent and business manager before he was appointed assistant to the president of the IUOE in 1950. He was elected a vice president in 1957 and named secretary-treasurer the following year. He became president of the union in 1962.

J. C. TURNER

Senate Votes Metrics Shift As 'Voluntary'

The Senate has joined the House in approving a bill to facilitate voluntary conversion to the metric system of weights and measures.

Both bills are similar and meet the AFL-CIO's insistence that conversion to the metric system be "entirely voluntary" and not imposed on any industry, and that possible hardships or losses to workers be taken into consideration.

The legislation would establish a U.S. Metric Board with representation from various interested groups, including labor. Its function would be "to coordinate the voluntary conversion to the metric system."

In convention resolutions and in congressional testimony, the AFL-CIO has opposed bills that would have set a mandatory timetable for conversion to the metric system under the concept that costs of conversion should "fall where they lie" and that workers with large investments in tools of their crafts should absorb their loss.

The Senate-passed bill and the similar House measure direct the new board to study the problems of conversion and to recommend action to Congress and the President. The recommendations "may include . . . the impact on workers (such as costs of tools and training) and on different occupations and industries, possible increased costs to consumers" and other matters.

A House-Senate conference is expected to reconcile minor differences between the bills.

Photo Exhibit Honors Work Of Sam Reiss

New York—The labor movement paid tribute to one of its finest photographers when an exhibit by Sam Reiss opened in New York City. Reiss had covered the labor scene for 27 years, until he recently became too ill to continue his work.

The exhibit, titled "Sam Reiss: An Eyewitness to Labor History, 1948-1975," is being held at the Manhattan headquarters of District Council 37 of the State, County & Municipal Employees. It will be on view until Feb. 6, 1976. After that it will be displayed at other unions around the city.

A key photo in the exhibit is a massive blowup of Reiss's historic picture of George Meany and Walter Reuther wielding the gavel together at the 1955 merger convention of the AFL-CIO in New York City.

With 40 photos and a slide show of 140 shots, the exhibit depicts labor's struggles in demonstrations and strikes, its victories and the dignity of working people doing their jobs. The deep social commitment of Reiss also is evident in photos depicting the slums and the plight of the poor.

The exhibit was organized by the Labor Press Council of Metropolitan New York and Reiss's daughter Jesse. It was sponsored by 36 local and national unions that have employed Reiss's talents over the years. AFL-CIO President George Meany is honorary chairman of the exhibit.

At a reception opening the exhibit, Reiss expressed his gratitude to those who helped make it possible. "I feel privileged," he said, "to have been a eyewitness to such an exciting period of labor history, and I'm gratified that many who helped to make this history are here tonight."

Robertson Elected To Los Angeles Post

Los Angeles—William R. Robertson has been unanimously elected executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles county AFL-CIO to fill the unexpired term of the late Sigmund Arywitz.

Robertson, 58, had been serving as interim executive officer of the County Federation of Labor since shortly after Arywitz's death Sept. 9.

Job Health Emphasized:

OSHA Gets Funds To Add Inspectors

Congress voted funds to improve the enforcement of the Occupational Safety & Health Act as part of a multi-billion dollar appropriations bill that had been blocked for more than two months by a House-Senate conference deadlock over school busing.

If the President signs the bill—still a question mark since it exceeds his budget request—OSHA will be able to hire an additional 330 safety and health inspectors and supporting staff. The bill also includes money for a separate no-penalty program of "consultation services" for employers.

The House-Senate conferees dropped from the bill a Senate-adopted amendment that would have barred inspection of small establishments with up to three workers. That would have excluded 4 million workers.

Also discarded was another Senate provision that would have limited the fine for first-time "non-serious" violations by smaller firms.

The conferees did, however, voice some dissatisfaction with OSHA's performance. It directed the Labor Dept. to take "immediate steps to dramatically upgrade the skills of OSHA inspectors through intensive retraining."

Its report stressed occupational health hazards and cited statistics that deaths from occupational illness exceed 100,000 a year—nearly ten times the toll from job accidents. It said also that inspections should focus on serious hazards in industries with the most problems.

The overall appropriation bill carries $36.1 billion, most of it for the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. It is about $1 billion over the President's budget, largely from money added for health programs the Administration wants to cut back.

The Senate had added amendments to bar HEW from requiring any busing to achieve school integration. The House had no such restriction in its bill.

Finally, agreement was reached for a procedure that would allow the House to vote on the conference agreement without any busing restriction, and then separately on one of the Senate's busing amendments.

The House adopted the conference report, 321-91, and agreed to the anti-busing language on a separate 260-146 vote. The rider bars HEW from requiring busing beyond the nearest school but does not affect busing required by court orders. The Senate concurred on a voice vote.

In other congressional action:

● A House-Senate conference agreement paved the way for final approval of a complex energy conservation bill that would combine measures designed to conserve oil, gas and electric power with continued controls over oil prices. The final version was a compromise worked out by Democrats in Congress with the President's energy administrator, Frank Zarb. But there has been speculation that the President might overrule Zarb and veto the bill, which is opposed by the big oil companies.

● A job-creating public works bill the House passed last May as a major anti-recession weapon finally emerged, in somewhat reduced form, from a House-Senate conference committee.

The conference bill would authorize $2.5 billion for accelerated public works construction programs—half the amount the House had voted. But it would pump new money into an economic development program adopted a year ago by adding $500 million for small-term projects that can be quickly started and put unemployed persons on a payroll. Also included in the conference agreement is a Senate-passed "counter-cyclical" program of aid to cities that have had revenue shortfalls because of high unemployment.

● The House passed and the Senate prepared to take up a labor-supported 10-year extension of the Price-Anderson Act, a form of no-fault insurance against claims arising from nuclear accidents. The insurance program is administered by a combination of private insurance and government underwriting. While no payment has ever been necessary under the program, its existence has encouraged development of nuclear power plants.

In a letter to senators urging approval, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller termed the program "an essential step in the national quest for energy independence."

Loan to New York City Approved by Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

our own people," he said. "Why do we treat them like trash?"

The Senate invoked cloture to break the filibuster by a 70-27 vote—10 more than the required 60 votes. It then stayed in session until 1 a.m. the following morning to consider and reject an assortment of pending amendments, finally passing the measure by a 57-30 margin.

On a follow-up bill to actually appropriate the money, opponents abandoned plans for a filibuster in the face of certain cloture.

Supporters of help to New York City stressed that the short-term loan acceptable to the President was at best a half loaf in terms of the city's needs and is part of a combination of bone-deep slashes in city services and substantially higher taxes for the city and state.

The threat of bankruptcy still hangs over the city, and Congress followed up its loan bill with separate legislation providing procedures to deal with bankrupt municipalities.

In a byproduct of the New York City crisis, Gov. Hugh Carey asked the state legislature for a budget-cutting, revenue-raising combination to balance the state's budget. He proposed a $597 million spending cut in programs such as Medicaid, education and local assistance, plus $555 million in permanent tax increases and $320 million in a temporary corporate tax surcharge.

A further warning that New York's financial problems are far from over came from Teachers President Albert Shanker, who stressed in a statement that "the city's problems have their roots in national policies."

Big cities are victims of unemployment, falling revenues and crumbling tax bases, Shanker said.

Teamsters Lose Ground:

Farm Workers Score Gains In Imperial Valley Elections

Keene, Calif.—The Farm Workers are beginning to roll up a commanding lead over the Teamsters in the campaign to win representation rights for California's agricultural workforce as the UFW recorded six key victories in the Imperial Valley.

Despite concerted opposition from the Teamsters and growers, the UFW reported winning six of 10 elections in the valley to represent 791 workers. The Teamsters managed to pull off three victories with 330 workers, and one election for about 400 workers is undecided.

In five head-to-head elections between the UFW and the IBT in the Imperial Valley, the Farm Workers won three and the Teamsters one. The fifth is the undecided election.

A special task force of attorneys and investigators appointed by Gov. Edmund Brown, Jr., was assigned to oversee the elections in the valley, located in the southeastern sector of the state, which is now in peak harvest.

Brown set up the task force in response to numerous complaints—from the UFW, a special subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, and others—that the staff of the state Agricultural Labor Relations Board has failed to enforce the new farm law effectively.

The complaints stemmed from questionable ALRB practices during the first two or three months of the elections after the law went into effect Aug. 28. During that period, the UFW charged that their union representatives were often denied access to workers, who also had been intimidated by Teamsters and the growers.

The task force, which was established with the purpose of improving the enforcement of the law under ALRB jurisdiction, continued to uncover irregularities in the Imperial Valley election campaigns.

Charges were brought against three growers and the Teamsters, citing illegal firings and surveillance, intimidation and grower favoritism to the Teamsters. The task force also issued charges of "false peaks" against the three growers in their attempt to have elections held when most of the workers were not employed.

Despite the roadblocks to fair and free elections, the UFW pointed out that it has made steady progress in its efforts to bring the workers into the UFW fold.

As of mid-November, the UFW had won 171 of the 318 elections conducted throughout the state by the ALRB. These give the union representation rights for 24,902 workers, compared with 96 election wins for the Teamsters to represent 12,802 workers, the UFW reported.

In 17 other elections involving 2,200 workers, the majority vote was for no union. There are 34 elections still undecided involving 11,105 workers.

At 165 ranches that had been under Teamster contracts, 55 ranches employing 7,652 workers switched to the UFW. The IBT won elections at 89 ranches, but the number of workers it had represented was heavily cut back by the UFW victories from 27,313 to 12,313.

The shortcomings of the ALRB activities that led to numerous election irregularities were brought out in the report of the AFL-CIO subcommittee issued last month.

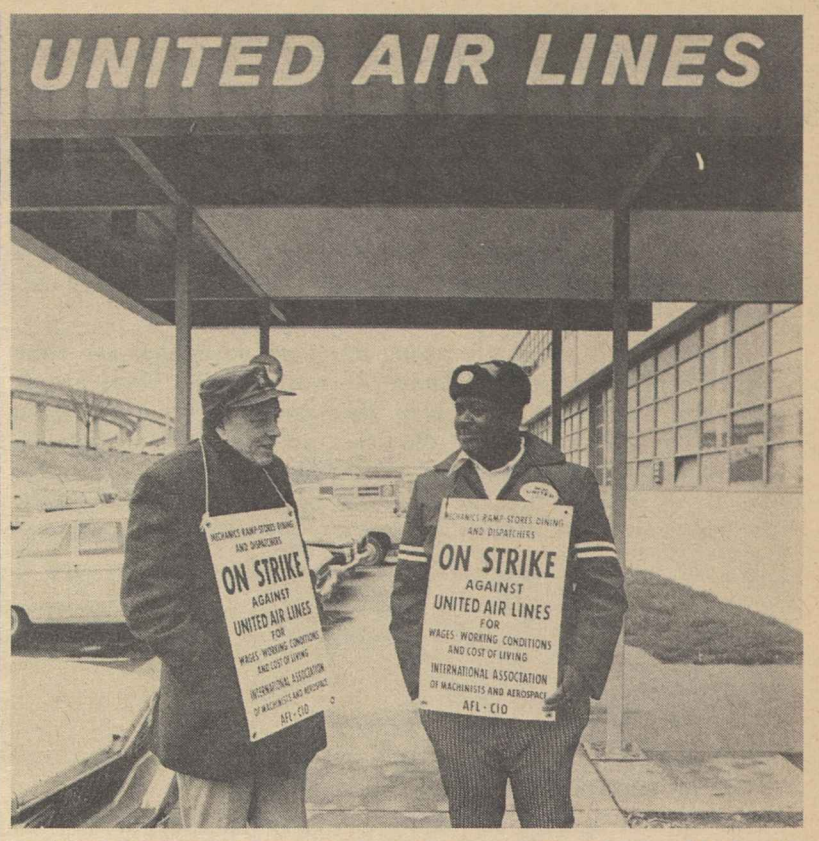
The UFW also issued a 63-page white paper titled "The Sabotage and Subversion of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act."

The UFW paper directs sharp criticism at the farm labor board's general counsel, Walter Kintz, charging that he and his staff have failed to curb a Teamster-grower conspiracy directed against the UFW and the right to free elections.

Despite the many problems the UFW has encountered in the elections, the union has reaffirmed its support of the law at recent hearings before the state legislature.

The UFW said it has lived up to its promise to the governor to refrain from unnecessary strikes. While the UFW engaged in numerous strikes in 1973 and 1974 before the law was enacted, thus far in 1975 only one minor wildcat strike occurred, the union noted.

While the UFW continues to support the ALRA, it charged that the Teamsters and growers are now working to undermine the law by opposing additional funding for the labor board's operations and for enforcement of the law.



MACHINISTS PICKET United Airlines at Washington National Airport in the union's dispute over a new contract. Nearly 17,000 IAM members are involved in the walkout that began Dec. 6. The union represents United's mechanics, flight dispatchers, ramp-service and food-service workers. All United flights are grounded.

United Airlines Struck By 17,000 Machinists

Nearly 17,000 members of the Machinists employed as ground-service personnel struck United Airlines Dec. 6 in a contract dispute over wages, fringe benefits and work-related problems.

As the walkout neared the end of its first full week, talks were suspended indefinitely and the airline—the nation's largest—canceled all of its 1,400 daily scheduled flights through Christmas eve.

Earlier, United laid off 13,000 non-striking employes and put 19,000 management and other non-union workers on half-pay.

Both sides agreed to break off talks while they re-evaluated their positions. David H. Stowe, chairman of the National Mediation Board, said negotiations could resume—at the request of either party — when federal mediators feel progress can be made.

Negotiations have gone on through the fall. The strike involves 16,700 mechanics, dispatchers and ramp, storage and food-service workers whose contract expired last Oct. 31.

Last summer, the two sides agreed to an expedited negotiating procedure under which negotiations were to continue through the end of the old agreement.

Both sides then could ask the National Mediation Board to proffer arbitration, which they did, thus triggering a 30-day cooling-off period. The countdown began on Nov. 6 and expired at midnight, Dec. 5.

During the 30-day countdown, the union workers authorized their negotiating team to call a strike at the end of the period if it was deemed necessary. Approval was by a 93 percent vote.

Only hours before the Machinists struck United, IAM negotiators announced a tentative agreement on a new contract covering 3,200 mechanics and other personnel employed by Northwest. Terms of the settlement were withheld pending ratification by the workers involved.

A tentative settlement with Continental Airlines in late November was rejected by the 1,800 union employes involved. That agreement would have raised the pay of top-rated mechanics from the present $7.84 hourly rate to $8.20 immediately and then in four steps to $9.50 an hour by Nov. 6, 1977.

In addition, two cost-of-living raises of 12 cents each would have raised the hourly wage to $9.74. Employes in other classifications would have received similar raises under the pact.

United's top mechanics, like those at Continental, now earn $7.84 an hour. The talks with all three airlines are part of the union's current round of bargaining with the industry. IAM represents about 50,000 ground-service personnel employed by seven air carriers.

Estimates of United's benefits under the industry's so-called Mutual Aid Pact were made by the Air Line Pilots which, along with other airline unions, has long argued that MAP gives the industry an unfair advantage in collective bargaining.

ALPA estimated that United stands to collect as much as $3.09 million a day during the first two weeks of strike. After that, the airline's maximum daily benefits would drop to $2.78 million in the third week, $2.47 million in the fourth week, and $2.1 million thereafter.

Women's Coalition Maps Program, Affirms Ties to Union Movement

Detroit—More than 1,000 participants in the first constitutional convention of the Coalition of Labor Union Women voted decisively to keep CLUW a trade union organization.

Women from 43 states and the District of Columbia, members of 63 national and international unions, took part in the three-day program. They rejected by big margins efforts to open up CLUW membership to non-union members, and they reaffirmed the coalition's main goal of developing action programs within the framework of the labor movement in four key areas:

- To strengthen the role and participation of women within their unions and the trade union movement as a whole.
- To seek affirmative action in the work place.
- To organize the millions of unorganized women workers.
- To encourage union women to play an active role in the legislative and political processes of their unions and the nation.

Founded in March 1974, CLUW now has 5,100 members in 47 chapters throughout the nation.

In a message to the convention, AFL-CIO President George Meany noted CLUW's "consistent progress" and stated that "as the AFL-CIO convention made clear, we are ready to cooperate with CLUW on programs of common interest, particularly passage of the Equal Rights Amendment—a priority matter to the entire trade union movement."

In her keynote speech, CLUW president Olga Madar, a retired vice president of the Auto Workers, traced CLUW's role in mobilizing support for ERA and cited the AFL-CIO convention action urging that the votes of legislators on ERA be used as one of the principal criteria for their endorsement by the Committee on Political Education (COPE) or by individual unions. She outlined a stepped-up program of lobbying in key states next year to win ratification of ERA.

"Our efforts during the last 21 months are only the beginning," Madar said. "Through unity, through our unions, working women will become full and equal partners—not only in our unions, but in every aspect of our daily lives. We demand no more than that," she declared. "We will accept no less."

CLUW's newly adopted constitution sets up a national council of five top officers and a national executive board with proportional representation from unions, regions and chapters.

Madar was returned to office as national president. Also re-elected were Vice President Addie Wyatt of the Meat Cutters and Treas. Gloria Johnson of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers. Joyce Miller of the Clothing Workers was elected corresponding secretary and Patsy Fryman of the Communications Workers recording secretary.

The 12 CLUW regions are in the process of electing 15 regional vice presidents.

A yearly membership fee of $10 was established with $1 going to a special travel expense account. This travel fund will help defray the expenses of national executive board members who have no sources for reimbursement and thus increase their participation in meetings. The dues rate for retirees who maintain union membership was set at $5 per year.

Convention delegates heard Rep. Bella Abzug (D-N.Y.), introduced as "the patron saint of the Millinery & Hat Workers' Union," hail CLUW's efforts and said the coalition "should usher in a new era of equality for working women. We have an enormous responsibility to help our nation fulfill its commitments to all of the people," she said, and urged the coalition "to work toward adoption of National Health Security and child-care legislation."

Rockefeller Heads Productivity Center

Vice President A. Rockefeller has been named to head the new National Center for Productivity & Quality of Working Life, which absorbed the old National Commission on Productivity & Work Quality.

President Ford, who announced Rockefeller's appointment as chairman of the center's board, is not expected to name other board members until after Christmas.

The board, which may not consist of more than 27 persons by law, must include at least five representatives of organized labor. Other members will represent the business community, academia and the general public.

Job Training Pact Renewed In Appalachia

The Labor Dept. has awarded the AFL-CIO Appalachian Council a new $1.3 million contract to provide on-the-job training to about 1,400 unemployed and underemployed workers in a 12-state area.

Under the 12-month contract, the council will promote job development and training opportunities with employers in the region who have collective bargaining agreements with AFL-CIO unions.

The Labor Dept. said that about 640 persons will be placed as new job entrants and about 560 unemployed workers will receive 26 weeks of skill conversion training. An additional 200 will be given pre-job classroom courses of up to eight weeks and will receive allowances equivalent to unemployment benefits in their states.

The AFL-CIO Appalachian Council's programs under government contracts have helped train and place 21,089 workers in jobs since 1967, the Labor Dept. noted.

'One Basic Value'

WE HAVE GOT TO reassess the premises of our foreign policy. We have got to restore both our strength and our sense of purpose.

The Communists openly proclaim—Brezhnev has said it time and again—that detente does not imply the end of ideological warfare. On the contrary, it implies an acceleration of ideological warfare.

But how can we compete with the Soviets ideologically if we have given up our purposes and our traditional values as inimical to detente?

There is only one basic value, one basic idea, that can form the basis of our American strategy in world affairs. There is only one basic value, one basic idea, that can form the basis of an appeal by Americans to all the other peoples of the world—an appeal that will be heard and answered. That basic idea is the defense of freedom and the extension of democracy. Not merely the preservation of democracy, but the extension of democracy.

We will never rally the peoples of the world to our side with the slogan "Leave Me Alone!" We ought not to be afraid of shaking up the status quo. We ought not to be afraid of a new world order—a world order in which democracy and decency are on the offensive.

I believe that the adoption of a new world view based on the defense of freedom and the extension of democracy will go far toward restoring the sense of moral purpose that has evaporated from our foreign policy.

It is obvious that the abandonment of our moral purpose abroad is undermining our moral purpose at home—that the democratic ideal is weakened within our own borders whenever we turn our backs on it elsewhere.

WE IN THE AFL-CIO are not isolationists. We are internationalists. We reach out our hands to workers everywhere. We want all workers everywhere to enjoy a standard of living comparable to ours. We want all workers everywhere to enjoy the freedom, imperfect though it may be, that we have struggled to win in this country.

In the final analysis, the workers of the world must fight their own battles. We cannot fight them for them. But to be able to fight, wherever they are, they must have elementary rights. The right to assemble and associate freely. The right to speak. The right to vote. The right to strike—to withhold their labor when the conditions of their employment are not acceptable.

Because these rights are the prerequisites of social and economic progress for the working man, we hold that any system that would deprive the worker of these rights is his worst enemy.

Communist totalitarianism represents such a system in the world today. It takes away the worker's right to struggle—and there is no place on this earth where communism has ever taken away those rights and then returned them.

Democracy does not guarantee the worker a larger share of the pie. It just guarantees him the means to struggle—win or lose. But those means are crucial, for I know of no place where workers have advanced their conditions of life without struggle.

As we enter the last quarter of the Twentieth Century, a shaken but still strong America stands as democracy's best defender and probably last hope. As such, this country is the last best hope of workers everywhere.

—From testimony by AFL-CIO President George Meany before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

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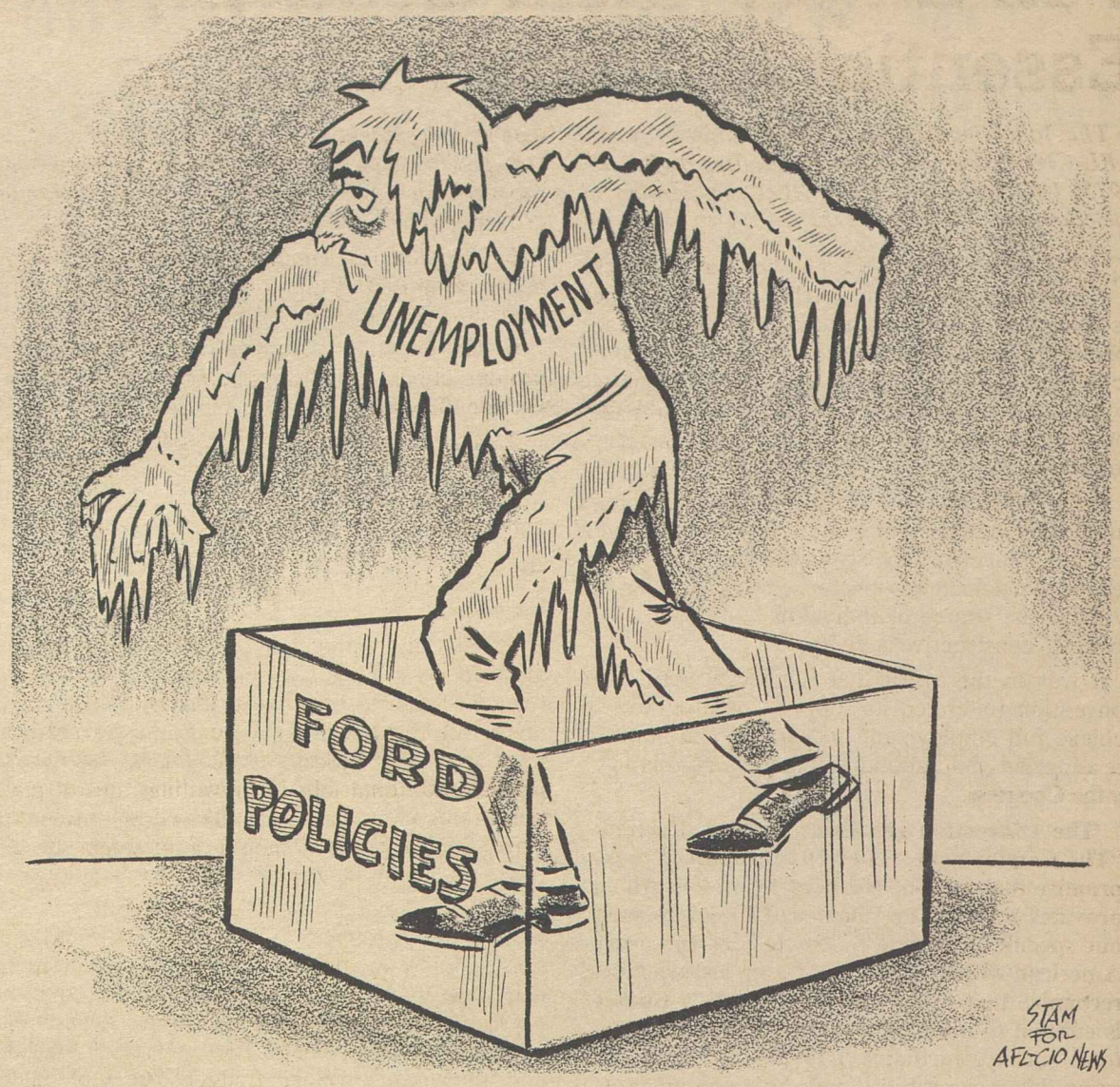
Cooling the Economy



A Word Edgewise:

Political Realists Essential To Supreme Court's Balance

By John P. Roche

PRESIDENT FORD'S NOMINATION of Circuit Judge John Paul Stevens to replace William O. Douglas involves more than an ideological shift—it puts another grey man on the court replacing a pirate. Douglas could—particularly in his later years—be exasperating, brittle and (in my professional judgment) just plain wrong. But there was an element of panache about the man: He once blandly cited an article of mine as evidence for precisely the opposite position of the one I had documented.

When the greatest judicial broken-field runner of them all, Chief Justice John Marshall, found himself in a corner, he would denounce "well-digested, but refined and metaphysical reasoning" designed to "explain away the Constitution of our country." Douglas, like Marshall, seldom allowed "metaphysical reasoning" to hinder the achievement of his goals.

This sort of behavior bothers the professional lawyers and particularly law professors. They emphasize—with a good deal of merit—the need for a judicial "temperament," for rigorous attention to precedent, and, above all, judicial experience as prerequisites for appointment to the bench. (Law professors have their own shtick: They think the Supreme Court should be populated with—you guessed it—law professors.)

I happen to think that a court composed of nine Douglases would be a disaster area—the Constitution of the United States is not play clay to be remolded weekly on an inspirational basis.

Yet I am equally convinced that a court made up of nine pure professionals (drawn from federal or state courts or from the law schools) would simply be out of touch with one crucial aspect of American constitutionalism: political reality.

If the Senate approves Judge Stevens, six of the nine justices will have primarily judicial backgrounds. Nothing said here is a denigration of Judge Stevens's talents, but doesn't the court need a healthy admixture of individuals who could find their way from the White House to the Hill without a seeing eye dog? Not necessarily an Abe Fortas, whose relationship with President Johnson was a bit too cozy, but a Robert Jackson or, to be non-partisan, a Charles Evans Hughes.

Let me give a couple of examples of what I mean. In the depths of the Great Depression, as banks attempted to foreclose farm mortgages, the American yeomanry were practically in open insurrection. Attempted foreclosures were simply aborted by force. Various states, responding to the inflamed electorate, passed mortgage moratorium laws which in essence postponed mortgage obligations.

In 1934 the Minnesota statute was brought to the Supreme Court as a violation of the contract clause of the Constitution (which, given existing doctrine, it clearly was), and Chief Justice Hughes (who had earlier served on the court, then run for President in 1916, and been Secretary of State under Harding) had the task of meshing reality with the contract clause.

He succeeded (though it was a 5-4 decision) with a masterpiece of constitutional improvisation which I termed the "secret drawer theory": The emergency, he held, did not create new constitutional authority, but it did make possible the exercise of powers previously unused.

Like Marshall, he took a side-shot at those who "attempt to draw a fine distinction between the intended meaning of the words of the Constitution and their intended application." Would Chief Justice Burger, or Judge Stevens have the savvy to engage in this vital creativity?

THEN THERE WAS Justice Jackson's remarkable dissent in the Korematsu case, where the court had before it the constitutionality of the incarceration of Japanese-Americans in concentration camps during World War II. Justice Black, sounding like an American Legion keynoter, upheld the abomination (Douglas agreeing). Frank Murphy wrote a passionate dissent on the merits. Justice Owen Roberts dissented in legal needlepoint.

Then came Jackson with some extraordinary advice to his brethren: In wartime, he indicated, we all know you can't win against the Commander-in-Chief, but this decision sets a fearful precedent for the future. When we know, he concluded, that we are boxed, rather than leave "a gun behind the door" for future repression, we should simply take a dive and refuse to reach any determination. Extremely good advice from a former Attorney General. Would it impress Judge Stevens or the other "professionals" now on the bench?

Alternative to Deficits, Recession:

Full Employment Economy Essential to Nation's Future

The following statement was adopted by the AFL-CIO Economic Policy Committee on Dec. 5, 1975. Vice President I. W. Abel is chairman of the committee.

FULL EMPLOYMENT has been a major objective of the American labor movement since its inception. A job opportunity at a decent wage for each person able and seeking work—the only definition of full employment that is acceptable to the labor movement—is an economic necessity, for jobs are the lifeblood of the American economic system.

From jobs come the wages that generate mass purchasing power. A job is a key measure of a person's place in society—whether as a full-fledged participant or on the outside looking in. Work is the source of individual fulfillment. It is positive, constructive activity.

It was in this spirit that the recent AFL-CIO convention reiterated its support for programs to achieve full employment and urged "the immediate adoption of a national full employment policy" by the Congress.

The convention resolution further declared: "The Employment Act of 1946 contained more promise than action. We need legislation which provides that the President and Congress spell out specific programs to create jobs for every American willing to work. At long last we must recognize that in our modern society a worker is entitled to a job as a matter of right and the total society, including government, must assume this responsibility and must guarantee its fulfillment."

The convention entrusted this committee with the responsibility of studying proposals pending in Congress and determining those fundamentals that must be included in planning a Full Employment Act to make it both achievable and workable. We consider the following to be essential:

1. Full employment must mean, in fact, job opportunities at decent wages for all those who are able to work and seek employment. This means that the unemployed, at any time, would be only persons who are temporarily jobless—such as entrants into the labor force, people moving from one job to another or from one part of the country to another, or people who are temporarily jobless as a result of seasonal fluctuations in their specific industry.

2. The Congress must declare, as we do, that the Administration forecasts of unemployment—7.9 percent in 1976, 7.2 percent in 1977, 6.5 percent in 1978, 5.8 percent in 1979 and 5.1 percent in 1980—are completely unacceptable. The Congress must undertake an immediate and sustained campaign to reduce unemployment to 3 percent of the civilian labor force and keep it from increasing, in the future, to more than 3 percent.

3. The Congress must require the President annually to submit to it targets, policies and programs to achieve full employment and to meet national needs.

4. The President must be required to propose specific federal tax, expenditure, budget and monetary policies and programs to meet the targets he proposes for full employment, balanced economic growth and national needs.

5. The Congress should establish a consultative body, composed of major groups in the economy, to review the President's goals and policies.

6. The Congress should provide procedures for prompt congressional review and action on the President's economic goals and policies.

7. The Federal Reserve, as a key government agency in the economic area, should be required to justify to the President and the Congress the manner in which its policies concerning interest rates, the money supply and availability of credit will help meet the targets and objectives that are established.

8. The full-employment goal must be good jobs at good pay. To the extent that the economy's regular channels of private and public employment fail to achieve that goal, the government must maintain a public employment program to provide additional jobs at prevailing rates of pay, but in no case less than the federal minimum wage. Such a program should be of sufficient size to keep unemployment below 3 percent.

9. The Congress must establish full employment as the top-priority objective of national economic policy to maintain the strength of American society. The Congress must realize that an obsession with budget deficits ignores the benefits of a full employment economy—increased jobs and increased earnings, reduced unemployment benefits and welfare costs, increased sales for business, increased savings and investment, and increased tax receipts.

The way to cut the deficit, quickly and substantially, is to put America back to work. Any other proposal means continuing deficits, continuing high unemployment, continuing hardship, continuing recession.

Those who put deficits before people have no faith in America. They would condemn America to continued idle plants, idle machinery, idle productive equipment, and idle manpower.

It is precisely because the AFL-CIO is so opposed to this negative thinking that we support a Full Employment Act. We consider it an early "must" item for consideration by the next session of the Congress.

There are many friends of the concept of full employment in the Congress who have demonstrated their concern through the introduction and support of legislation. We trust they will combine to push for a realistic, achievable, workable measure containing the fundamental points we have outlined.

It is the recommendation of this committee that this statement be immediately conveyed to every member of the Congress and that the help and assistance of the AFL-CIO be extended to members in the drafting of legislation that will meet our objective—jobs at decent wages for everyone able to work and seeking work.

TWUA's Stetin Charges:

J. P. Stevens Earns Reputation As Leading Labor Law Violator

THE GIANT J. P. Stevens textile company was branded as the nation's "number one labor law violator" by President Sol Stetin of the Textile Workers Union of America.

Citing a pattern of anti-unionism stretching back to the early Sixties, Stetin noted that even when the union wins representation rights in Stevens plants—despite the company's intimidation and coercion—the employer turns to long delays in negotiations and other processes that frustrate attempts to reach agreement on a contract.

He pointed out that at Roanoke Rapids, N.C., TWUA won bargaining rights in seven J. P. Stevens plants in August 1974. But after 15 months of bargaining the union has been unable to wind up contract talks with the company.

J. P. Stevens's tactics are more than hard labor relations efforts, Stetin said, charging that Stevens "heads up a conspiracy that is determined to keep unions out of the South."

He pointed out that the recent conventions of both the AFL-CIO and its Industrial Union Dept. pledged full support for the TWUA effort in J. P. Stevens—perhaps even a nationwide boycott of Stevens products—"if they don't agree to live up to the law of the land and enter into a collective bargaining agreement with our union."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Stetin said that although the union's victory in J. P. Stevens's Roanoke Rapids operations hasn't yet brought that employer even close to solid labor-management relations, it was a significant breakthrough in the 13-year battle to organize Stevens. And, he added, the victory could be an indication of a changing tide in the South that will see expansion of the organized workforce in the years ahead.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

DECEMBER 15 IS KNOWN as Bill of Rights Day. It is the anniversary of the date 184 years ago when the Bill of Rights became the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

The original Constitution, consisting of seven articles, was sent to Congress on Sept. 28, 1787. Nine states were needed to ratify the document. New Hampshire became the ninth state on June 21, 1788. The Constitution was declared in effect on Mar. 4, 1789.

The First Congress, at its initial session in New York City, Sept. 25, 1789, submitted to the states 12 amendments to clarify rights not spelled out in the original Constitution. Ten of the 12 amendments were ratified and have since been known as the Bill of Rights.

I—Religious Establishment Prohibited. Freedom of Speech, of the Press, and Right to Petition.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

II—Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

III—Conditions for Quarters for Soldiers.

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

IV—Right of Search and Seizure Regulated.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

V—Provisions concerning prosecution. Trial and Punishment—Private Property not to Be Taken for Public Use Without Compensation.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

VI—Right to Speedy Trial, Witnesses, etc.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

VII—Right of Trial by Jury.

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

VIII—Excessive Bail or Fines and Cruel Punishment Prohibited.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

IX—Rule of Construction of Constitution.

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

X—Rights of States Under Constitution.

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

J. P. STEVENS & CO., a giant textile firm operating in the South, was branded the nation's top labor law violator by President Sol Stetin, center, of the Textile Workers Union of America. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Lloyd Schwartz, left, of Fairchild Publications and Donald Barnes of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired Tuesday on Mutual radio.

Key House Rollcall Votes on Tax Bill

These five rollcalls on the tax bill show how House members voted in terms of the AFL-CIO's position.

Column I *is the 219-197 vote establishing the ground rules for considering amendments to the bill. This was a key procedural issue that allowed votes on labor-supported tax reforms without the spending ceiling sought by the Administration. Right votes (R) were cast by 219 Democrats. Voting wrong were 139 Republicans and 58 Democrats.*

Column II *shows the 226-192 defeat of a labor-supported tax reform amendment to limit the artificial losses that could be claimed on income tax transactions in order to avoid taxes on actual profits from other properties. Right votes for the amendment were cast by 177 Democrats and 15 Republicans. Voting wrong were 125 Republicans and 101 Democrats.*

Column III *shows the 223-199 defeat of an amendment to shorten to three years from five years the closing of a big tax loophole for firms that defer export profits through the Domestic International Sales Corp. program (DISC). Voting right (for the amendment) were 194 Democrats and 5 Republicans. Voting wrong were 136 Republicans and 87 Democrats.*

Column IV *is the 220-202 rejection of a labor-opposed motion to send the bill back to committee with instructions to add to it the spending ceiling President Ford wants to impose. Right votes against the amendment were cast by 218 Democrats and 2 Republicans. Voting wrong were 139 Republicans and 63 Democrats.*

Column V *shows final passage of the bill by a 257-168 vote. Right votes for passage were cast by 225 Democrats and 32 Republicans. Voting wrong were 111 Republicans and 57 Democrats.*

The House did approve by one-sided margins three reform amendments the AFL-CIO endorsed. By a 379-27 vote, it deleted from the bill a giveaway allowing wealthy individuals to use past capital losses to avoid current taxes. It approved, 314-107, an amendment tightening the minimum tax on persons whose income would otherwise be exempt from taxation. And it voted, 301-119, to retain a withholding tax on earnings of foreign investors in U.S. firms.

*Other symbols: A—absent. Asterisk * indicates paired right; X indicates paired wrong. Numerals show congressional districts; AL—at large.*

	I	II	III	IV	V
ALABAMA					
1. Edwards (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Bevill (D)	W	R	W	W	W
5. Jones (D)	R	R	W	R	R
6. Buchanan (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Flowers (D)	W	W	W	W	W
ALASKA					
AL Young (R)	W	W	W	W	W
ARIZONA					
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Udall (D)	*	*	A	A	*
3. Steiger (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Conlan (R)	W	W	W	W	W
ARKANSAS					
1. Alexander (D)	R	W	W	R	W
2. Mills (D)	R	W	R	W	W
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Thornton (D)	R	W	W	R	R
CALIFORNIA					
1. Johnson (R)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Clausen (R)	W	W	A	A	W
3. Moss (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Leggett (D)	R	R	R	R	R
5. Burton, J. (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Burton, P. (D)	R	R	R	R	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	R	R	R	R
10. Edwards (D)	R	R	R	R	R
11. Ryan (D)	R	R	R	R	R
12. McCloskey (R)	W	R	W	W	W
13. Mineta (D)	R	R	R	R	R
14. McFall (D)	R	R	R	R	R
15. Sisk (D)	A	W	W	R	R
16. Talcott (R)	W	W	W	W	W
17. Krebs (D)	R	R	R	R	R
18. Ketchum (R)	W	W	W	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W	W	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	A	W	W	W	W
21. Corman (D)	R	R	R	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	A	A	A	A	W
23. Rees (D)	R	R	W	R	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R	R	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R	R	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W	W	W	W
27. Bell (R)	W	A	W	W	W
28. Burke (D)	R	R	R	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R	R	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	R	R	R	R	R
31. Wilson, C. (D)	R	R	R	R	R
32. Anderson (D)	R	W	R	R	R
33. Clawson (R)	W	W	W	W	W
34. Hannaford (D)	R	R	W	R	R
35. Lloyd (D)	R	R	R	R	R
36. Brown (D)	R	R	R	R	R
37. Pettis (R)	W	W	W	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	R	R	R	R	R
39. Wiggins (R)	W	W	W	W	W
40. Hinshaw (R)	A	A	A	A	A
41. Wilson, B. (R)	W	W	W	W	W
42. VanDeerlin (D)	R	R	R	R	R
43. Burgener (R)	W	W	W	W	W
COLORADO					
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R	R	W	W
2. Wirth (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Evans (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Armstrong (R)	W	W	W	W	W
CONNECTICUT					
1. Cotter (D)	R	W	W	R	R
2. Dodd (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Giaimo (D)	R	R	W	R	R
4. McKinney (R)	W	A	W	W	R
5. Sarasin (R)	W	W	W	W	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	R	R	R	R
DELAWARE					
AL duPont (R)	W	R	W	W	R
FLORIDA					
1. Sikes (D)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Fuqua (D)	W	W	R	W	W
3. Bennett (D)	W	R	R	W	W
4. Chappell (D)	W	W	R	W	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	W	R	R	W	R
8. Haley (D)	W	W	R	W	W
9. Frey (R)	W	W	W	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	W	W	W	W	W
11. Rogers (D)	W	W	R	W	R
12. Burke (R)	A	A	A	A	A
13. Lehman (D)	R	R	R	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	R	R	R	R	R
15. Fascell (D)	R	R	R	R	R
GEORGIA					
1. Ginn (D)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Mathis (D)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W	W	W	R
4. Levitas (D)	W	W	R	R	R
5. Young (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Flynt (D)	W	W	W	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Stuckey (D)	W	W	W	W	W
9. Landrum (D)	W	W	W	W	W
10. Stephens (D)	W	W	W	W	W
HAWAII					
1. Matsunaga (D)	R	W	R	R	R
2. Mink (D)	R	R	R	R	R
IDAHO					
1. Symms (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W	W	W	W
ILLINOIS					
1. Metcalfe (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	W	R	R	R
3. Russo (D)	R	W	R	R	R
4. Derwinski (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Fary (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Hyde (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Collins (D)	A	R	R	R	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Yates (D)	R	R	R	R	R
10. Mikva (D)	R	R	R	R	R
11. Annunzio (D)	R	W	R	R	R
12. Crane (R)	W	W	W	W	W
13. McClory (R)	W	W	W	W	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	W	W	W	W
15. Hall (D)	R	R	R	R	R
16. Anderson (R)	W	R	W	W	R
17. O'Brien (R)	W	W	W	W	W
18. Michel (R)	W	W	W	W	W
19. Railsback (R)	W	R	W	W	R
20. Findley (R)	W	W	W	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	W	W	W	W	W
22. Shipley (D)	R	R	R	R	R
23. Price (D)	R	R	R	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	R	R	R	R
INDIANA					
1. Madden (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Brademas (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Roush (D)	R	R	W	W	R
5. Hillis (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Evans (D)	R	R	R	W	R
7. Myers (R)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Hayes (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Hamilton (D)	R	R	R	W	R
10. Sharp (D)	R	R	R	W	R
11. Jacobs (D)	W	R	R	W	W
IOWA					
1. Mezvinsky (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Blouin (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Grassly (R)	W	R	R	W	W
4. Smith (D)	R	R	R	R	R
5. Harkin (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Bedell (D)	R	R	R	R	R
KANSAS					
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Keys (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Winn (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Shriver (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Skubitz (R)	W	W	R	W	W
KENTUCKY					
1. Hubbard (D)	R	R	W	R	R
2. Natcher (D)	R	W	R	R	R
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	W	W	R	R
4. Snyder (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Carter (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Breckinridge (D)	R	W	W	R	R
7. Perkins (D)	R	W	R	R	R
LOUISIANA					
1. Hebert (D)	X	X	X	X	X
2. Boggs (D)	R	W	W	R	R
3. Treen (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Waggonner (D)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Passman (D)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Long (D)	R	W	W	R	W
MAINE					
1. Emery (R)	W	R	W	W	R
2. Cohen (R)	W	R	W	W	R
MARYLAND					
1. Bauman (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Sarbanes (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	W	R	R	R
6. E. Byron (D)	W	W	R	W	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	*	R	*	R
8. Gude (R)	W	R	R	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS					
1. Conte (R)	W	W	W	W	R
2. Boland (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Early (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R	R	R	R
5. Tsongas (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Harrington (D)	R	R	R	R	R
7. Macdonald (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Moakley (D)	R	R	R	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	W	R	W	W	R
11. Burke (D)	R	R	R	R	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R	R	R	R
MICHIGAN					
1. Conyers (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Esch (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Brown (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Hutchinson (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. VanderVeen (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Carr (D)	R	R	R	R	R
7. Riegle (R)	A	R	R	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W	W	W	W
10. Cederberg (R)	W	W	W	W	W
11. Ruppe (R)	W	W	W	W	W
12. O'Hara (D)	R	R	R	R	R
13. Diggs (R)	R	R	R	R	R
14. Nedzi (D)	W	R	R	R	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R	R	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	R	R	R	R
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R	R	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R	R	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W	W	W	R
MINNESOTA					
1. Quie (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	A	W	W	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Karth (D)	R	R	R	R	R
5. Fraser (D)	R	R	A	A	A
6. Nolan (D)	R	R	R	R	R
7. Bergland (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R	R	R	R
MISSISSIPPI					
1. Whitten (D)	R	W	W	W	W
2. Bowen (D)	R	W	W	W	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Cochran (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W	W	W	W
MISSOURI					
1. Clay (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Symington (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Sullivan (D)	R	W	R	R	R
4. Randall (D)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Bolling (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Litton (D)	R	A	A	R	R
7. Taylor (R)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W	R	W	W
9. Hungate (D)	A	A	A	A	A
10. Burlison (D)	R	R	R	R	R
MONTANA					
1. Baucus (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Melcher (D)	R	R	R	R	R
NEBRASKA					
1. Thone (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. McCollister (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Smith (R)	W	W	W	W	W
NEVADA					
AL Santini (D)	W	W	W	W	R
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
1. D'Amours (D)	R	R	W	R	R
2. Cleveland (R)	W	W	W	W	W
NEW JERSEY					
1. Florio (D)	R	W	R	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	R	W	R	W	R
3. Howard (D)	R	W	W	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	R	W	R	R
5. Fenwick (R)	W	R	W	W	R
6. Forsythe (R)	W	W	W	W	R
7. Maguire (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. Roe (D)	R	W	W	R	R
9. Helstoski (D)	A	X	A	A	A
10. Rodino (D)	R	R	R	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R	R	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	W	W	W	W	R
13. Meyner (D)	R	R	W	R	R
14. Daniels (D)	R	W	R	R	R
15. Patten (D)	R	W	R	R	R
NEW MEXICO					
1. Lujan (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	W	W	W	W
NEW YORK					
1. Pike (D)	R	R	W	R	R
2. Downey (D)	R	R	W	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	R	W	R	R
4. Lent (R)	W	W	W	W	R
5. Wydler (R)	W	W	W	W	R
6. Wolff (D)	R	W	W	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Delaney (D)	R	R	R	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	R	R	W	W	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R	R	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R	R	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R	R	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R	R	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	W	R	R	R
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R	R	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	R	W	R	R	R
18. Koch (D)	R	R	R	R	R
19. Rangel (D)	R	R	R	R	R
20. Abzug (D)	R	R	R	R	R
21. Badillo (D)	R	R	R	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R	R	R	R
23. Peyser (R)	W	W	W	W	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R	R	R	R
25. Fish (R)	W	W	W	W	R
26. Gilman (R)	W	W	W	W	R
27. McHugh (D)	R	R	R	R	R
28. Stratton (D)	R	R	W	R	R
29. Pattison (D)	R	R	R	R	R
30. McEwen (R)	W	W	W	W	W
31. Mitchell (R)	W	W	W	W	R
32. Hanley (D)	R	R	W	R	R
33. Walsh (R)	W	W	W	W	R
34. Horton (R)	W	W	W	W	R
35. Conable (R)	W	W	W	W	W
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R	W	R	R
37. Nowak (D)	R	R	R	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	W	W	W	W
39. Hastings (R)	W	W	W	W	W
NORTH CAROLINA					
1. Jones (D)	W	W	W	R	R
2. Fountain (D)	W	W	R	W	R
3. Henderson (D)	W	W	R	W	R
4. Andrews (D)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Neal (D)	R	R	R	W	W
6. Preyer (D)	R	W	R	R	R
7. Rose (D)	R	W	R	R	R
8. Hefner (D)	W	W	W	W	R
9. Martin (R)	W	W	W	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W	W	W	W
11. Taylor (D)	W	W	W	W	R
NORTH DAKOTA					
AL Andrews (R)	W	W	W	W	W
OHIO					
1. Gradison (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Clancy (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Whalen (R)	W	W	W	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	W	W	W	W	R
7. Brown (R)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Kindness (R)	W	W	W	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	W	R	R	R	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W	W	W	W
11. Stanton (R)	W	W	W	W	R
12. Devine (R)	W	W	W	W	W
13. Mosher (R)	W	R	W	W	R
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R	R	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W	R	W	W
16. Regula (R)	W	W	W	W	R
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W	W	W	W
18. Hays (D)	R	R	R	R	R
19. Carney (D)	R	R	R	R	R
20. Stanton (D)	R	R	R	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	A	A	*	A	A
22. Vanik (D)	R	R	R	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	R	R	R	W	W
OKLAHOMA					
1. Jones (D)	R	W	W	W	W
2. Risenhoover (D)	R	W	W	R	R
3. Albert (D)					
4. Steed (D)	R	W	W	R	R
5. Jarman (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W	W	W	W
OREGON					
1. AuCoin (D)	R	W	R	R	R
2. Ullman (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Duncan (D)	R	W	R	R	R
4. Weaver (D)	R	R	R	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA					
1. Barrett (D)	R	W	R	R	R
2. Nix (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Green (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Eilberg (D)	R	R	R	R	R
5. Schulze (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	R	W	W	R	R
7. Edgar (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. Biester (R)	W	R	W	W	R
9. Shuster (R)	W	W	W	W	W
10. McDade (R)	W	W	W	W	R
11. Flood (D)	R	W	R	R	R
12. Murtha (D)	R	R	R	R	R
13. Coughlin (R)	W	W	W	W	R
14. Moorhead (D)	R	R	W	R	R
15. Rooney (D)	R	R	W	R	R
16. Eshleman (R)	W	W	W	W	W
17. Schneebeli (R)	W	W	W	W	W
18. Heinz (R)	W	R	W	W	R
19. Goodling (R)	W	W	W	W	W
20. Gaydos (D)	A	A	A	A	A
21. Dent (D)	R	W	R	R	R
22. Morgan (D)	R	R	R	R	R
23. Johnson (R)	W	W	W	W	W
24. Vigorito (D)	R	W	R	R	R
25. Myers (R)	W	R	W	W	R
RHODE ISLAND					
1. St. Germain (D)	R	R	R	R	R
2. Beard (D)	R	R	R	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA					
1. Davis (D)	R	W	R	W	W
2. Spence (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	A	R	R	R	R
4. Mann (D)	W	W	W	W	R
5. Holland (D)	R	R	W	R	R
6. Jenrette (D)	R	W	W	R	R
SOUTH DAKOTA					
1. Pressler (R)	W	W	R	W	W
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W	W	W	W
TENNESSEE					
1. Quillen (R)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Lloyd (D)	R	W	R	R	R
4. Evins (D)	R	W	R	R	R
5. Allen (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Beard (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Jones (D)	R	W	R	R	R
8. Ford (D)	R	R	R	R	R
TEXAS					
1. Patman (D)	W	W	R	R	R
2. Wilson (D)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Collins (R)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	W	W	W	R	W
5. Steelman (R)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Teague (D)	W	W	W	R	W
7. Archer (R)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	R	W	W	R	W
10. Pickle (D)	R	W	W	R	R
11. Poage (D)	W	W	W	W	W
12. Wright (D)	R	W	W	R	W
13. Hightower (D)	W	W	W	W	W
14. Young (D)	W	W	W	R	W
15. de la Garza (D)	W	W	W	W	W
16. White (D)	W	W	W	W	W
17. Burleson (D)	W	W	W	W	W
18. Jordan (D)	R	R	W	R	R
19. Mahon (D)	W	W	W	R	W
20. Gonzalez (D)	W	R	R	R	W
21. Krueger (D)	W	W	W	W	W
22. Casey (D)	W	W	W	W	W
23. Kazen (D)	W	W	W	W	W
24. Milford (D)	W	A	W	W	W
UTAH					
1. McKay (D)	R	W	R	R	R
2. Howe (D)	R	R	R	R	R
VERMONT					
AL Jeffords (R)	W	R	W	W	W
VIRGINIA					
1. Downing (D)	W	W	W	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W	W	W	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W	W	W	W
4. Daniel, R. (R)	W	W	W	W	W
5. Daniel, W. (D)	W	W	W	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W	W	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W	W	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	R	R	R	R	R
WASHINGTON					
1. Pritchard (R)	A	W	W	W	W
2. Meeds (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. McCormack (D)	A	R	R	R	R
5. Foley (D)	R	A	R	R	R
6. Hicks (D)	R	W	W	R	R
7. Adams (D)	R	R	R	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA					
1. Mollohan (D)	R	R	W	R	R
2. Staggers (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Slack (D)	R	R	W	R	R
4. Hechler (D)	R	R	R	W	W
WISCONSIN					
1. Aspin (D)	A	R	R	R	R
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R	R	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	R	R	R	R
4. Zablocki (D)	R	R	R	R	R
5. Reuss (D)	R	R	R	R	R
6. Steiger (R)	W	W	W	W	W
7. Obey (D)	R	R	R	R	R
8. Cornell (D)	R	R	R	R	R
9. Kasten (R)	W	W	W	W	W
WYOMING					
AL Roncalio (D)	R	A	W	R	R

To Extend Democracy:

New Foreign Policy Pressed by Meany

(Continued from Page 1)

cessions are met with concessions and closed doors are answered the same way.

Thus, he suggested, Soviet oil needed by the United States could be part of a government-to-government agreement to sell U.S. grain to Russia.

But detente, under the Nixon-Ford-Kissinger policy, has become "another name for appeasement."

Meany traced the long list of Soviet violations of the detente agreement of May 1972 in which both nations pledged to cooperate in the interests of world peace. It includes such blatant moves as Soviet encouragement of the sneak Arab attack on Israel in the Yom Kippur war to the latest intervention by the Soviet Union and Cuba in the Angola conflict.

"Why, then, was President Ford so eager to enter still another agreement with the Soviet Union at Helsinki?" Meany asked.

In return for U.S. recognition of the Soviet conquest of Eastern Europe, the "great concession we got from our Soviet partners in detente" was a promise to respect human rights "including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief."

Meany reminded the Senate committee that these same principles had been spelled out in 1948 in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, which the Soviet Union "signed with great fanfare."

And only a few months after signing the Helsinki agreement, Meany noted, the Soviet government has refused to let the distinguished physicist, Andrei Sakharov, leave the country to accept his Nobel Prize in Oslo, Norway.

Meany expressed concern that the United States, accepting rhetoric and promises at face value, is allowing the military balance of power to shift to the Soviets.

"We in the AFL-CIO know something about collective bargaining," he reminded the committee. "And I can tell you that any union president who brought back a package like the one Mr. Ford signed in Helsinki wouldn't survive the next union election."

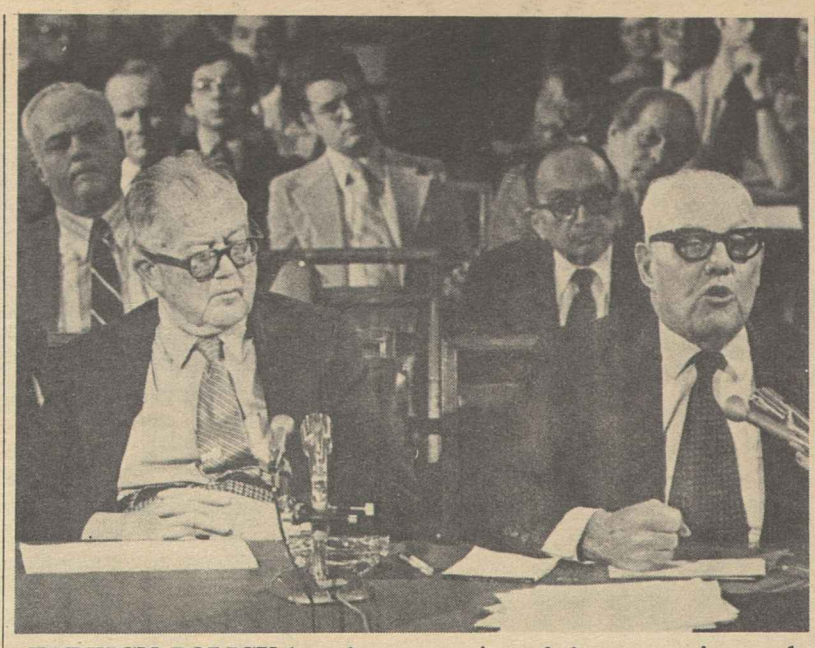
As for the United Nations, it has become "an ugly joke" that demonstrates vividly the bankruptcy of American foreign policy.

"The only thing we have to be proud of in connection with this sorry organization is our ambassador, Pat Moynihan," Meany said. "He has begun to restore some sense of what this country stands for in world affairs—or ought to stand for."

If the UN has become merely a debating society, Meany said, "then let us enter the debate vigorously, or get out."

Meany raked the business groups that have rushed to sell technological advances to the Soviets—in at least one case at a price less than that demanded for a sale to the U.S. Navy. And the bribes paid by American corporations for foreign government officials have brought discredit on the United States, Meany said. Such acceptance of corruption, he suggested, "helps to explain the near disappearance of moral purpose from our foreign policy."

The only American appeal that will draw a response from the peoples of the world, Meany said, is "defense of freedom and the extension of democracy—not merely the preservation of democracy."



FOREIGN POLICY based on extension of democracy is urged by AFL-CIO President George Meany at Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings. Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller is at left. Meany said one-sided detente was "a flop."

Jobsite Picketing Bill Nears Final Passage

(Continued from Page 1)

The picketing portion of the bill would restore to construction unions the right to picket a common construction site where various subcontractors are working on the same job, even if the union only has a dispute with one of the contractors.

A 1951 Supreme Court decision barred such picketing, based on what unions consider lack of understanding of the close relation between a general contractor and the subcontractor he hires.

There were only a few differences between the House and Senate versions of the site picketing bill. Here's how the conferees reconciled the principal items in dispute:

- The Senate had exempted most homebuilding, specifically housing of no more than three stories without elevators. The House had narrowly rejected such an amendment. The conference modified the Senate exemption by applying it only to smaller contractors, those doing a gross annual business of less than $9.5 million.
- The Senate had exempted construction on which work had actually started not later than Nov. 15, 1975. The conference said such exemptions could run for no more than one year on projects involving less than $5 million in construction and no more than two years on larger projects.

There was also some clarification of language excluding common site picketing on certain public projects where state law requires that subcontracts be awarded by public agencies on the basis of bids, instead of through a general contractor.

The conferees followed the Senate pattern of including the construction industry collective bargaining bill as part of the site picketing legislation. The House had passed it as a separate bill.

Both measures had the endorsement of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. and of the AFL-CIO convention. Ford had said he would sign the site picketing bill if it reached his desk along with the collective bargaining bill, which was drafted largely by Labor Sec. John Dunlop out of his extensive knowledge of construction industry collective bargaining.

State Dept. Memorandum On Solzhenitsyn's Visit

This memorandum was cited by AFL-CIO President George Meany at Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings, as an "incredible" document demonstrating Secretary of State Kissinger's insistence that the President shun Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn so that the Soviet government would not be offended. The memorandum was sent by George Springsteen, Kissinger's executive secretary at the State Dept., to Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft at the White House. It refers to Solzhenitsyn's visit to Washington as the guest of the AFL-CIO.

"George Meany has invited the President to attend a June 30 banquet in honor of Solzhenitsyn, which will be an occasion for outspoken anti-Soviet rhetoric. The Soviets would probably take White House participation in the affair as either a deliberate negative signal or a sign of Administration weakness in the face of domestic anti-Soviet pressures. We recommend that the invitation to the President be declined and that no White House officials participate.

"During Solzhenitsyn's Washington visit (June 27-July 1) another problem may arise: Pressure may be generated by Meany, members of Congress or others for the President to receive Solzhenitsyn in the White House. He is a Nobel Prize winner, he is widely admired in the United States and the Senate has passed a resolution granting him honorary U.S. citizenship (if the House follows suit he would be the only person except Churchill so honored). Advocates of a meeting would argue that the President has received a whole range of Soviet visitors ranging from journalists and trans-polar fliers to the Minister of the Food Industry. They would ask: since the White House doors are open to Soviets of this sort, why not also to Solzhenitsyn, the most admired of all Russians? The arguments against such a meeting are as compelling as those against accepting the banquet invitation, but more difficult to defend publicly.

"Solzhenitsyn is a notable writer, but his political views are an embarrassment even to his fellow dissidents. Not only would a meeting with the President offend the Soviets but it would raise some controversy about Solzhenitsyn's views of the United States and its allies (as expressed, for example, in the attached New York Times article). Further, Solzhenitsyn has never before been received by a Chief of State and such a meeting would lend weight to his political views as opposed to his literary talent.

"We recommend that the President not receive Solzhenitsyn. If significant pressures develop which make it imperative that the White House do something for Solzhenitsyn, we would suggest inviting him to any large social function taking place at the White House while he is in town, or arranging for him to be at a social function attended by the President during that period."

Recording Fee Pact Ratified By Musicians

New York—Musicians employed by manufacturers of phonograph recordings overwhelmingly approved a new two-year contract providing an across-the-board 10 percent increase in wage scales.

AFM President Hal C. Davis said the pact was ratified by a vote of 1,243 to 116 in a mail referendum. The new agreement, which is retroactive to Nov. 1, also provides for an increase from 9 to 10 percent in employer contributions to the Musicians pension fund.

Under the terms of the contract, the fee for a basic 3-hour recording session rises from $100 to $110. For a special 90-minute session, the fee increases from $66 to $72.60.

Also, the scale for recording in Canada, for Canadian sale only, will increase to $91 from $83 for a regular session. The scale for recording in Puerto Rico, for Puerto Rican sale only, increases to $66 from $60.

The new agreement covers about 4,000 musicians who earned a minimum of $1,000 from recordings during the 1974 calendar year.

Canada's Jobless Rate Edges Up to 7.3 Percent

Ottawa — Canada's jobless rate inched up one-tenth of 1 percent to 7.3 percent in November, equaling the 14-year high reached last August.

The government announced the number of unemployed workers rose by 9,000 to 734,000. Total employment increased by 15,000 to 9,388,000.

A year earlier, the jobless rate was only 5.5 percent. Hardest hit last month were youths. Their unemployment rate climbed four-tenths of 1 percent to 13.3 percent. The jobless rate for adult women was 4.5 percent, while adult men had a 5 percent unemployment rate.

Steel Parley Spurs Income, Job Measures

Geneva — Special measures to protect the jobs and income of workers in the iron and steel industry need the immediate attention of the International Labor Organization, the ILO's Iron & Steel Committee declared.

A resolution adopted unanimously by the committee's 200 worker, government and employer delegates called on the ILO to promote an exchange of information on methods to aid workers affected by recession in a number of countries.

Key measures outlined in the committee resolution include the abolition of overtime, equal distribution of available work, additional holidays and rest days, accelerated investment projects, and retraining of workers.

The committee also called for the development of programs to guarantee income and provide for early retirement with the right to full benefits in plant shutdowns, along with government measures to prevent the loss of employment and compensation for the loss of income.

John S. Johns, a vice president of the Steelworkers, served as chairman of the worker delegation at the committee's session.

Other USWA representatives on the panel are Howard Strevel, director of District 36; Dean Clowes, director of political action, and Canadians Mike Fenwock, director of District 6, and Don Taylor of the USWA's Canadian national office.

Delegates also urged the development of effective methods to forecast manpower needs, stressing that such policy is the joint responsibility of governments, employers and workers.

All parties should play a full role in designing and carrying out manpower programs, the committee said in urging wider cooperation in this area by management and labor.

Exploring the hazards of the working environment, the committee also focused on safety and health problems stemming from shift work. It said that workers and their representatives should have the opportunity to meet with employers on safety and health matters.

Courses Held In 100 Cities To Aid Jobless

Local conferences to alert area labor representatives to programs and services for the jobless have been conducted in 100 cities throughout the country, AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis reported.

The 120 seminars and counselling sessions sponsored by the federation's Dept. of Community Services since late 1974 drew a total attendance of 15,000, including numerous unemployed trade unionists.

Perlis said the conferences focused on a broad array of topics to help the jobless workers take advantage of services and program available to them.

Among the major areas covered were unemployment compensation, public assistance, food stamps, health care, school lunch programs, legal aid and family counselling. The sessions also explored ways to extend payments on utility bills, mortgages and credit.

Centers were also set up in union halls in some areas to expedite applications for food stamps and other assistance, Perlis reported.

3% Jobless Rate Targeted:

Full Employment Law Set As 'Must' Goal in Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

5.8 percent in 1979 and 5.1 percent in 1980—are "completely unacceptable."

Instead, the Economic Policy Committee urged Congress to undertake an "immediate and sustained campaign" to reduce joblessness to 3 percent. The rate now is 8.3 percent.

Full employment must mean that "the unemployed, at any time, would be only persons who are temporarily jobless — such as entrants into the labor force, people moving from one job to another or from one part of the country to another, or people who are temporarily jobless as a result of seasonal fluctuations in their specific industry," the AFL-CIO policy stated.

Other essential provisions of an acceptable full-employment law, the committee said, should:

- Require the President to submit annual "targets, policies and programs" to Congress detailing ways to achieve full employment and to meet national needs.
- Require the President to propose specific federal tax, monetary and budget policies to be pursued for full employment, balanced economic growth and national needs.
- Set up a consultative body, composed of major groups in the economy, to review the President's goals and policies.
- Establish procedures for prompt congressional review and action on the President's economic programs.
- Require the Federal Reserve Board to "justify" to the President and Congress the manner in which its monetary policies will help meet full-employment targets.

In addition, when the economy's regular channels of private and public employment fail to bring about full employment, the government must maintain a public-employment program to provide jobs "at prevailing rates of pay, but in no case less than the federal minimum wage." Such a program should be of sufficient size to keep unemployment below 3 percent.

The Economic Policy Committee attacked the Ford Administration's "obsession" with keeping down budget deficits at the expense of American workers, calling such a philosophy "negative thinking."

"Those who put deficits before people have no faith in America," the committee declared. "They would condemn America to continued idle plants, idle machinery, idle productive equipment and idle manpower."

The way to cut the deficit, the committee observed, is to create jobs. "Any other proposal means continuing deficits, continuing high unemployment, continuing hardship, continuing recession."

The committee said Congress must realize that an obsession with budget deficits ignores the benefits of a full-employment economy — more jobs and higher earnings, reduced unemployment benefits and welfare costs, increased sales for business, increased savings and investment and greater tax receipts.

"From jobs come the wages that generate mass purchasing power," the committee statement observed. In addition, it said, a job is a key measure of a person's place in society. "Work is the source of individual fulfillment. It is positive, constructive activity."

In releasing the committee's recommendations, Meany said the federation will start immediately to implement them. The panel called for distribution of the policy statement to every member of Congress and offered the AFL-CIO's assistance to legislators in drafting a proposed full-employment law that will meet labor's goal of "jobs at decent wages for everyone able to work and seeking work."

"There are many friends of the concept of full employment in the Congress who have demonstrated their concern through the introduction and support of legislation," the committee added.

"We trust they will combine to push for a realistic, achievable, workable measure containing the fundamental points we have outlined."

Musicians Set Holiday Calls For Military

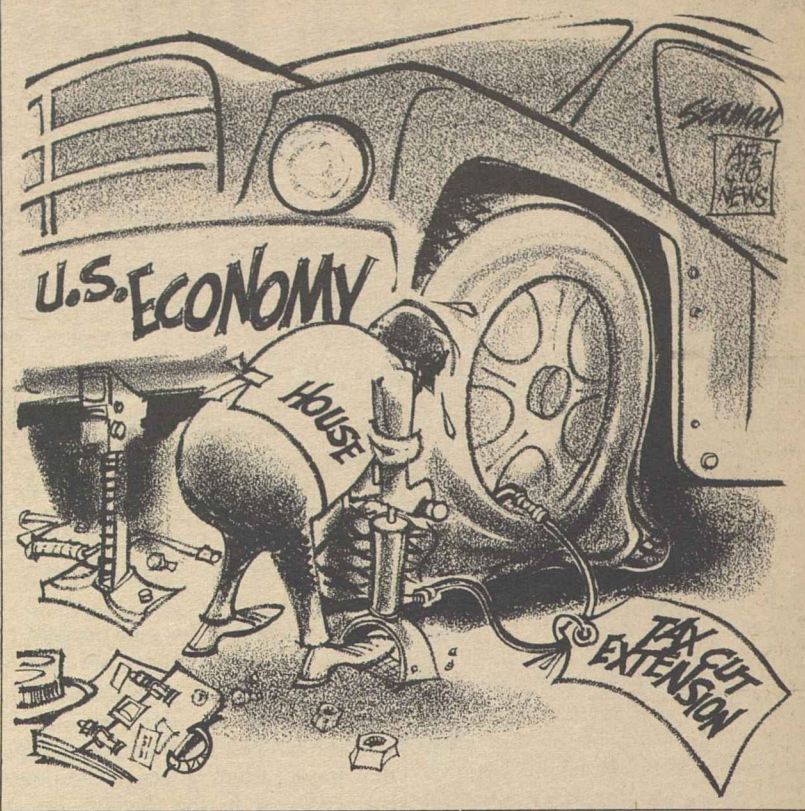
New York—For the eighth consecutive year, the Musicians' union is offering armed forces personnel overseas free holiday calls to their families in the United States during the three day period, Dec. 24-26.

Calls originating from overseas will be transmitted by the Military Affiliate Radio Service (MARS) to an amateur radio station in Mansfield, Ohio, manned by Robert Altomonte, president of AFM local 159. Altomonte will route the calls to their destination through regular telephone wires—the cost of which is paid by the Musicians.

Last year, Altomonte handled calls from such diverse places as Liberia, Japan, Germany, Iceland, Paraguay, Grand Turk Island, the Canal Zone, Diego Garcia, Antarctica, and Vieques Island, a tiny strip of land in the Caribbean.

The Musicians reported that in 1974 more than 800 calls were placed to every state in the nation and that more than 8,300 calls have been completed since the program began in 1967.

To Keep It Going



Senate Unit Approves Tax Cut Compromise

Senate Democrats and a big bipartisan majority of the Senate Finance Committee endorsed a compromise tax bill that would temporarily extend this year's tax cuts for six months — without the spending ceiling that President Ford has demanded.

If the tax cut is not extended, consumer purchasing power will drop in January as higher withholding taxes take a bigger bite out of workers' paychecks. Economists warn this could abort the start of recovery and push the nation into a new economic decline.

The House has passed a somewhat different one-year extension of the tax cut in a bill that included some reform provisions intended to make the tax system more equitable and increase revenue.

Because of the short time left to act—current tax rates expire Dec. 31 and Congress is planning a Dec. 19 adjournment — the Senate Democratic caucus acted with rare unanimity to back a compromise approach that would avoid a tax hike without shutting the door on the concept of a future spending ceiling.

Congress this year has launched an intricate budget review and budget ceiling procedure, and Senate Budget Committee Chairman Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) told the Democratic conference that it would destroy the entire concept for Congress to agree to a spending ceiling on a fiscal 1977 budget that it hasn't even seen.

The bill, approved the same day by the Finance Committee on a 14-4 vote, would continue present withholding taxes through the first half of 1976. That would bring the issue of further extension of the rate cut before Congress after its initial review of the fiscal 1977 budget.

Four of the seven Republicans on the Finance Committee voted gainst linking Ford's spending ceiling to the tax bill and for approval of the six-month tax rate cut without a spending ceiling.

Before the committee vote, Administration officials insisted that Ford would not accept such a compromise. Treasury Sec. William Simon said the principle of a spending ceiling is more important than the "small economic impact" of letting tax rates rise.

Committee Chairman Russell Long (D-La.) warned that Congress would not back down in a game of "chicken" with the President.

If the Senate adopts the committee bill, it must then be reconciled in conference with the House-passed tax bill.

Long said if the President were to veto the tax cut extension and call Congress into special session on the issue, as the White House has threatened, Congress would "just send him an identical bill again. Maybe we should run off a Xerox just in case," he suggested.

Of the 44 senators attending the Democratic caucus, one abstained and the others voted to support the tax bill strategy.

The Finance Committee bill included only individual income tax reductions except for renewal of lower rates for the first $50,000 in corporate earnings. Other business tax reductions enacted last spring do not expire until 1977.

The individual tax cuts in the Senate bill were somewhat reshuffled from both the present schedule and the House-passed bill. The final version presumably will be shaped by the House-Senate conferees.

Job Losses Linked to Exportation Of Technology by Multinationals

(Continued from Page 1)

and that they can maintain productive capacity."

The AFL-CIO has urged action to regulate the export of American technology over the years, Biemiller said. In addition, organized labor has asked an end to the tax bonanzas enjoyed by U.S.-based corporations which use the tax subsidies to expand their foreign operations, he noted.

U.S. multinationals are indiscriminate in their business dealings, Biemiller charged. They are willing to sell technology even to nations with closed economies and oppressed labor forces.

12-13-75

"In Communist and other closed economies," he said, "the transfer is a one-way street for the United States and its workforce, with some quick returns for the multinational managers.

"If they enter into a partnership with a Communist country, however, the multinational gets a chance to 'compete' for the U.S. market from abroad. The production, jobs and new technology are behind the walls of a Communist state. Such a deal is competition against the U.S. economy to increase the profits of the multinational managers, stockholders and Communist states."

Biemiller explained how multinationals receive special privileges under three tax preferences that "encourage U.S. investors to choose foreign expansion at the expense of investing in a stronger American economy." The time to end them is overdue, he added.

The three preferences are the deferral privilege, the foreign tax credit and the DISC (Domestic International Sales Corp.) program.

The tax deferral on the profits of foreign subsidiaries so long as they are kept abroad "is no less than an interest-free loan, courtesy of Uncle Sam," Biemiller said. He noted that a congressional committee estimated the U.S. tax loss through this loophole at $365 million a year.

The foreign tax credit costs the U.S. an estimated $9 billion a year, and provides an unfair advantage for firms operating abroad over those operating in the U.S. which only receive a deduction for state and local taxes, Biemiller said.

"It all adds up to huge amounts of U.S. tax dollars being sacrificed to benefit overseas activities of U.S. corporations," he added.

DISCs permit U.S.-based companies to set up dummy corporations to handle exports. They pay taxes only on 50 percent of their profits and cost the Treasury Dept. an estimated $1.6 billion a year, Biemiller noted.

The nation can no longer afford this continued drain on its resources, he added. Investment at home is far more productive of jobs and capital than excessive investments abroad, he said.

Coal Slurry Pipeline Opposed by Dennis

A bill to give right-of-way privileges to coal slurry pipelines was criticized by President C. L. Dennis of the Railway & Airline Clerks at House Interior Committee hearings.

Dennis said a pipeline program would duplicate the coal-carrying capacity of the railroads and cause further layoffs and bankruptcies.

Jobless Rate Shift Slight In 6 Months

(Continued from Page 1)

istered among teenagers and adult men. The rate for the latter category dropped to 6.9 percent from 7.1 percent in October.

On the other hand, the rate for adult women held steady at 7.8 percent, after having risen from 7.5 percent in September. The jobless rate for married men fell to 4.9 percent from 5.2 percent the previous month. The rate for full-time workers declined from 8.6 to 8.1 percent.

Although jobs were up slightly in the transportation equipment sector, a steady increase in manufacturing employment of the past four months came to a halt in November.

Since June, industry payroll employment has grown by 1.2 million. Nevertheless, BLS noted, the November job total remained 1.3 million below the all-time high of 78.8 million reached in September 1974.

Employment increases occurred in 57 percent of the 172 industries in the government's sampling, compared with 62 percent in October and 82 percent in September.

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Meany Hits 'Political Veto' As Endangering Economy

Congress Clears Measure:

Ford Pledge Cited On Situs Picketing

The AFL-CIO and its building trades unions looked to President Ford to keep his word and sign into law a construction site picketing and collective bargaining bill.

Robert A. Georgine, president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., said the legislation passed by Congress meets all the conditions imposed by Ford. Georgine predicted at a news conference that it will bring needed stability to the construction industry's labor-management relations.

Ford is under heavy pressure from his party's right wing to back away from his repeated pledges and veto the legislation. But Georgine told reporters he can't conceive of Ford caving in to such "political blackmail" because he considers the President "an honest man."

Passage of a common site picketing bill has been the top legislative goal of the building trades for 25 years, Georgine stressed. After a "tremendous effort," which included breaking a Senate filibuster, the last hurdle was overcome. The House vote on final passage was 229-189; the Senate margin was 52-43.

As cleared for the President, the legislation had two distinct parts. The section dealing with common site picketing would restore basic trade union rights that were lost a quarter-century ago through a controversial Supreme Court decision. The court ruled illegal a building trades picket line in Denver that protested the fact that a non-union subcontractor working on the same project as union craftsmen was paying his workers 42 cents an hour less than union scale. The court said such picketing was a secondary boycott and barred by the Taft-Hartley Act.

Under the bill sent to the President, such picketing would be allowed if certain conditions were met. A local union planning to picket a construction site at which several subcontractors were work-

(Continued on Page 7)

Proposals On Federal Pay Scored

A special presidential panel's proposals for revamping the present federal pay systems drew a strong attack from government employe leaders, who charged they would "turn back the clock on labor-management relations in the federal government."

The recommendations, based on a six-month study of federal salaries, could affect more than 1.4 million workers—a large number of whom are members of AFL-CIO unions.

William H. McClennan, president of the federation's Public Employee Dept., described the panel's 20 recommendations as "the latest effort in a concerted campaign by the Ford Administration to destroy the federal pay comparability principle."

President Clyde M. Webber of the Government Employees called the recommendations "unacceptable" to AFGE and its members and said the report confirmed the union's worst fears.

"As we anticipated, the principal beneficiaries of the panel's recommendations are the executive-level employes, none of whom earns less than $37,800," Webber said.

McClennan said careful examination of the recommendations

(Continued on Page 2)

CONSTRUCTION SITE picketing bill passed by Congress will bring labor-management stability, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. told a news conference. Georgine said he expects President Ford to keep his promise and sign the bill.

Post Strike Rallies Washington Labor

Organized labor in the Washington metropolitan area rallied behind striking Washington Post workers as the newspaper's management carried out its threats to import strikebreakers.

The Greater Washington AFL-CIO and Post Unions United—a coalition of 11 unions representing the newspaper's 2,000 employes—sponsored a mass demonstration Dec. 13, the day before the Post management's deadline on its "final offer" before hiring "non-union replacements" for striking pressmen.

The pressmen, members of Local 6 of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union, voted down the ultimatum 245 to 5.

President Robert E. Petersen of the Greater Washington Central Labor Council warned that the Post's move to import strikebreakers would severely set back labor-management relations in the area and could well provoke future confrontations.

The strike, now in its 12th week, began when pressmen and stereotypers walked out Oct. 1 after their contract expired. Photoengravers and newspaper mailers, whose contracts also ran out, later joined the walkout. Other crafts are honoring the picket lines, as are about 250 of the 800 Newspaper Guild members employed at the Post.

Meanwhile, attorneys for the District of Columbia were investigating charges that the Post is hiring strikebreakers in violation of D.C. law. The newspaper had been using helicopters to ferry in replacements

(Continued on Page 3)

Tax Bill Vote Poses Hardships

AFL-CIO President George Meany accused President Ford of having endangered America's economy "for political reasons" by his veto of a bill that would have kept taxes from rising in January.

Ford's veto—and the failure of the House to achieve the two-thirds majority needed to override it — means that "millions of Americans will have their take-home pay cut," Meany said.

With the buying power from 1975 tax cuts wiped out, "the economy will again slide downhill." Meany termed the temporary tax reduction enacted in March and expiring on Dec. 31 "a prime factor in the mild upturn of the last few months."

He said "a stubborn President" who insisted on unattainable conditions must bear responsibility for "the hardship that is sure to come" to America's families.

Ford had repeatedly warned that he would veto any tax cut unless Congress coupled it with a spending ceiling for the 1977 fiscal year—even though the President will not submit his proposed budget until late January and Congress will not complete even the first step in its budget review procedure until next spring.

In a compromise move designed to head off a confrontation, the Senate adopted by a big bipartisan majority a tax cut bill that would continue present withholding rates for the first six months of 1976. That would have allowed more negotiating time without endangering the fragile economic recovery. A House-Senate conference committee adopted the six-month extension concept.

But Ford, playing what Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russel Long (D-La.) had described as

(Continued on Page 2)

ILO Explores Jobless Aid, Social Security

Geneva—Social security and unemployment insurance issues were scrutinized by trade union and government experts from 20 nations at a meeting here under the auspices of the International Labor Organization.

AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, a participant in the sessions, welcomed the call for an early upgrading of minimum social security standards embodied in the international conventions that have been adopted by the ILO.

In discussions of unemployment, special attention was given to the problems of young people seeking to enter the workforce and women who want to return to employment after having left temporarily for family reasons.

For these groups, emphasis was put on training, retraining and vocational guidance in addition to cash benefits.

A report from the meeting, to be submitted to the ILO's Governing Body for action, took note of the general lack of unemployment insurance for these groups.

It said the delegates "agreed that existing gaps in protection had increasingly become less tolerable and the administrative arguments, however plausible, for excluding specific groups from coverage could no longer be sustained."

The committee said agricultural, seasonal and migrant workers should be among those eligible for unemployment compensation.

The assembled experts said the fact that women often must interrupt their working careers for family reasons should not result in loss of social security credits.

Also endorsed was the concept that the non-working wife is entitled to social security protection in her own right rather than only as a dependent of her husband. They noted the special problems of women who lose their "dependent" status through divorce.

Seidman termed the discussions useful and the issues important. He noted that the meetings brought out both the desirability of expanding social security protection to meet the problems of the unemployed and of women not in the workforce, while also making clear "the difficulty of achieving these goals."

Seidman, a former U.S. worker delegate to the ILO and a veteran of many ILO meetings and conferences, noted that the sessions were mostly free of politicial polemics. Worker delegates successfully insisted that a self-serving statement by the Soviet government delegate be clearly identified as his views alone, and the positive record of western nations on social security was in the record to offset it.

SOCIAL SECURITY and unemployment problems were discussed by experts from 20 nations at an International Labor Organization meeting in Geneva. AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, left, consults with Werner Elsner of the West German Confederation of Trade Unions.

Meany Scores Tax Veto As Danger to Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

a dangerous game of "chicken," would have none of it.

He vetoed the bill and went on television to demand again that every dollar of a tax cut be matched by a dollar subtracted from government spending — a move that would largely nullify the economic stimulus of a tax cut while reducing government services.

Even though Congress has been notoriously unsuccessful in overriding presidential vetoes, many Capitol Hill observers believed that in this case there would be enough Republican switches to override the veto.

The alternative was a jump in withholding taxes in January that would increase the tax deduction from the average factory worker's pay by $4.50 a week, or 43 percent, and drain more than $1 billion a month in buying power from the economy.

But the House vote of 265-157 to override the President's veto was 17 short of the needed two-thirds majority.

Democrats voted 246 to 32 to override. But Republicans played the game of "chicken" to its disastrous end. Only 19 voted to override, while 125 backed the President's veto.

In contrast to the more than 6-1 Republican support for the President's position in the House, Senate Republicans had split down the middle on the tax cut bill that Ford vetoed. It was conceded on both sides that the Senate would have easily met the two-thirds test if the House had voted to override. Since the House acted first, no Senate vote was taken after the veto.

The vetoed bill would have given taxpayers a slightly higher reduction than they have this year. If no new legislation is enacted, a couple with two children and an adjusted gross income of $10,000 a year will have a tax bill of $867 for the 1976 calendar year—$158 more than would be owed on the same income for this year, and $216 more than would have been owed under the bill vetoed by the President.

Oregon Hails Labor Press Anniversary

Portland, Ore.—The Oregon Labor Press, one of the nation's most honored labor publications, marked its 75th anniversary with a 44-page edition that amounts to a chronicle of the state's labor movement.

The 64,000-circulation weekly newspaper was born in 1900 as the Portland Labor Press, founded by the city's Federated Trades Assembly for the same reason so many other union papers were established —lack of fair and adequate coverage of labor by the commercial press.

The paper's first board of directors was made up of officers of the Cigarmakers, Barbers, Millworkers, Brewery Workers, Pressmen, Typographers, Clerks, Machinists, Letter Carriers and Beer Truck Drivers.

Its proclaimed objective was "to publish a weekly newspaper and to give to the wage-earners as well as to the general public of this city reliable information concerning the local and international labor movements."

In the modern era, the newspaper has won 36 awards for various aspects of editorial excellence from the International Labor Press Association and also was honored by the American Political Science Association for "distinguished reporting of public affairs."

Editors Gene Klare and Frank Flori reproduced in the diamond anniversary issue a front page from 75 years ago and noted that during its early years "editors came and went as through a revolving door."

A history of the Oregon labor movement in its early years took note of the birth of the newspaper as "the most important single event of the year 1900."

Step Backward:

Federal Employes Hit Pay Proposals

(Continued from Page 1)

shows that lower-grade workers would be most affected if the proposals were enacted into law.

"White-collar workers, for example, would suffer from proposed locality wage surveys which include the lower-pay statistics of small businesses and state and local governments," he said. "And repeal of the Monroney Amendment would drastically lower pay for wage-grade employes."

The Monroney Amendment assures blue-collar federal workers of a degree of equity for levels of work difficulty, irrespective of locality.

President Ford must now consider the recommendations of the panel with an eye toward possible legislation. More than half of the proposals would require congressional action.

Chaired by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller, the President's Panel on Federal Compensation was charged last June with studying the federal pay systems to assure that they are "fair and equitable both to the employes and to the public."

The panel's recommendations include the following:

- The principle of comparability between federal employes and those in the private sector would be extended to include fringe benefits as well as pay.

AFGE observed that the panel's definition of comparability differs from labor's. "Looking at all the recommendations as a whole, it is clear that to the panel comparability means turning back the clock to the situation which existed prior to enactment of the pay laws," the union charged. "It means destroying equity as well as the laws themselves."

The union also noted that recent budget documents indicated employes would be assessed with interest payments on the unfunded liability of the federal retirement fund as a part of employe benefits, thus reducing direct pay proportionately.

- Federal workers would be separated into two categories—clerical-technical and professional-administrative-managerial-executive.
- "Merit rather than length of service" would govern within grade pay increases for professionals, administrators, managers and executives.
- The level of pay for top federal employes, such as nuclear physicists and administrators, would be increased above the comparability rate for GS-18 employes.
- Clerical, technical and service category employes would be paid on locality-based surveys of the private sector; professionals, administrators, managers and executives would remain on the present nationwide General Schedule system.
- Pay surveys would be conducted less frequently, with interim adjustments between surveys.

Webber, who promised that AFGE would fight the proposed changes, observed that the recommendations would take away all the important gains made for federal employes over the past 15 years and lessen the role of federal employe unions.

He accused the panel of paying lip service to the principle of comparability and noted a major contradiction in its report. One of the panel's proposals cites the need for a review of the various federal pay systems now in existence "with the objective of proposing legislation to eliminate or combine separate plans wherever appropriate," he noted.

Yet, "in contradiction to this recommendation, the balance of the panel report advocates programs and actions fragmenting the General Schedule," Webber observed.

McClennan charged that the report "obviously will be used as justification for seeking to grant the Chief Executive absolute control over federal employe wages."

He also pointed out that while 57 percent of the non-postal federal workforce is covered by union contracts, not a single labor representative sat on the Rockefeller panel.

Each committee participant was a handpicked member of the Ford Administration, accurately reflecting the Administration's concept of an 'equitable' federal pay system," he observed.

Contract Talks Resume In United Airlines Strike

Contract negotiations in the two-week-old strike of some 17,000 Machinists against United Airlines were scheduled to resume Dec. 19, but federal mediators cautioned that this did not necessarily indicate progress toward a settlement.

David H. Stowe, chairman of the National Mediation Board which summoned the striking union and the carrier to a bargaining session in Washington, said: "We may find a chink, or the positions may be as hard as ever."

Talks were broken off Dec. 10, four days after the strike began. United, the nation's largest air carrier, subsequently announced cancellation of all its scheduled and charter flights through Jan. 5.

The walkout involves IAM members employed as mechanics, dispatchers and ramp, storage and food-service workers whose contract expired last Oct. 31.

Besides wages and pension benefits, a key issue in the contract dispute is the union's request for greater job security.

George J. Robinson, president of IAM's District 141 in San Francisco, said United's wage offer was inadequate and did not match proposed pay raises in the Continental Airlines agreement that was rejected by the union last month.

During the strike, which has forced United to halt all of its 1,400 daily flights to 113 cities, the carrier has qualified for more than $42 million in payments under the airline industry's so-called Mutual Aid Pact.

National Airlines, whose Flight Attendants have been on strike for 17 weeks, has qualified for more than 17 weeks in mutual aid benefits.

Mutual aid payments are based on percentages of a struck carrier's normal daily operating expenses. Since United is a much larger airline than National, its normal operating expenses are much greater, amounting to $3.09 million a day.

Text of Meany Statement On President's Tax Veto

Following is the text of a statement by AFL-CIO President George Meany on President Ford's veto of the tax cut extension:

A stubborn President, for political reasons, has raised the taxes of most Americans, endangered the economy and ensured hardship for millions.

Come next Jan. 1, millions of American workers will have their take-home pay cut. The economy as a whole will suffer because the incentive tax cut—that has been a prime factor in the mild upturn of the last few months—will be wiped out. With this incentive gone, there is no doubt that the economy will again slide downhill.

American families, who will be affected by this increase in their taxes next Jan. 1, can thank President Ford for the hardship that is sure to come as a consequence of his action.

Strikebreaking Move Denounced:

Post Strike Rallies Washington Unions

(Continued from Page 1)

for a number of weeks, the PUU charged.

The Post ran a classified advertisement in its Dec. 16 editions announcing that it "is now hiring experienced and inexperienced personnel to work in its pressroom." The ad further noted that the pressmen's local was on strike and said "we are seeking replacements for the strikers."

But the PUU coalition has charged that the Post had trained replacements for the pressmen and other crafts long before the strike began. The Post resumed publishing after the first day of the strike with management personnel and some Guild members who chose to work in other jurisdictions.

The Post had recruited additional replacements for the pressmen and other craft employes that were trained at a "scab school" in Oklahoma City, the PUU said.

"More than 60 of these recruits were flown into the Post from Oklahoma City on Dec. 9 and 10," the PUU said in a full-page ad in the Washington Star.

"Post management claims that they are beginning to advertise for pressmen today are false, as they already have more men than they say they need to run the pressroom," the PUU ad charged.

It also noted that while the Post stopped using high school students as strikebreakers in the mail room after receiving protests from the Central Labor Council, it has since brought in young women from a local junior college to do the work of the striking mailers.

The D.C. ordinance that prohibits the hiring of strikebreakers defines them as persons who "customarily and repeatedly" seek employment as replacements during strikes.

Mark J. Meagher, a vice president of the Post, said the newspaper management was operating within the provisions of the ordinance, contending that the replacements that were brought in do not fit the definition of strikebreakers. But he refused to say where the replacements came from.

Mrs. Katharine Graham, publisher of the Post, insisted in a statement to Guild members continuing to cross the picket lines that the Post remains "a union paper."

Charges have been brought up against 268 Guild members still working at the Post by the local Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild.

Local Guild officials said that charges against an additional 200 members at the Post will be brought shortly. Hearings before a trial board are expected to begin in January.

Guild members of the Post unit had voted on four occasions not to honor the picket lines.

In other developments, the Post reportedly has yet to file any insurance claims for damages that the newspaper company said were done to the presses the day pressmen walked out.

Using the press damage as a public relations rallying point, the Post had claimed that the repair of the presses would run as high as $2 million. The pressmen have continued to challenge the newpaper's claims, insisting that the damage was far less extensive.

A representative of the Goss Co., the firm that manufactured the Post presses, told a Washington television station, WTTG-TV, that the newspaper has ordered only $12,920 worth of replacement parts to repair the damage.

The day after the Post began taking applications for replacement of the striking pressmen, management negotiators rejected a new counterproposal submitted by the union's bargaining representatives. Federal mediators said that no further contract talks had been scheduled.

TRADE UNIONISTS from the Washington area rally at McPherson Square to protest a move by the Washington Post to hire permanent replacements for striking workers and the company's refusal to continue negotiations with pressmen involved in the 12-week strike. Unions have charged that the Post has violated the city's anti-strikebreaking law.

Labor's Full Employment Goal Pressed at Black Officials' Parley

The goal of a full employment economy can be achieved if a concerned Congress responds to measures outlined by the AFL-CIO and works to reverse the Administration's outdated economic policies, the nation's black elected officials were told.

AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William E. Pollard declared in an address to the National Institute for Black Elected Officials that full employment is an "economic and social imperative."

He said the nation's economy has been grossly mismanaged by Presidents Nixon and Ford, stressing that not only has the full employment goal been ignored and neglected, but that "Administration officials and many academic economists have even tried to cover up the failure to meet the goal by redefining it."

Pollard told the nearly 1,000 institute participants in Washington that the nation can expect high unemployment through 1980 if Nixon-Ford policies are allowed to continue.

He cited the wide social and economic impact when workers lose their jobs and purchasing power.

"When there are not enough jobs, the federal government, the states and cities lose tax revenue and gain welfare clients."

"They are forced to cut back the services that are essential to immediate health and safety needs and to shortchange programs such as manpower training, housing, urban renewal and social welfare that can adversely affect the lives of Americans for generations."

Citing the rise in the nation's unemployment rate over the past seven years from a little over 3 percent to the current 8.3 percent, Pollard pointed out that the rates run consistently higher for the minority workers—13.8 percent for all black workers and a "shocking" 33.8 percent for black teenagers.

In addition to the 7.7 million workers officially listed as unemployed, Pollard cited Labor Dept. statistics showing that 1.2 million other workers have given up on their search for work because no jobs are available. Another 3.3 million are working part-time because no full-time jobs can be found, he said.

"That adds up to over 12 million workers—one out of every eight—unemployed or underemployed."

Pollard spelled out the objectives outlined by the AFL-CIO convention for the nation's economy, including immediate extension of the tax cut, full implementation of government housing programs, extended public service jobs, an accelerated public works program and special emergency financial aid to states and cities hard pressed by unemployment.

Full employment was a major theme of the three-day conference. The participants also focused on efforts to increase the turnout of black voters in coming elections.

Other representatives from organized labor who took part in institute workshops included Earl W. Davis, national field coordinator for COPE; Director Walter G. Davis of the federation's Dept. of Education; Sec.-Treas. William Lucy of the State, County & Municipal Employees; Executive Director Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; Lois Felder, co-director of community relations for the Retail Clerks; Vice President Marc Stepp of the Auto Workers, and Civil Rights Director Alex Fuller of the Steelworkers.

Ford Policies Blamed For Prolonging Slump

Detroit—The worst economic crisis since the 1930s is far from over, AFL-CIO Research Director Nat Goldfinger warned in a speech here, and the Ford Administration is doing little to end it.

The Administration's record this year is one of "utter negativism," Goldfinger charged in an address before the Detroit chapter of the Industrial Relations Research Association. Goldfinger is a recent past president of the IRRA.

"Even the rather timid, job-creating measures adopted by the Congress have been vetoed one after another in sickening succession," Goldfinger noted.

The justification for President Ford's negativism is the size of the budget deficit, but this is no defense at all, Goldfinger observed.

"There is no denying the fact that federal budget deficits in the past several years have been huge," he said. "But these deficits were the direct result of over six and one-half years of misguided economic policies — two deliberately engineered recessions, bridged by a short-lived politically inspired pick-up."

The only sensible way to reduce the budget deficit is to get the country back to work, Goldfinger declared. That would mean more incomes, more purchasing power, more sales, more profits, more tax receipts and lower social costs of unemployment.

"It would also mean more savings and more business investment in plants and machines," Goldfinger said, "and that, in turn, would add to the advance of productivity in the future."

High unemployment, now at 8.3 percent, is likely to continue throughout the '70s, even by the Administration's own forecasts, Goldfinger noted. Ford's economic advisers project about 6 to 8 million jobless workers for the rest of this decade.

"The persistence of such unemployment conditions until 1980 can rip apart the fabric of American society," he declared. "Yet the Administration seems doggedly determined to do no better than these frightening predictions."

Government measures are required to provide a sorely needed forward momentum for the economy, Goldfinger said. This means extension of the reduced federal withholding tax rate through 1976, government housing programs, an accelerated public works program, lower interest rates, expansion of the money supply and federal financial aid to state and local governments, he said.

"A genuine commitment by the government to full employment and its rapid achievement is a must," Goldfinger added. "And there are many other measures that are needed to strengthen the economy at home and in its international economic and financial relationships.

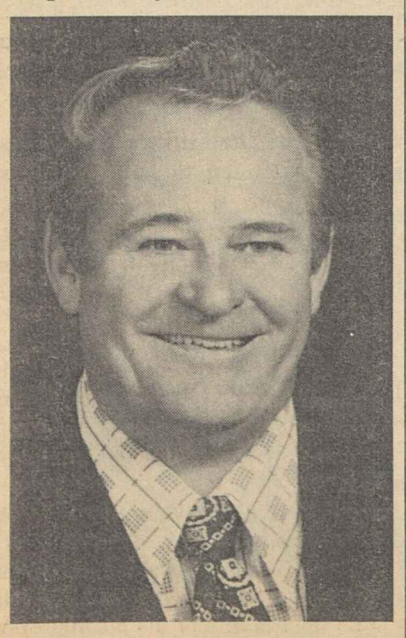
"It is certainly time to provide the American economy with badly needed strength."

R. J. Petersdorf Elected To Painters' No. 2 Post

The executive board of the Painters has elected Robert J. Petersdorf as secretary-treasurer to succeed Michael DiSilvestro, who is retiring Dec. 31.

The board also appointed James B. Cox to replace Petersdorf as vice president of District 6, which comprises several midwestern states.

DiSilvestro, an active member of the Painters since 1926, has served in the union's number two post for the past four years.



ROBERT J. PETERSDORF

He had been financial secretary and business representative of Local 874 in New York before becoming secretary-treasurer of District Council 9. He also was a district representative and vice president of District 3 when he succeeded O. T. Stare as secretary-treasurer of the international in 1972.

Petersdorf, a member of the Painters for 30 years, has served as business representative of Local 681 in Rochester, Minn., and secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota Building & Construction Trades Council.

He was an international organizer and representative from 1955 until his election as vice president of District 6 in 1966. Petersdorf's term as secretary-treasurer will run until the Painters convention in 1979.

Cox, who was initiated in Painters Local 9 in Kansas City 25 years ago, was appointed an international representative in 1966 and has served as organizing director of District 6 since 1970.

Jobless Benefit Rolls Post Sharp Increase

The number of persons drawing benefits under various federal unemployment insurance programs rose by 649,800 to 5,842,300 during the week ended Nov. 29, the Labor Dept. reported.

Initial claims for benefits filed in the week ended Dec. 6 totaled 527,600, an increase of 95,800 over the previous week.

Christmas 1975

ON THIS CHRISTMAS 1975 the quest for peace continues in Southern Africa, Northern Ireland, the Middle East—wherever the whine of gunfire and the boom of bombs are taking lives and bringing death, fear and despair.

In the more than a quarter century since the holocaust of World War II, the striving for peace has continued unabated with but limited success. For there are nations to whom power and control are more important than peace—the nations that have refused to condemn terrorism or torture as political weapons.

Nevertheless, the struggle to establish peace and freedom on a lasting basis must continue without letup. For it is as clear as it was in 1945 that there is no alternative to peace in this age of missiles and satellites; peace today is a condition of survival.

The free world has the resources, the manpower and the ability to rid the world of hunger and disease and to provide the basis of social justice so that all men can taste of bread and freedom.

Yet as we move farther along in the 1970s, repression and dictatorship are still prevalent for most of the world's peoples, and the battle against hunger and disease and want goes slowly.

But the struggle goes on because there is the eternal hope for a better tomorrow, another opportunity to try to bring to fruition the ancient message of peace and goodwill.

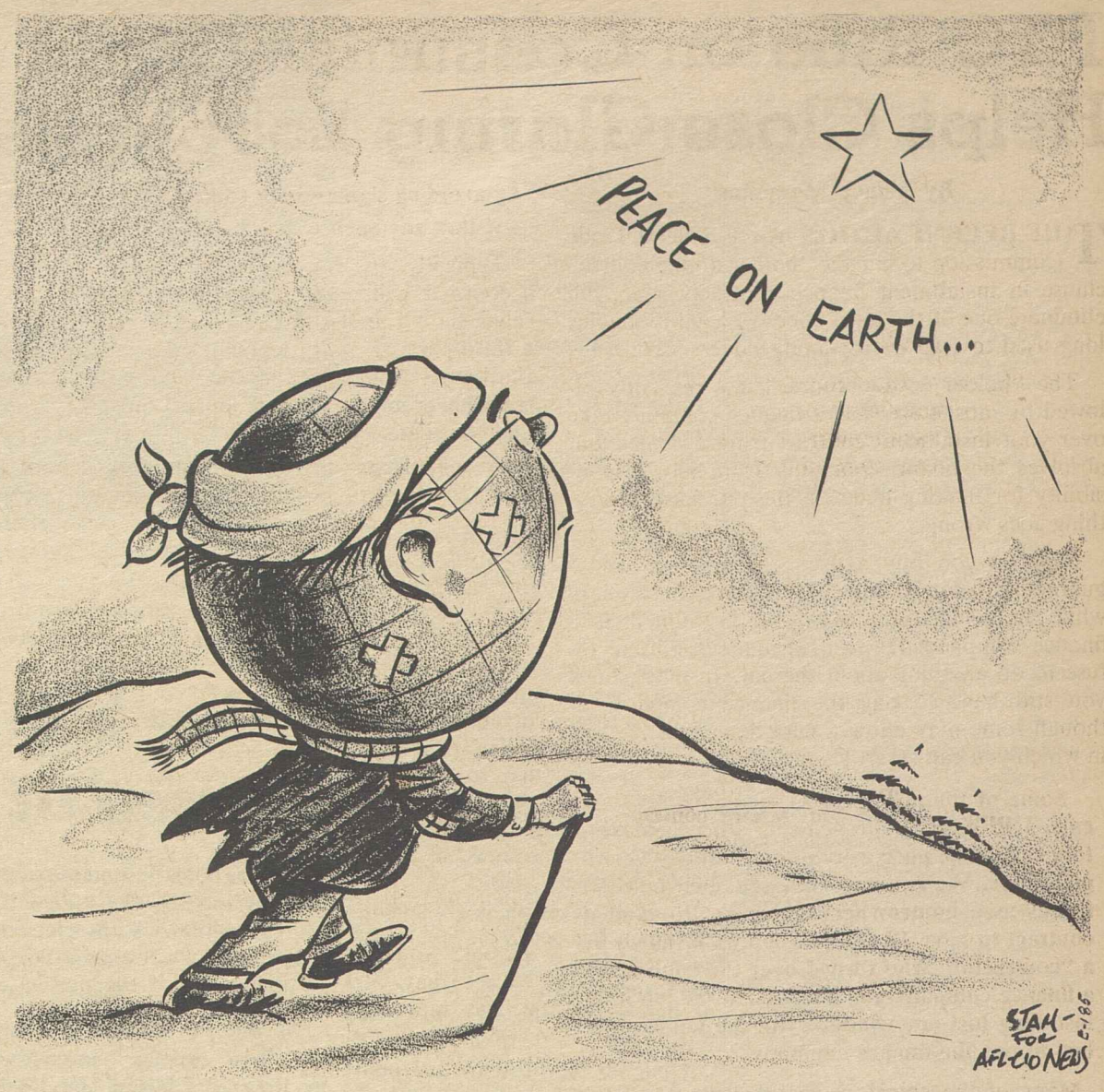
IN OUR OWN COUNTRY there is a sense of unease and frustration as the problems of unemployment and inflation, poverty and discrimination and injustice persist, albeit in small measure when compared to the problems elsewhere in the world.

It is time, perhaps, to shed the self-indulgence, the hedonistic lifestyles, and turn with vigor and determination to solving the ills still besetting us, the problems still unsolved.

As we make the turn into 1976 the trade union movement, operating as it has always as the people's lobby, will take up anew the battle to bring a sense of dignity and worth and well-being, a fair share of the wealth they produce, to America's workers and to the nation as a whole.

The issues change little: a good job, decent housing, proper health care, quality education, assistance against the hazards of unemployment, injury, old age, and above all an atmosphere in which freedom—civil rights, civil liberties—and peace can flourish.

Peace and goodwill, bread and freedom—these are the goals that express the essence of the trade union movement and for which it will expend all its efforts and resources.



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A Word Edgewise:

Moynihan First U.S. Official To 'Bell the Cat' on Detente

By John P. Roche

I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG Pat Moynihan will last as Ambassador to the United Nations, but it's sure great fun. I don't think the President would have the guts (or, hopefully, the wish) to fire him, but Pat might just go up in smoke. The British delegate to the UN, Ivor Richards, gave him a rather snooty lecture on diplomatic niceties, but that can be written off: The British never have appreciated Irishmen who did not know their place.

However, the State Dept. must be in a state of shock. At the same time President Ford and Sec. Kissinger were being instructed on Soviet perfidy by their Chinese hosts, Ambassador Moynihan publicly announced that detente with the USSR is a body-contact sport.

The question is the open support by Moscow, with Cuban mercenaries, of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). The stakes in Angola are enormous. Not only does the country have vast natural resources, but strategically it would provide the Soviet navy—which is growing at a tremendous clip—with a South Atlantic toehold. I suspect that somebody in the Soviet admiralty read a copy of Adm. Alfred T. Mahan's "Influence of Seapower on History"—shortly after the British lost their control of the Red Sea, the Russians moved into a comparable location in Somalia. Angola similarly would provide them with the equivalent of the former British bases at the Cape of Good Hope and Walvis Bay.

When Sec. of State Kissinger realized what his detente-mates were up to, he delivered what I would call a Grade 4 admonition: "Time is running out; continuation of a (Soviet) interventionist policy must inevitably threaten other relationships." Since at the moment the Soviets have stalled the Conference on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions in Europe and are stonewalling on SALT, the question arises: What "other relationships" had Kissinger in mind? Will he refuse to have lunch with Ambassador Dobrynin?

Well, Moynihan belled the cat. He flatly accused Moscow of planning to "colonize Africa." It was a neat rhetorical job too: at crucial points in his remarks he cited Chairman Henry! Probably the most interesting aspect of Moynihan's speech was that for the first time a high American official has echoed the continuing Soviet view that detente is a form of political warfare.

Indeed, the persistent American refusal to accept this reality is utterly incomprehensible. "The policy of peaceful coexistence firmly and consistently pursued by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and other fraternal parties is a component part of the world strategy aimed at the consolidation of the forces of world socialism." Thus the Soviet ideologue, A. I. Sobolev, writing last spring in a theoretical journal.

Only a week ago "Izvestia"—the government newspaper—denounced the notion that "the process of detente in the world and support of the national liberation struggle (in Angola) are incompatible things." Detente, it concluded, does not mean "the cessation of anti-imperalist struggles of the people for a better and just fate and against foreign interference and oppression."

WHAT MOSCOW is saying—and in fairness has always said—is that detente means what's ours is ours and what's yours is up for grabs.

Any renewed war against Israel, for example, can be justified and supported as a "national liberation struggle" designed to achieve "a better and just fate" for the Palestinian people. Yet Kissinger, despite the Middle East and the Southeast Asian debacle, persists in his theory of "linkage"—that is, if we do something nice for them (like participating in that Helsinki charade), they will call off their wolves in Africa, the Middle East, or wherever.

At any rate, Up the Moynihan! My only fear is that he may be nipped to death by bureaucratic ducks and tell the Secretary of State to take detente and. . . .

How to Buy:

FTC Rule on Consumer Credit Helps Close Glaring Loopholes

By Sidney Margolius

THE RECENT ACTION by the Federal Trade Commission to bar the "holder in due course" clause in installment finance contracts soon will eliminate one of the most coercive legal loopholes long used to trap unsuspecting buyers.

The "holder in due course" law presently allowed by most states lets a finance company take over your installment contract from a dealer, but absolves the finance company from any responsibility for making good on the purchase if anything goes wrong.

Suppose you buy a used car and the dealer guarantees it for 30 days. But it conks out. Meanwhile the dealer turns over your installment to a finance company. He has his money and can refuse to do anything about the car. In most states you still have to pay the finance company although some may allow a period such as 10 days in which you can assert claims.

Some of the most serious incidents have occurred in home improvements where contractors have done poor work or even failed to complete jobs. We've even witnessed such outright frauds as a homeowner signing an installment contract to have 12 storm windows installed by a "contractor" who turned over the contract to a finance company and abandoned the job after installing just one window. But the homeowner had to pay the finance company.

Many of the notorious food-freezer plans that soon folded up after selling families high-priced freezers also were enabled to raid consumers' pocketbooks by the holder in due course law. Undoubtedly many millions of dollars have been extracted from moderate-income families by other widespread exploitations of "holder in due course," such as carpet referral selling plans and house-siding promotions.

An especially shocking aspect of the hard-sell promotions based on this legal loophole has been the participation of not only local finance companies who specialized in this kind of transaction but also many of the nation's largest and most reputable banks.

The FTC's new ruling barring holder in due course clauses doesn't go into effect until next May 14. Meanwhile you can safeguard yourself by avoiding signing such contracts. You can insist that any such clause be crossed out.

Typically, the holder in due course clause in a contract will read something like this: "If the seller should assign this contract in good faith to a third party, I shall be precluded as against such third party from attacking the validity of the contract on grounds of fraud, duress, mistake, want and consideration."

Also look for any other clauses or sentences in the contract or installment note which say you "waive" your defenses against the finance company in case the dealer fails to deliver agreed-upon satisfactory goods or services.

The forthcoming FTC rule also will require sellers to insert a clause in installment contracts to this effect: "Notice. Any holder of this consumer credit contract is subject to all claims and defenses which the debtor could assert against the seller of goods or services obtained pursuant hereto or with the proceeds hereof. Recovery hereunder by the debtor shall not exceed amounts paid by the debtor hereunder."

THE FORTHCOMING RULE applies only when the dealer or seller arranged for the financing. On loans you arrange yourself with a lender to make your own purchases; you do, of course, have to pay back the loan even if the purchase was misrepresented or is defective.

Nor will the FTC's new rule completely assure you of dependable service or merchandise. You still need to be sure to get written rather than merely verbal statements of the seller's promises. But at least now you have the right to raise against the third party (the lender) any legal claims and defenses you may have of breach of contract or warranty or defective merchandise or misrepresentation by the seller.

Too, the new rule will make finance companies and banks more cautious than they sometimes have been about providing financing for high pressure or fly-by-night sellers.

The FTC is to be congratulated by consumers for having taken this courageous step to eliminate this long-standing inequity. Meanwhile, of course, many millions of dollars have been transferred from the pockets of innocent consumers to those of dealers, traveling contractors and lenders.

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After Slow Start:

Effectiveness of Pension Law Tested in Shakedown Period

IMPLEMENTATION of the new Pension Reform Act, bogged down for months by budget fights and bureaucratic squabbles in the Administration, may now finally be moving ahead, Associate Director Lawrence Smedley of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security said.

Smedley said the labor movement is cautiously optimistic that the stalemate that has slowed issuance of regulations and the assignment of personnel to administer the new law may be ending. But, he stressed, this is a shakedown period for "one of the most complex laws to ever go through Congress," and experience with the measure is too limited to say now what changes, if any, are needed.

"We do not say it's a perfect law—it doesn't accomplish all of the objectives of the AFL-CIO," Smedley said, but the AFL-CIO will delay suggestions for improvements until there has been a chance to "evaluate the law . . . see how it works, where the problems are, what hasn't worked, what changes are needed."

Appearing on the AFL-CIO produced network radio interview Labor News Conference, Smedley said that Congress and the Administration must soon turn their attention to the whole question of investment of pension funds.

He pointed out that "pension funds are really deferred wages of workers, yet workers have very little say over how they are invested." He noted that more than half of the total pension funds in the nation are invested with the trust departments of the big banks.

The AFL-CIO strongly believes that pension funds, as the deferred wages of workers, "should be invested in more socially-useful objectives than is now the case," the union pension expert declared. He singled out housing as one of the areas of critical need for greater investment "where we think pension funds could be doing a better job."

Smedley noted that private pensions supplement the benefits that workers derive from the social security system to provide a better retirement than can be gotten from social security alone. But he warned that it would be difficult to combine the two programs under some sort of integrated government policy.

He also expressed opposition to any regulated limitations on benefits workers could negotiate in their private pension plans.

Smedley pointed out that only about one-half of the nation's workforce is covered by private pensions and that most of the private pensions provide benefits of about 25 percent of a worker's final salary.

"Workers should have a right to bargain for pensions," he stressed. They should have the right to evaluate their situation and their expected social security benefits so they can determine what they need in retirement protection and then negotiate to meet that need, Smedley said.

Reporters questioning Smedley on Labor News Conference were Sara Fritz of United Press International and Ben Rathbun of Daily Labor Report, a publication of the Bureau of National Affairs. The program is broadcast Tuesdays over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

A STUDY RELEASED by the U.S. Office of Education, estimates that 23 million adult Americans are "functionally incompetent."

That is, one of every five adults is simply unable to cope adequately with the practical problems of everyday living. The study also estimates that another one-third of the adult population can function, but not proficiently.

Only 46 percent of adult Americans are estimated to have the literacy and skills to handle the decisions and problems of an increasingly complicated society.

The University of Texas team which conducted the $1 million, four-year study calls the results "surprising, perhaps shocking."

U.S. Commissioner of Education Terrel H. Bell, in releasing the study, called the findings "rather startling." He said the study should cause a reshaping of adult education, a re-evaluation of school content from elementary grades on up and a review of high school graduation requirements.

In the old days, it was commonly agreed that a person who signed his name with an "X" was "illiterate." Today, experts may not agree on a definition of illiteracy, but they are carrying on a good deal of research in terms of skills a person needs to cope, if not succeed.

The Adult Performance Level Study carried out by the Texas team defined functional literacy as the ability to apply skills to several major areas important to adult success.

The skills included communication, computation, problem-solving and international relations. These skills were measured as applied to job knowledge, consumer economics, health, community resources, government and law.

Some 7,500 adults were tested, selected to reflect the national population.

The biggest failure was in consumer economics. For example, 28 percent of the adults given an itemized list of drugstore purchases could not figure out the right change due after paying with a $20 bill.

Nearly 35 million Americans were estimated to be functionally incompetent in consumer affairs. Another 39 million adults are functional but not proficient in money management, comparison shopping, figuring sales and income taxes and how to tip in a restaurant.

Other areas were nearly as depressing. Asked which states on a map of the U.S. had the most senators in Congress, only half the adults knew that each state has two senators. Presented with an airline schedule, one-third of the adults could not figure out a round-trip flight correctly.

THE AREAS OF GREATEST competence were in community resources—knowing where to go and how to apply for social security and Medicare, for example—and in occupational knowledge—how to seek and apply for a job. One-half of the adults were proficient in these areas.

Still, 20 percent of adults—one in five or about 23 million—proved incompetent in the skill of seeking and applying for a job.

The worst scores on the test were registered by those with the least education and from low-income groups. The lowest-scoring were from minority groups, the Spanish-surnamed and, regionally, from the South.

This shocking report should shake up the apathetic. The issue of mass illiteracy should be taken to the educational bureaucracy. National leadership will be necessary to effectively carry on the fight against what is a social as well as an educational problem.

The President vetoed the $7.9 billion appropriation for federal education programs last summer because it exceeded his budget request. It took a grassroots campaign and Washington teacher union lobbying to inspire Congress to override Ford's veto.

BUDGET FIGHTS and bureaucratic struggles that have stalled implementation of the new Pension Reform Act may be winding down, Associate Director Lawrence Smedley, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs and Sara Fritz of United Press International. The AFL-CIO public service program is aired Tuesdays on Mutual radio.

House Rollcall on Site Picketing Bill

The House on Dec. 11 voted 229-189 for final passage of the construction site picketing bill and a companion construction industry collective bargaining measure. The legislation was a major goal of the AFL-CIO and its Building & Construction Trades Dept.

Right votes (R) for passage of the conference report were cast by 206 Democrats and 23 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 118 Republicans and 71 Democrats.

Numerals show districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Jones (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Flowers (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Steiger (R) W
4. Conlan (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Mills (D) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Thornton (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) R
3. Moss (D) R
4. Leggett (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Ryan (D) R
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) R
14. McFall (D) R
15. Sisk (D) R
16. Talcott (R) R
17. Krebs (D) W
18. Ketchum (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) R
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Rees (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Bell (R) R
28. Burke (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, Charles H (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Clawson (R) W
34. Hannaford (D) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Pettis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Wiggins (R) W
40. Hinshaw (R) A
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Evans (D) W
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Armstrong (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Sarasin (R) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL duPont (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Sikes (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Haley (D) W
9. Frey (R) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Rogers (D) W
12. Burke (R) PW
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Young (D) R
6. Flynt (D) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Stuckey (D) W
9. Landrum (D) PW
10. Stephens (D) W

HAWAII
1. Matsunaga (D) R
2. Mink (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Metcalfe (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) PR
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Hall (D) R
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Shipley (D) R
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Madden (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Roush (D) R
5. Hillis (R) R
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Hayes (D) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Mezvinsky (D) R
2. Blouin (D) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) W
6. Bedell (D) PW

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) PW
2. Keys (D) R
3. Winn (R) W
4. Shriver (R) W
5. Skubitz (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Breckinridge (D) W
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Hebert (D) PW
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Waggonner (D) W
5. Passman (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Cohen (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Sarbanes (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Gude (R) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Tsongas (D) R
6. Harrington (D) R
7. Macdonald (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) R
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Burke (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Esch (R) W
3. Brown (R) W
4. Hutchinson (R) W
5. VanderVeen (D) R
6. Carr (D) R
7. Riegle (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Cederberg (R) W
11. Ruppe (R) W
12. O'Hara (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Quie (R) R
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Karth (D) R
5. Fraser (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Bergland (D) R
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Cochran (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Symington (D) R
3. Sullivan (D) R
4. Randall (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Litton (D) R
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) R
9. Hungate (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Baucus (D) R
2. Melcher (D) R

NEBRASKA
1. Thone (R) W
2. McCollister (R) W
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) W
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) W
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Helstoski (D) PR
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Meyner (D) R
14. Daniels (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Pike (D) R
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Delaney (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Koch (D) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Abzug (D) R
21. Badillo (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (R) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Pattison (D) W
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Mitchell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Walsh (R) R
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Hastings (R) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Henderson (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) PW
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Taylor (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Clancy (R) W
3. Whalen (R) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton, J. William (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Mosher (R) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Hays (D) R
19. Carney (D) R
20. Stanton, James V. (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Risenhoover (D) R
3. Albert (D) Speaker
4. Steed (D) W
5. Jarman (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Barrett (D) R
2. Nix (D) R
3. Green (D) PR
4. Eilberg (D) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Biester (R) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) R
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Rooney (D) R
16. Eshleman (R) W
17. Schneebeli (R) W
18. Heinz (R) PR
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) A
21. Dent (D) R
22. Morgan (D) R
23. Johnson (R) W
24. Vigorito (D) R
25. Myers (R) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) PR
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) W
4. Mann (D) W
5. Holland (D) W
6. Jenrette (D) A

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Pressler (R) W
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Lloyd (D) W
4. Evins (D) R
5. Allen (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Patman (D) W
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Steelman (R) W
6. Teague (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Poage (D) A
12. Wright (D) W
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Young (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Burleson (D) W
18. Jordan (D) R
19. Mahon (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Krueger (D) W
22. Casey (D) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Milford (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Howe (D) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) W

VIRGINIA
1. Downing (D) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Meeds (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Hicks (D) R
7. Adams (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) PR
3. Slack (D) R
4. Hechler (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Steiger (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Cornell (D) R
9. Kasten (R) W

WYOMING
AL Roncalio (D) R

Congress Clears Measure:

Ford Pledge Cited On Situs Picketing

(Continued from Page 1)

ing would have to give 10 days notice of intent to picket and get the written approval of its international union.

A substantial amount of homebuilding would be exempt from common site picketing, and projects begun before last Nov. 15 would be exempt for up to two years.

Georgine announced that the presidents of the affiliated building trades unions have also agreed to take further voluntary action to minimize picketing that might halt construction. They have agreed that the Building & Construction Trades Dept., representing all the unions affected, would have to give its approval before an international union would authorize one of its locals to picket a job site. And they said no authorization will be given before July 1, 1976, so that procedures can be worked out to minimize disputes.

As for the other section of the legislation, dealing with collective bargaining procedures, Georgine stressed that it was jointly developed by labor and management representatives and has the full support of both groups as well as of Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop.

It spells out procedures to bring national unions and contractor associations into the bargaining picture and establishes a national union-management Collective Bargaining Committee that can make recommendations for settlement of disputes in cases where it assumes jurisdiction.

The recommendations are not binding, but Georgine told reporters that "the building trades unions are prepared to negotiate arrangements under which their affiliates will settle disputes without work stoppages within the framework of the recommendations of the committee."

If signed by Ford, the site picketing portion of the bill would put the building trades on the same plane as unions in other industries in terms of picketing rights. President I. W. Abel of the Industrial Union Dept. noted this in a letter urging Ford to sign the legislation "despite the pressure from some extreme groups."

During the House debate, some Republicans sought to provide an out for the President by contending that his promise to sign the legislation applied only if it had the support of management as well as labor.

Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), floor leader for the legislation, read to the House direct statements by the President on various occasions, including news conferences, declaring that he "will support" the legislation with the amendments that have since been incorporated into the bill.

Ford took the same position at White House meetings attended by both Democrats and Republicans interested in the legislation, Thompson told the House from first-hand knowledge. And he stressed that "every single" condition set by the President has been met.

In a speech to the National Press Club, Secretary of Labor Dunlop reiterated that he had testified in support of the legislation at the "instruction" of the President.

Georgine told reporters that Ford would become the captive of the most reactionary elements in the Republican Party if he caved in to the pressures for a veto.

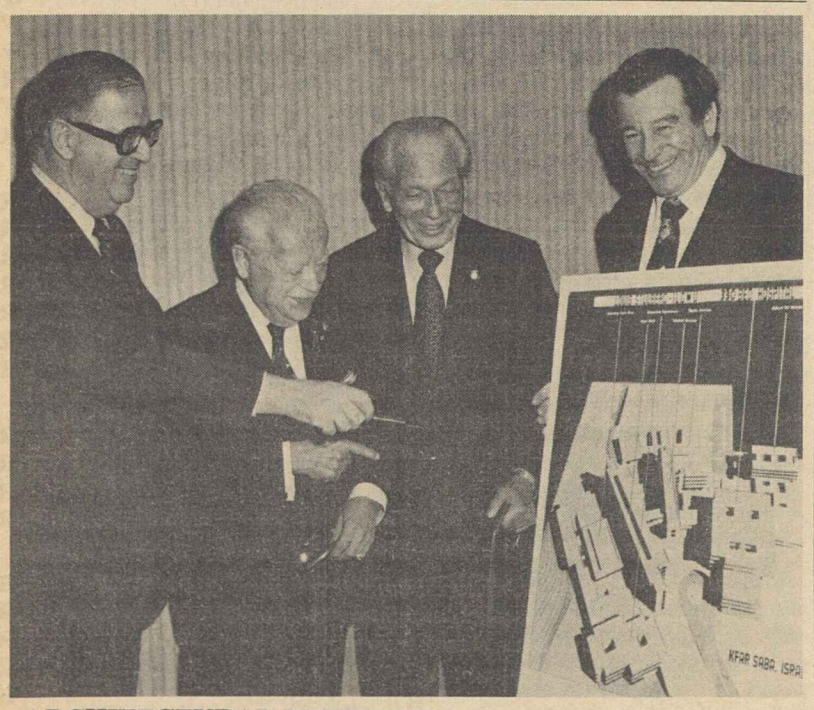
"This week they are demanding President Ford's veto of energy, tax reform and situs picketing, and no one should be fooled they are going to stop here," Georgine said. "The President can never appease a group of people that in essence don't want Gerry Ford in the White House."

Two Unions Press Radio, TV Talks

New York—The Television & Radio Artists and the Screen Actors Guild resumed their joint negotiations with producers of radio and TV commercials, and talks continued on a day-to-day basis.

The two unions put off a scheduled Dec. 7 strike when it appeared progress was being made in reaching a new contract to replace one that expired Nov. 15. AFTRA and SAG began their bargaining last Oct. 20.

Both unions are looking for cost-of-living wage boosts and improved language covering "residuals," fees paid to an actor for each time one of the commercials in which he appears is aired on TV or radio.



ARCHITECTURAL RENDITION of a new hospital that Histadrut, the Israeli labor federation, will build at Kfar Saba is discussed by Abba Eban, former foreign minister of Israel, and leaders of the Ladies' Garment Workers. The ILGWU is donating $1 million for the hospital project. From left, besides Eban, are past presidents of the ILGWU David Dubinsky and Louis Stulberg, and President Sol C. Chaikin.

Dunlop Warns Ford Veto Would Disrupt Bargaining

Labor Secretary John T. Dunlop told reporters he foresees "unmitigated hell" in construction industry labor-management relations if President Ford vetoes the jobsite picketing and collective bargaining bill.

Dunlop termed the legislation an opportunity to establish industrial peace and stability in the construction industry, where local agreements affecting some 800,000 workers expire next spring. As for right-wing charges that the bill will lead to more strikes, "I can tell you categorically that is untrue," he said.

"On the merits" of the issue, Dunlop said there is no reason for the President to veto the legislation. The bill includes "carefully drawn and reasonable" safeguards against abuse, he noted. In fact, Dunlop said, "they are far more restrictive than those for which the Administration indicated support earlier this year."

Flight Engineers Battle Pan Am Furlough Plan

Three unions with members employed by Pan American World Airways have joined in a campaign to prevent the mass furlough of 337 flight engineers and to avert the probable furlough of other Pan Am employe groups.

The unions — the Flight Engineers, the Transport Workers and the unaffiliated Teamsters—issued a joint statement describing the imminent furlough of the engineers as a "shocking development."

The statement said the scheduled furloughs represent "a betrayal of the furlough-cancellation agreement which the company and the Flight Engineers signed just two months ago."

The furloughs are set to begin Mar. 1, 1976, with the layoff of 100 engineers. Another 168 would be laid off by June 1, and the company held open the possible termination of 69 more employes by mid-1977.

Pan Am's explanation of the engineer furloughs is its intention to cut operating expenses by reducing its complement of smaller aircrafts. The airline, which recently experienced financial difficulty, plans to shift from 707 and 727 aircraft to the larger 747, a move that would require fewer flight engineers.

Even without the agreement on furloughs, the unions noted, the reduction in the number of engineers — a full one-third of their total number at Pan Am—would represent "a betrayal of a spirit of trust and confidence that the Pan Am flight engineers have strived, at great cost, to build up by means of a concerted and expensive campaign" to help the firm get on a sound financial basis.

Belt-tightening is a commendable goal these days, and the firm has every right to tighten its operations, the unions noted. But the manner in which the company has gone about achieving this goal is "indefensible," they declared.

The statement pointed out that the Flight Engineers had agreed to participate in a rollback of wage gains to ease the company's financial plight. The union also has fought for continuation of Pan Am's mail-carrying rights on the West Coast and for congressional oversight hearings into the deep problems of Pan Am and other American-based international carriers.

"The company has a responsibility to protect the jobs of its exceptionally loyal employes," the union statement said. "Surely the company has other alternatives at its disposal than the one it has chosen."

Schneider Heads JLC Rights Unit

New York—Edward Schneider, a vice president of the Ladies' Garment Workers, has been named chairman of the National Trade Union Council for Human Rights, an arm of the Jewish Labor Committee. The appointment was announced by JLC President Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Clothing Workers.

Schneider succeeds Charles Zimmerman, a former ILGWU vice president, who served as chairman for 20 years until his recent resignation.

Labor Fights Move to Lift Gas Controls

AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed labor's strong opposition to any deregulation of natural gas prices in a letter sent to all House members.

A bill dealing with natural gas pricing is scheduled for House action early in the second session of Congress, and the Rules Committee agreed to allow an amendment to be offered that would lift federal price controls on new natural gas wells. The bill as sent to the House floor would allow industrial firms facing a natural gas shortage to pay higher prices for gas that is not under interstate price controls.

Meany termed deregulation "unwise and unwarranted," and an abdication of government's "rightful responsibility of assuring American citizens just and reasonable natural gas prices."

As for the bill sent to the House floor, Meany noted that several months ago government agencies were warning that many industrial plants would be forced to shut down and workers thrown out of jobs because of a natural gas shortage.

He said it was "understandable" that Congress would want to avert such a situation.

But more recent studies, Meany noted, indicate the shortage warning was "significantly overstated" and that any shortages "would be minimal and have little effect on employment."

Meany said, labor opposes passage of the bill even if the decontrol amendments are defeated.

Final Senate Rollcall On Site Picketing Bill

The Senate on Dec. 15 voted 52-43 approval of the conference report on the construction site picketing and collective bargaining bill, the final step in the legislative process. Labor strongly supported its passage.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 41

Abourezk (S.D.)	Hart, Philip (Mich.)	Metcalf (Mont.)
Bayh (Ind.)	Hartke (Ind.)	Mondale (Minn.)
Biden (Del.)	Haskell (Colo.)	Moss (Utah)
Burdick (N.D.)	Hathaway (Maine)	Muskie (Maine)
Byrd, Robert (W.Va.)	Humphrey (Minn.)	Pastore (R.I.)
Church (Ida.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Pell (R.I.)
Clark (Iowa)	Jackson (Wash.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Culver (Iowa)	Leahy (Vt.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Durkin (N.H.)	Long (La.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Symington (Mo.)
Ford (Ky.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	Tunney (Calif.)
Gravel (Alaska)	McGee (Wyo.)	Williams (N.J.)
Hart, Gary (Colo.)	McGovern (S.D.)	

Republicans 11

Brooke (Mass.)	Packwood (Ore.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Case (N.J.)	Percy (Ill.)	Taft (Ohio)
Javits (N.Y.)	Schweiker (Pa.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Mathias (Md.)	Stafford (Vt.)	

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 19

Allen (Ala.)	Glenn (Ohio)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Byrd, Harry (Va.)	Johnston (La.)	Stone (Fla.)
Cannon (Nev.)	McClellan (Ark.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Chiles (Fla.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	
Eastland (Miss.)	Morgan (N.C.)	

Republicans 24

Baker (Tenn.)	Garn (Utah)	McClure (Ida.)
Bartlett (Okla.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Pearson (Kans.)
Beall (Md.)	Griffin (Mich.)	Roth (Del.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Hansen (Wyo.)	Scott, Hugh (Pa.)
Buckley (N.Y.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Scott, William (Va.)
Curtis (Neb.)	Helms (N.C.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Dole (Kan.)	Hruska (Neb.)	Tower (Tex.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Young (N.D.)

Absent but announced Against: Fong (R-Hawaii).
Absent and not announced: Montoya (D-N.M.), Sparkman (D-Ala.), Brock (R-Tenn.), Fannin (R-Ariz.).

As Congress Nears Adjournment:

Comprehensive Energy Bill Awaits President's Decision

Congress completed nearly a year of struggle with energy problems by sending to the President a comprehensive Energy Policy & Conservation Act that is intended to conserve fuel while holding down prices to consumers.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, President Ford had not yet announced whether he will sign or veto it.

Federal Energy Administrator Frank Zarb, presumably representing the Administration, had worked closely with Congress in the final shaping of the legislation and pronounced it acceptable.

But oil interests and ultra-conservatives with political influence have been urging a veto. Their objection is to a partial rollback of oil prices—a prelude to a gradual lifting of price controls on petroleum products.

If the President should veto the bill, producers would be free to charge whatever the market would bear for oil.

Almost lost sight of in the debate over the oil pricing provisions is the extensive authority given for allocation and even rationing of fuel oil and gasoline during any period of extreme shortage—as during the 1973 Arab oil boycott.

The bill requires auto manufacturers to meet constantly rising miles-per-gallon standards, subject to penalty for failure to do so. The standards would apply to the average for all cars produced that year, so that larger vehicles using more gasoline could still be produced if the bulk of production was in models with the biggest fuel savings.

Manufacturers of major household appliances would have to improve energy efficiency by 20 percent from 1972 levels by 1980, and appliance labels would disclose energy information.

The President would be required to lift the $2 oil import fee, which has helped push prices up. New oil from the Alaska slope would be exempt from controls by the time it starts flowing and oil price controls would expire after 40 months unless renewed.

The legislation had AFL-CIO support as pointed in the general direction of labor's energy policy.

Congress stopped a step short of sending the President another major labor-sought bill—a job-creating public works bill designed as a "get America back to work" program.

The Senate approved a conference agreement on a bill intended to pump $650 million into the economy over the next six months and up to $6 billion over several years if unemployment should continue high.

As a job-creating measure, the federal government would provide full financing for local public works projects that can be gotten under way within 90 days. Priority would go to areas of highest unemployment.

12-20-75

The legislation also provides "counter-cyclical" funds to allow communities with heavy unemployment—over 6 percent—to maintain normal services despite revenue shortages.

To avoid the risk of a presidential pocket veto after Congress has adjourned, the House was not expected to act on the measure until the January session.

In other developments as the first session of the 94th Congress neared a close:

- Congress agreed to a 10-year extension of a combined government and private insurance program to protect firms against unlimited liability in the event of a nuclear accident. While it has never been necessary to pay a claim under the program, the law is credited with having helped the development of nuclear power plants.

The AFL-CIO has termed its renewal "essential" to achieving energy independence.

- The House and Senate adopted a mortgage disclosure bill designed to discourage banks from "redlining" entire neighborhoods as poor risks for home purchase loans. The legislation relies on public disclosure to get lending institutions to stop discriminatory practices.

- A House-Senate conference committee put together a compromise railroad reorganization bill to finance the new Conrail system, a consolidation of the Penn Central and six other financially ailing railroads. The Administration had threatened a veto of the Senate-passed version, contending it was too costly. It was uncertain whether the President would sign the compromise bill.

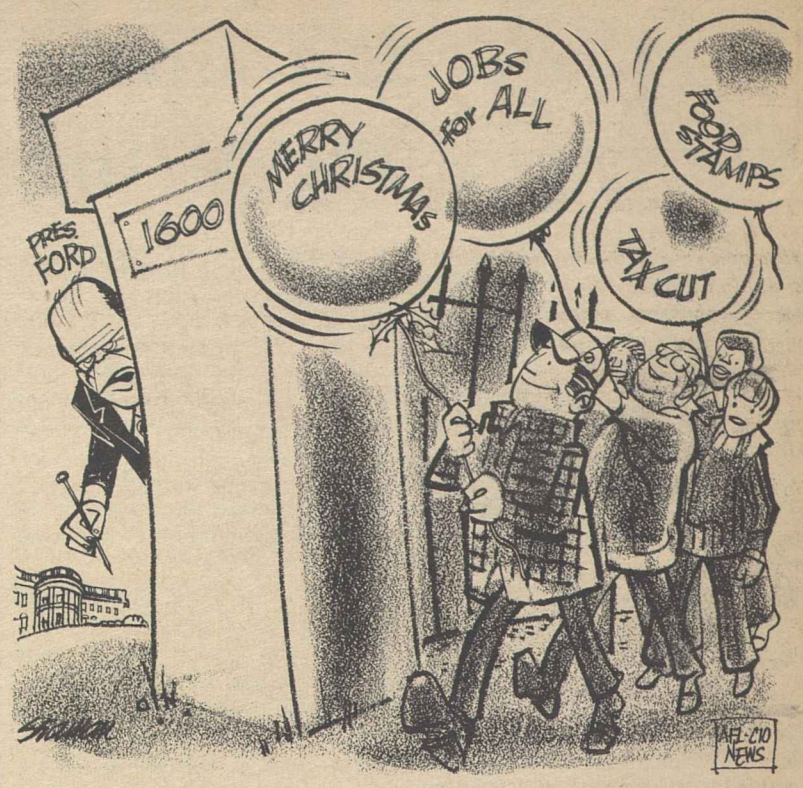
- The Senate confirmed the nomination of Appeals Court Judge John Paul Stevens to the Supreme Court by a 98-0 vote. He fills the vacancy left by the retirement of Justice William O. Douglas.

- The Senate Armed Services Committee voted 12 to 4 to recommend confirmation of George Bush as director of the Central Intelligence Agency—but only after President Ford sent up a letter saying that Bush would not be considered for the Republican vice presidential nomination.

- Congress completed final action on an appropriations bill containing the loan funding promised New York City in legislation passed earlier this month.

- Congress planned to adjourn Dec. 19 and set Jan. 19, 1976, for the start of the second session.

'Bah, Humbug!'



NLRB Task Force Set To Improve Procedures

A 26-member blue-ribbon task force, which includes a number of present and former attorneys for organized labor, has been named by the National Labor Relations Board to improve the agency's case-handling procedures.

Panel members, announced by NLRB Chairman Betty Murphy, include AFL-CIO Associate General Counsel Robert C. Mayer and Special Counsel Laurence Gold.

Others from labor are Louis Sherman, counsel for the Building & Construction Trades Dept., and Stephen I. Schlossberg, general counsel of the Auto Workers.

The group, which will be headed by Mrs. Murphy, also includes Theodore St. Antoine, formerly a member of the AFL-CIO legal staff and now dean of the University of Michigan Law School, and David Previant, chief labor counsel to the Teamsters and immediate past chairman of the labor law section of the American Bar Association.

"We must find ways for the NLRB to do a faster job—with continued fairness—in the face of a constantly rising case-load," Mrs. Murphy said.

In a resolution at its convention this fall, the AFL-CIO charged that excessive delays between the time a complaint is filed and a decision is issued by the NLRB constitute a major stumbling block for workers seeking to exercise their rights to organize.

The newly appointed task force is composed of prominent representatives of management, academia and the public in addition to labor.

"Experienced in the complexities of collective bargaining, familiar with procedures and practices of the NLRB, and aware of the need for swift resolution of labor disputes, the task force has a difficult assignment," Mrs. Murphy observed.

She emphasized that the panel will be concerned with how the NLRB handles its cases — not with the decisions it renders. It will meet for two days once each quarter, but with its study continuing during the intervals.

Among the other members of the task force is Theodore W. Kheel, administrative director of the Institute of Collective Bargaining & Group Relations in New York City.

Its members were nominated by the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Business Roundtable, the Institute of Collective Bargaining & Group Relations, the Teamsters, the Auto Workers, the NLRB and its general counsel and the AFL-CIO.

The next issue of the AFL-CIO News will be published on Jan. 3, 1976, because of holiday schedules.

The staff of the News wishes all readers a Happy New Year.

Extension of Jobless Aid Coverage To 9.5 Million Voted by House Unit

The House Ways & Means Committee approved a bill extending unemployment insurance coverage to nearly 9.5 million additional workers and strengthening financing of the program. But it rejected by a single-vote margin any federal minimum standard for benefits, a major AFL-CIO goal.

Under emergency legislation passed during the height of the recession, workers not covered by state unemployment compensation law are entitled to up to 39 weeks of federal payments if they lose their jobs. But that entitlement will be phased out after next year.

The Ways & Means Committee bill would bring most of them under the regular unemployment insurance program. Those who would be covered include an estimated 7.7 million local government employes, 710,000 agricultural workers, 600,000 state employes, and 400,000 domestics.

The benefits standard amendment on which the committee voted was pared down to an almost token level in an unsuccessful bid to recruit votes.

The AFL-CIO convention had urged benefits keyed to two-thirds of lost wages, up to a ceiling of 75 percent of the average wage in the state.

The Administration has endorsed a benefit standard of 50 percent of lost wages up to a ceiling of two-thirds of average weekly wages in a state.

The amendment proposed by Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.) didn't even go that far. It would have set the benefit standard at 50 percent of lost wages to a ceiling of only 60 percent of the state average wage.

All 12 committee Republicans voted against the benefit standard and so did six Democrats, including Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.). Seventeen Democrats voted for the amendment, and there were two Democratic absentees.

The committee subsequently voted 23-13 to support bringing the bill to the House floor under a no-amendment "closed rule." It is not expected to be acted on until the second session of Congress, which begins in January.

Three Democratic committee members expressed their disagreement with omission of federal benefit standards in "supplemental views" attached to the committee report on the bill.

The average unemployment compensation benefit in 1974 was only 36.4 percent of the average weekly wage in covered employment, they noted. And while the maximum weekly benefit when the program started in 1939 was above two-thirds of the average wage in 22 states and above three-fourths in 12 states, by 1975 only eight states met the two-thirds standard and none had reached the 75 percent mark.

Signing the supplemental statement were Representatives James A. Burke (Mass.), William Ford (Tenn.) and Charles B. Rangel (N.Y.).

On the plus side, the bill would replenish depleted funds for unemployment benefits by raising the federal tax rate on employer payrolls and increasing the taxable wage base. Employers would be taxed on the first $8,000 of each worker's wage, starting in 1977, up from the present $4,200. And effective in 1976, the tax would rise from five-tenths of 1 percent to seven-tenths of 1 percent.

The permanent program of up to 13 weeks of extended benefits during periods of high unemployment would be somewhat improved. The extended benefits would still be paid only when "triggered" by a national rate of insured unemployment of 4.5 percent or higher or state rates of 4 percent. But the requirement that joblessness must also be 20 percent above the average of the past two years would be dropped.

The permanent program brings the customary 26 weeks of state benefits to a maximum of 39 weeks when unemployment is high. A temporary program, which the AFL-CIO had urged be incorporated into the permanent structure, now allows up to 65 weeks of total benefits for persons covered by state unemployment insurance.

However, this starts to drop in January, and will be completely phased out the following year. In January, it will apply only in states that have an insured unemployment rate of 6 percent or more. (The insured rate is usually about one-third lower than the actual jobless rate.)

During 1976, the maximum duration will drop to 52 weeks in states with between 5 and 6 percent insured unemployment and to 39 weeks in states with less than 5 percent.

As of the week of Nov. 22, only 18 states and Puerto Rico had insured jobless rates above 6 percent, although the list included such big industrial centers as California, New York, Illinois and Michigan.